

July 24, 2024

To Whom It May Concern:

Thank you for your interest in applying for the Government Relations Advocacy Fellow (GRAF). The American Medical Association Medical Student Section (AMA-MSS) Governing Council recognizes the tremendous value that the role of the GRAF brings to the section. This fellowship is not only a unique opportunity for a medical student to become involved in the AMA's advocacy work on an intimate level but is an important interface between the organization and medical students. The GRAF functions as the voice of the AMA's Federal Advocacy Team, delivering information about federal efforts to the Section through regular updates. The GRAF also engages with students around the country through the Medical Student Outreach Program (MSOP). By serving as a role model and spokesperson for thousands of medical students, the GRAF position wields enormous influence.

As members of the MSS Governing Council, we work closely with the GRAF to interact with the Section's membership, to promote engagement among medical students, and to carry out the advocacy priorities of the Section and greater AMA. The GRAF serves as a liaison between the Section and the Federal Advocacy Team and provides insight and counsel in the development of student policies. During this time, responsiveness and open-mindedness are critical. The GRAF also works in collaboration with the Governing Council to plan and execute the Advocacy in Action Workshop in the fall and the Medical Student Advocacy Conference each spring. As a liaison to the MSS Committee on Legislation and Advocacy and MSS Region Advocacy Chairs, the GRAF works with these members throughout the year to promote leadership and engagement through mentorship. Finally, the GRAF collaborates with the Governing Council to pursue relevant Medical Student Section Action Item requests.

The Governing Council believes the following characteristics will lend to success in this role:

1. The applicant has leadership experience in policy and advocacy efforts within the Medical Student Section and in the AMA House of Delegates.
2. The applicant demonstrates an understanding of the role of a spokesperson and representative and commits to publicly representing the view of the AMA and the Medical Student Section.
3. The applicant demonstrates excellent written and verbal communication skills and values collaboration and listening.
4. The applicant's interests and past experiences demonstrate an interest in and understanding of U.S. government institutions and processes.
5. The applicant is detail-oriented and has the ability to quickly learn new terminology and concepts.
6. The applicant should exhibit prompt responsiveness and availability.
7. The applicant should demonstrate adaptability and resilience in navigating the dynamic challenges of advocacy work.

The Medical Student Section is appreciative of the opportunity to provide these considerations for the purposes of selecting the next Government Relations Advocacy Fellow. Most importantly, we continue to be grateful for this invaluable opportunity for student leadership and involvement. We hope you consider applying for this unique opportunity and please let us know if you have any questions.

Sincerely,



Anand Singh
Chair, Medical Student Section
msschair2425@gmail.com