

Why Join the POMA? Talking Points

POMA is Your Information Clearinghouse and Ombudsman Service

What Does POMA Do?

- POMA is your osteopathic advocate
- POMA testifies on behalf of osteopathic physicians
- It is the resource for your questions regarding:
 - Licensure
 - Patient safety
 - Continuing medical education
 - Mcare
 - Professional liability
 - Life insurance
 - Medical insurance
 - Practice concerns
 - Employment of PAs, CRNPs
 - Closing a practice
 - Insurance reimbursement
 - Patient complaints
 - Medicare
 - Medicaid

How Does POMA Serve Its Members?

- Promotes the osteopathic profession and physicians in Pennsylvania.
- Peer review and advocacy
 - Committee to review insurance cases at members' requests
 - Committee to review grievances by physicians and patients
- Contributes to Physicians Health Programs (for impaired physicians) and advises physicians when contacting the POMA regarding the program.
- POMA legal counsel directed to initiate legislation to protect physicians' assets over and above professional liability insurance.

Other Benefits to POMA Members

- POMA records all CME credits sent to the Central Office and forwards these credits to the AOA CME Department.
- Annual Clinical Assembly/Convention allows physicians to earn 40+ Category 1 CME credits, including patient safety and other CME requirements for Florida licensure.
- Physicians in their first year of practice after completing a residency receive FREE POMA membership – a \$375 value
- A credit card benefitting scholarships is available to members.

Opportunities

- Serve on POMA committees (39)
- District leadership
- POMA House of Delegates – policy body
- POMA board of trustees
- POMA officers

POMA Publications

- *The POMA Newsletter* is published every three weeks.
- *The Journal of the POMA* is a quarterly educational medical journal.
- Membership directory is published annually.
- “Patient Pointers” flyers are published in the *POMA Newsletter* for distribution in physicians' offices.
- “Legal Corner” appears in the *Newsletter* and/or *Journal* as called for by current issues.
- Another Voice, a *POMA Newsletter* column is designed to allow physicians to share their opinions on issues with one another.
- POMA website at www.poma.org, includes timely information and links to other sites important to the osteopathic profession.
- E-mail – poma@poma.org, allows POMA to send the *POMA Newsletter* to members with e-mail addresses more quickly, as well as distribute district meeting notices and other timely information. Allows POMA members easy access to the Central Office.
- Pamphlets on osteopathic medicine and “What is a D.O.,” etc.

POMA Representation

- Board member of the Citizens Alliance for Pennsylvania Patients, designed to achieve true tort reform.⁵
- Committee on Patient Safety Forum
- Business Advisory Committee – PMSLIC
- Carrier Advisory Committee – CMS
- KePRO board member
- Health Care Cost and Quality Data Committee
- OPTIs – LECOMT and PCOM Mednet
- State Board of Osteopathic Medicine
- Pennsylvania Department of Transportation – Medical Advisors
- Loan Forgiveness Program
- Office of Medical Assistance PROMISE Program

Miscellaneous Benefits

- POMA contributes \$130,000+ each year to the POMA Foundation for stethoscopes and physician members' continuing medical education seminars and scholarships.
- Discounts on waste management with contributions to POMA scholarships.
- POMA insurance administrator contributes to POMA scholarships.
- POMA life and disability insurance -- new members under 45 years of age qualify for a \$25,000 life insurance policy and a \$25,000 disability policy free for the first year.
- POMA contributes to charities on a yearly basis.

What Does POMA Do for Students, Interns and Residents?

What Does POMA Do for Students

A portion of your dues subsidizes:

- Scholarships to third- and fourth-year osteopathic medical students
- Stethoscopes to first-year osteopathic medical students at LECOM and PCOM, and to Pennsylvania residents in other osteopathic medical schools
- White Coats to first-year osteopathic medical students at LECOM and PCOM
- Outstanding Student Award presented annually to a member of the LECOM and PCOM graduating class
- Student Government presidents from LECOM and PCOM to attend AOA House of Delegates meeting
- Contributions to AOA D.O. Day on the Hill
- Student Government and SOMA presidents attend POMA board of trustees meetings with voice.
- Newsletters are sent to LECOM and PCOM
- Contribute to Primary Care functions
- Senior Luncheon
- The *POMA Newsletter* reserves space for a “Student Corner” column.
- Students are invited to participate in the Annual Clinical Essay Contest, with a \$1,000 first prize.
- Students are automatically POMA members during their years in osteopathic medical school.

What Does POMA Do for Interns and Residents

- Committee on Professional Guidance/Young Physicians
 - Intern and resident representatives of the OPTI programs meet three times per year in each region – East/Central/West.
 - Resident representatives for the three regions are part of the POMA House of Delegates with voting privileges.
- Advice on Pennsylvania licensure requirements
 - AOA-approved internship
 - Residencies
 - Professional liability
- Prep for Practice seminars held as needed
- Intern/resident representatives from each region attend POMA board of trustees meetings
- Annual Clinical Essay Contest with \$1,000 first prize open to interns and residents
- The *POMA Newsletter* reserves space for an “Intern/Resident Corner” column
- Interns and residents are POMA members and receive the *POMA Newsletter* through e-mail.