

# AAMC Membership for Academic Health Systems

## The Value of an AAMC Membership

AAMC membership is an investment in your academic health system (AHS) and the future of academic medicine. A well-established and highly respected leader in advocacy for the delivery of clinical care, research, medical education, and community collaboration, the AAMC provides a united platform and coordinated voice for sharing with the public and policy makers the many benefits that academic medicine provides to our nation and the patients and communities you serve. In addition, engagement with the AAMC allows leaders at all levels within your AHS to:

- Play an active role in helping shape health care policy; and
- Directly access expertise, resources, and critical information you will need to address the emerging challenges and changes that are impacting care delivery, education, and research.

Through the Council of Academic Health Systems Executives (CAHSE), the AAMC convenes and supports national AHS leaders like you as your organizations transform, adapt, and thrive in a changing health care landscape. It is:

- Uniquely and specifically dedicated to providing customized programs, resources, and services for executives like you—leaders who oversee complex, multifaceted organizations at the center of academic medicine.
- The go-to group for exclusive, current, peer-to-peer networking and information-sharing, as well as individualized leadership support and organizational development. An easy-to-access source of the data, expertise, and other insight you and your teams can use in your day-to-day executive-level decision making.

## Membership Benefits

### AAMC Professional Networking and Development Groups

Individuals at your organization are eligible to join nearly 20 professional networking and development groups for professionals who share comparable roles and responsibilities at AHSs across the country. Most provide active listservs, weekly newsletters and late-breaking alerts, annual professional meetings, surveys and data, and more. Examples include:

- The **Council of Academic Health Systems Executives (CAHSE)** supports the CEOs and other senior executives in comparable roles who lead the AAMC's AHS members. Located across the country (including Veterans Affairs medical centers), these organizations are recognized nationally for their long-standing excellence and innovations in patient care, research, education, and community collaboration. It collaborates with the Alliance of Academic Health Centers International (AAHCI), a global network of international AHS leaders. CAHSE members gather at virtual and in-person meetings, including small, confidential roundtables; take advantage of peer-to-peer sessions and consultations; and access comparative institutional surveys and benchmarking data. Participation in CAHSE facilitates opportunities to build new relationships, consultations, and partnerships.

- The **Chief Medical Officers' Group (CMOG)** provides a platform for CMOs at AAMC member organizations to share best practices, network with colleagues, and access resources that will enhance the knowledge and skills they need to successfully meet the clinical and business demands of the role. The group offers a CMO Academy for new and aspiring professionals.
- The **Government Relations Representatives (GRR)** group advances nonpartisan advocacy for academic medicine by providing a forum for federal relations staff at medical schools and academic health systems to consult with AAMC staff on evolving federal legislative and regulatory issues, initiatives, and strategies.
- The **Group on Resident Affairs (GRA)** membership includes GME leaders at AAMC-member medical schools and AHSs who oversee the administration, accreditation, quality, and financing of those programs. It works with the AAMC to promote high-quality GME and is the authoritative source on principles and practices in medical education. The GRA [offers a leadership certificate course](#) and other programs to improve the quality of resident education and strengthen institutional responsibility for GME.
- The **Group on Business Affairs (GBA)** advances administrative and fiscal management in academic medical institutions to support medical education, research, and health care.
- The **Group on Research Advancement and Development (GRAND)** provides a national forum for the promotion, support, development, and conduct of biomedical research in medical schools and AHSs.
- The **Group on Research, Education, and Training (GREAT)** provides professional development to, and fosters the exchange of information and ideas among the faculty and administrative leaders of biomedical PhD, MD-PhD, and postdoctoral programs.
- All AAMC members have access to informative webinars, peer leadership roundtables, and regional and annual meetings held around the world addressing key issues and challenges facing health system leadership.
- In addition to those listed above, the AAMC-sponsors other events and forums [that provide leadership development opportunities](#) and build strong networks as participants engage with their peer community. Recent topics include: health care executive diversity and inclusion; early- and mid-career women faculty leadership development; leadership education and development; minority faculty leadership development; organizational leadership for associate deans and chairs; and leading in difficult times.

## Health Care Advocacy and Policy Impact

The AAMC is a highly respected and sought-after voice for academic medicine on Capitol Hill, throughout the key federal agencies, and with numerous leading policy groups such as MedPAC. The non-partisan, data-rich information we provide to policymakers and thought-leaders is further strengthened by the real-life examples and insight that you and your teams share with us.

By combining meaningful data, powerful stories, and a commitment to consensus-building, the AAMC has become a leading voice on policies of greatest importance to academic medicine, such as special payments to AHSs (e.g., DSH, GME), mission-critical support (e.g., 340B drug discounts and preparedness funds), the value-based care, telehealth, NIH funding, health equity, and the role of academic medicine during the COVID-19 public health emergency.

The AAMC advocates for these issues via a number of direct channels to thought leaders and policymakers:

- Involvement in the national conversation about health care through CAHSE, the voice of academic health systems, with connections to federal agencies such as the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), the Center for Medicare & Medicaid Innovation (CMMI), and MedPAC.
- Representation before Congress, with federal regulators, on legal matters at every level, and with the Executive Branch, including: Capitol Hill visits, briefings, and testimonies; the regular submission of comment letters on various policy issues and regulations; meetings with regulators, MedPAC staff, and other individuals who are shaping policy; and lawsuits, appeals, and amicus briefs, including those before the United States Supreme Court.
- Ready access to expertise, policy resources, and critical information through engagement with the AAMC's regulatory and policy staff.
- Engagement in grassroots advocacy through AAMCAction, an online advocacy community of over 100,000 voices who regularly mobilize on behalf of academic medicine.

## Research, Data, and Information Services

As a CAHSE member, you can access valuable benchmarking data, new studies, and reliable reports to help inform your organization's strategic direction, budgeting, staffing, and goal setting. Examples include:

- The latest [peer benchmarking reports and data](#), including:
  - Analysis of hospital operations and financials through [surveys and data tools for AAMC-member academic health systems](#) and Hospitals.
  - Tools to model the impact of regulatory changes and quality programs using institutional data via [custom, hospital-specific Medicare payment and quality reports for AAMC-member health systems](#).
  - [Workforce reports](#) on state and specialty supply trends, graduate medical education, and emerging workforce roles in new care delivery and payment models.
  - [Data snapshots on important patient care issues](#) facing academic health systems.
- The CAHSE e-newsletter, a weekly resource that highlights current and urgent topics, raises longer-term discussion questions, and generally keeps executives in the know of what's happening in our community.
- *Leadership Perspectives*, a publication featuring commentaries by academic health system leaders—from the United States and across the globe—that focus on the foremost issues and challenges impacting their institutions.

## Clinical Innovation Tools

The AAMC can help your organization implement and evaluate new care delivery models and break down barriers to care:

- The [AAMC Primary Care First Collaborative](#) follows a proven model to support AHSs in the implementation of CMMI's Primary Care First (PCF) Model. We provide advocacy, policy analysis, dissemination of best practices, data analysis and benchmarking for PCF participants.
- The [AAMC ACO Roundtable](#) is a forum for ACO leadership connections on topics like population health, finance, and data analytics. ACOs have used the roundtable to share best practices related to care delivery, quality measurement, physician engagement, and population health interventions. The AAMC has partnered with FAIR Health to obtain multipayer benchmarks for roundtable participants, allowing them to better identify and measure opportunities to improve care. We established the Bundled Payments for Care Improvement Advanced (BPCIA) Collaborative to

support AHSs in the implementation of the CMMI BPCIA initiative. Through the Collaborative, the AAMC provides advocacy, policy analysis, dissemination of best practices, data analysis, and benchmarking with institutions participating in the BPCIA model.

- The AAMC's [Telehealth Equity Catalyst Awards](#) provide funding for new or existing programming that reflects innovative contributions to care delivery that can serve as models for other institutions to address and mitigate the barriers to care associated with telehealth, particularly for communities that are under-resourced with limited access to health care services.

## Organizational Opportunities

- Academic Health System and Teaching Hospital status for certain group purchasing organizations who use AAMC membership as a proxy.
- Complimentary access to [Visiting Student Learning Opportunities](#) application service.

## Other Key AAMC Resources

- The [Washington Highlights](#) newsletter provides direct updates on the latest government activity impacting the health system and academic medicine.
- Peer-led webinars and briefings on [patient care, medical education, and research](#) topics.
- [Promoting Access to Behavioral Health Care](#) is an online compendium of information on AAMC's advocacy efforts, resources, toolkits, and educational opportunities for clinical faculty, staff, and leadership to support the development and implementation of integrated behavioral health.
- We offer new strategies in digital health and care redesign to optimize access to care, promote quality, and advance health care equity:
  - Improve access and quality of care by enhancing communication and coordination across primary and specialty care with [AAMC Project CORE](#). Since 2014, over 50 adult and pediatric hospitals and health systems have participated in Project CORE to implement eConsults and enhanced referrals with the goals of enabling timelier specialty access, improving communication and coordination between providers, and increasing value for patients and the health system. Through one-to-one consultation, resources, advocacy, and peer-to-peer networking, Project CORE supports organizations in establishing a scalable, sustainable program. The CORE program is open to health systems interested in either implementing the CORE model or optimizing an existing eConsult program.
  - The AAMC Telehealth Integration Collaborative, started in 2022 and cohosted with Manatt Health, is an advanced forum for sharing strategies about integrating telehealth into everyday clinical care and operations. The Collaborative is open to health systems at any level of telehealth integration or scaling.
  - Our [Innovations in Health Technology: Telehealth](#) is a collection of resources that:
    - Shares learnings across academic medicine about telehealth implementation and training;
    - Provides updates on current regulations and policy;
    - Provides information on [AAMC telehealth competencies](#) and examples in action;

- Highlights how the AAMC and its members are implementing and using telehealth to provide high-quality care and improve access;
  - Uncovers insights from research and other literature about the impact of telehealth on access and workforce.
- The [Telehealth Learning Series](#) highlights the role of academic medicine in advancing health equity through telehealth. Key elements focus on understanding its impact the role data can play in improving telehealth access and best practices being used to improve digital health literacy and promote digital inclusion.
- The AAMC provides other resources and best practices focused on expanding [access to care in the ambulatory setting](#). Leveraging data from the Clinical Practice Solutions Center (CPSC), the AAMC and Vizient develop resources and host webinars focused on ambulatory access that include proven practices, successful strategies, and real-world examples from AAMC-member institutions. You can use the Access to Care Framework, Data Snapshots, and other resources to improve and expand access to ambulatory care.
- Utilize the resources of the [Integrating Quality initiative](#) and its [Diagnostic Safety Toolkit](#).
- Practical tools and guidance to increase confidence in COVID-19 vaccines in communities and among health care personnel on [VaccineVoices](#).