

March 2026

GIR News and Business

Evolution of AAMC Affinity Groups: Update on Group Governance and Administration

We are pleased to share an update on important progress we have made on the formation and planned launch of our 11 new affinity groups.

Earlier this month, we finalized governance and administration guidelines for each new group, which were shared last week with current group steering committees following a discussion we convened with representative leaders from each group. Feedback from constituent leaders has been essential in helping the AAMC develop these administrative frameworks, and we will continue to rely on their leadership as we establish the new affinity groups under these guidelines.

The governance and administrative guidelines include:

- Rules and regulations, approved by the Board of Directors in accordance with AAMC bylaws
- An administrative manual that codifies a group's name, purpose, membership, roles, programs, and other operations
- A Steering Committee transition plan, including guidance for the first transitional year
- Recommendations on how groups may more effectively engage with each other and with the AAMC to seek and share feedback
- The AAMC's vision for regional access to scholarship and professional development

We believe these governance and administration guidelines set each group up for success by:

- Providing transparency around rules, regulations, structures and processes;
- Ensuring consistency across all affinity groups;
- Clarifying and defining roles and responsibilities; and
- Serving as a handbook to help members—especially new committee leaders—understand a group's purpose, structure, operations and resources.

This progress represents an important step in our transition to the new groups on July 1, and the AAMC will continue to evaluate and refine this work. Ensuring that each group is operating within these guidelines will be important as we evaluate across all groups.

We will continue to update the resource page and [Frequently Asked Questions](#) on our website, including updates around the administrative guidance and other progress related to the evolution of our affinity groups. Additionally, the resource page includes email addresses for each of the new groups should you have specific questions for AAMC staff. We will continue to send updates and more information as our new Technology and Data (TAD) Group develops, including opportunities to get involved.

The Group on Information Resources (GIR) Steering Committee is seeking member feedback as we are designing our new Technology and Data Group

In addition to keeping our current peer communities (Education Technology; Research Technology; Community, Access, Respect, and Empowerment (CARE); IT Operations; and Data-Driven Academic Medical Centers), we are exploring additional peer communities. We would like your input on possible suggestions and ideas as we look forward to adding our new Technology and Data Group to the proposed Standing Committee structure as part of our transition. Responses are due by March 27.

[Complete our brief survey](#)

Registration Open for the 2026 Information Technology in Academic Medicine Conference, Sponsored by the Group on Institutional Resources (GIR)



Join us for the 2026 Information Technology in Academic Medicine Conference, hosted by the AAMC Group on Information Resources (GIR) in Austin, TX from June 3-5. This year's theme is *Blazing a Trail for Solutions*. We're bringing together technology and data leaders from across academic medicine to connect on what's working, tackle shared challenges, and build practical paths forward for clinical care, medical education, research, and operations. The early bird deadline is April 28.

Register Today!



Join the CARE Work Group for their Ensuring Digital Access series. The GIR CARE Work Group will host presentations from February through May outlining the ways in which institutions can ensure they are in compliance with and beyond ADA Title II in medical education. The first installment of the series, *Understanding Disability and Accessibility* was held on February 25.

The next presentation in the series scheduled for March 25, will focus on

integrating accessibility tools in MS Suite. Topics for the calls scheduled in April and May will be announced soon.

If you would like to join the CARE Work Group and receive calendar appointments for the CARE monthly calls, please email gir@aamc.org.

Recording available for the Research Technology Work Group Call on REDCap

Dr. Paul Harris, Professor of Biomedical Informatics at Vanderbilt University and the creator of the REDCap data collection and management platform, shared updated on the future direction of REDCap and the REDCap+ model. Dr. Harris also serves as the faculty lead for the REDCap Consortium, which supports nearly 7,900 institutions worldwide.

[View Recording](#)

Recording available for the Data-Driven Academic Medical Centers (DDAMC) Work Group Call

On February 17th, the DDAMC held the moderated call, *No More Accidental Delete: Enhancing Grade Tracking and Clinical Assessment Tracking Through Dashboards* presented by Christopher Henson, Theresa Pesavento, and Kristin Simon

[View Recording](#)

Join Our GIR Virtual Community

The Information Technology in Academic Medicine Virtual Community is expanding its focus to be a home for GIR members. This community replaces our listserv, which was decommissioned several months ago. As a GIR member, you are invited to join the Virtual Community and participate in the discussions. If you don't have an account already, [please request one here](#) and explore the Information Technology in Academic Medicine Virtual Community.

Explore our GIR Work Group Virtual Communities:

[Community, Access, Respect, Empowerment \(CARE\) Work Group](#)

[Education Technology Work Group](#)

[Data-Driven Academic Medical Centers \(DDAMC\) Work Group](#)

[Research Technology Work Group](#)

Save the Dates: GIR IT Operations Quarterly Calls for 2026

The GIR is hosting quarterly calls to discuss hot topics focusing on IT operations. These moderated calls are meant to facilitate peer discussions around issues relevant to this audience and encourage knowledge sharing, engagement, collaborative thinking, networking, and the sharing of promising practices.

Calls will take place quarterly on the 3rd Thursday of the month, from 1:00 - 2:00 pm ET. You can add each call to your calendar by using the links below:

[Thursday, April 16th](#)

[Thursday, July 16th](#)

[Thursday, October 15th](#)

AAMC News

AAMC statement on passage of FY 2026 Labor-HHS appropriations bill
AAMC President and CEO David J. Skorton, MD, and Chief Public Policy Officer Danielle Turnipseed, JD, MHA, MPP, issued a statement regarding the Fiscal Year (FY) 2026 Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education (Labor-HHS) FY 2026 spending bill. "The AAMC applauds the House and Senate for passing the FY 2026 Labor-HHS-Education appropriations bill, which includes new funding for the National Institutes of Health (NIH), as well as extensions of several other critical health programs."

[Read More](#)

Joint Associations Group thanks Congress for strong support of scientific research funding and infrastructure in final FY 2026 appropriations
The Joint Associations Group (JAG), which includes the AAMC and nine other higher education and research associations, issued a joint statement on indirect costs. "JAG is deeply appreciative of Congress and its appropriations leaders for including strong support for research funding, including support for the facilities and administrative (F&A) costs essential to conducting research on behalf of the American people, in the final FY 2026 appropriations legislation. In particular, our organizations are thankful that the bills included language that will help us work with

Congress and with the executive branch to advance the JAG's [Financial Accountability in Research](#) (FAIR) model recommendations this year."
[Read More](#)

AAMC initiative to define foundational AI competencies for medical education

Artificial intelligence (AI) is transforming medical education and clinical practice at a rapid pace, creating an urgent need for shared agreement on what physicians should know and be able to do in AI-enabled health care settings. In response, the AAMC is leading a national, collaborative effort across the medical education community, supported in part by the Josiah Macy Jr. Foundation, to define foundational AI competencies that center equity, ethics, and responsible use, while supporting learners and educators across the continuum. Through national coordination, this work will reduce duplication, increase clarity, and promote consistent expectations for curricula, training programs, and clinical teaching environments.

[Read More](#)

AAMC-Endorsed Congressional Letter Urges H-1B Visa Fee Exception for Health Care

The AAMC [endorsed a Feb. 11 letter \(PDF\)](#) led by Reps. Michael Lawler (R-N.Y.) and Yvette Clarke (D-N.Y.) to the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Secretary Kristi Noem, urging the department to provide an exemption for the hospital and health care sector from the \$100,000 fee for filing new H-1B visa petitions. The letter was sent in response to the September 2025 presidential proclamation, "Restriction on Entry of Certain Nonimmigrant Workers," which imposed a \$100,000 H-1B visa filing fee on all American employers [refer to [Washington Highlights, Sept. 26, 2025](#)]. The bipartisan, bicameral letter to Noem was signed by 100 members of Congress and endorsed by 40 organizations.

For more information, please contact the AAMC Government Relations team, [Emily Prest](#) and [Andrea Price-Carter](#).

The AAMC is soliciting nominations for its annual Herbert W. Nickens Awards

These awards honor individuals who advance the educational, societal, and

health care needs of underserved populations in the United States. We encourage you to disseminate this call for nominations and consider colleagues and students for these awards. The nomination deadlines are listed below.

The Herbert W. Nickens Faculty Fellowship recognizes an outstanding faculty member who has held the assistant professor position for no more than three years. The candidate must have demonstrated leadership in the United States in addressing inequities in medical education and health care; demonstrated efforts in addressing educational, societal, and health care needs of underserved populations; and is committed to a career in academic medicine.

The Herbert W. Nickens Medical Student Scholarships are awarded to five outstanding students entering their third year of medical school who have shown leadership in efforts to eliminate inequities in medical education and health care and demonstrated leadership efforts in addressing educational, societal, and health care needs of underserved populations in the United States. The deadline to submit is Friday, April 3, 2026.

For questions, please contact Angela Moses at 202.862.6203, email NickensAwards@aamc.org, or visit [AAMC Awards | AAMC](#).

Deadline Approaching for 2026 AAMC Presidential Awards

There is still time to recognize members of the academic medicine community who are making significant contributions to medical education, patient care, biomedical research, and community engagement.

Begin a nomination today for one or more of the following AAMC Presidential Awards:

Up to four faculty members can be nominated for the Alpha Omega Alpha (ΑΩΑ) Robert J. Glaser Distinguished Teacher Awards in either the basic sciences or pre-clinical and clinical disciplines - who have distinguished themselves in medical student education.

[Learn More](#)

The Spencer Foreman Award for Outstanding Community Engagement honors an AAMC-member medical school or academic health system with a long-standing, major institutional commitment to partnering with the

community it serves to identify and address community needs.

[Learn More](#)

The deadline to submit is Friday, April 3, at 11:59 p.m. ET.

Learning Opportunities

Registration is Open for the 2026 Group on Business Affairs (GBA), Group on Institutional Planning (GIP), and Group on Faculty Affairs (GFA) Joint Spring Meeting

Hyatt Regency St. Louis at the Arch
St. Louis, Missouri
April 22-24, 2026



[Register Today!](#)

On April 22-24, 2026 in St. Louis, MO, these three AAMC communities will convene together for the first time to explore *Navigating Complexity: People, Strategy, and Resources* with practical takeaways and peer exchange across finance, planning, faculty affairs, administration, HR, and space & facilities.

[View the Agenda](#)

Register for Navigating the Data Soup: Web3, AI and the Future of Healthcare Data

AI, cloud computing, and distributed systems are transforming how we

access and apply technology in medicine. But healthcare's fragmented data infrastructure, privacy regulations, and siloed records still limit the potential of AI, especially when it comes to patient-level data. Academic medical centers often lack visibility into emerging tools that can unlock data across time and institutions. Platforms like LifeBit, Geneial, Datavant, Equideum Health, and EQTY Labs now offer encryption, blockchain, and tokenization tools to help data stewards manage provenance and privacy. Yet most institutions aren't structured to take advantage of these advances. Join us on April 1, 2026 for a webinar exploring how Web 3.0 technologies such as blockchain and smart contracts could help address key friction points in data provenance, governance, appropriability, and monetization.

[Register Today.](#)

Register for the AAMC Webinar and Online Course Creating Compensation Models and Administrative Processes to Support Pay Equity (Recommendation #2)

Once an institution has firmly established their commitment and philosophy for compensation equity, it is essential to create infrastructure, processes, and procedures that strategically embed fair pay practices within existing operational structures. Pay equity cannot be an add-on process, but instead a regular operating procedure that contributes to the organization's effectiveness as a strategic workforce solution to retain talented faculty. This second webinar in the series scheduled for May 4 at 1:00 PM EDT will cover strategies for critical infrastructure, operations, and policies (e.g. review process for offers and retention packages, salary setting policies, distribution of incentives) to advance fair pay.

[Register Now](#)

Publications & Resources

New AAMC data snapshot on anatomy education in medical school curricula

The AAMC has published a new data snapshot that examines anatomy education in medical school curricula. According to data from a 2023-24 Curriculum SCOPE Survey, sponsored by the AAMC and the American Association of Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine (AACOM), nearly 98% of medical schools rely on anatomical donors, and most combine this

centuries-old teaching approach with modern, clinically relevant technology and imaging tools like CT scans and MRIs. The use of prosection and dissection, opportunities for interprofessional education, and more are explored in the latest survey findings.

[Read More](#)

AAMC publishes new report on compensation equity

The AAMC has published a new report, *A Shared Commitment to Fair Pay: Recommendations for Creating and Sustaining Compensation Equity in Academic Medicine*, which offers practical strategies to advance compensation equity in academic medicine. Developed from insights shared by leaders from more than 70 institutions as well as experts in pay equity, the report focuses on fair pay as a key business strategy to strengthen faculty recruitment and retention. The AAMC will kick off a free [three-part webinar series](#) on Feb. 26 to discuss the details of the recommendations outlined in the report.

[Read More](#)

Recommended Reading

Future-proofing medical assessment: evaluating collaborative intelligence in the age of artificial intelligence

Yanyi Wu

Academic Medicine, Volume 101, Issue 2, February 2026, Pages 152-159

[Read More](#)

Bridging the Gap: Use of Automated Text Analysis to Support Interpretation of Narrative Feedback

Joyce M W Moonen-Van Loon, PhD , Marjan Govaerts, PhD , Marion Van Lierop, MD, MHPE

Academic Medicine, wvag049

Published: 25 February 2026

[Read More](#)

Addressing Algorithmic Bias in Artificial Intelligence-Driven Medical Education Assessment

Zhicheng Du

Academic Medicine, wvag039

Published: 15 February 2026

[Read More](#)

Optimizing Medical Education for Learners with Vision Impairments

Tony Anthony Succar and Allison Reisz, Academic Medicine, wvag031

Published: 3 February 2026

[Read More](#)

Teaching Humanity in the Age of Artificial Intelligence: Why Medical Schools Should Prioritize Emotional Intelligence

Diego R Hijano

Academic Medicine, wvag030

Published: 3 February 2026

[Read More](#)

Welcome New Members

February 2026

Courtney Brown

Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai

Tom Ligman

Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine

Connect with the AAMC:



Join the [AAMC Communities Network](#)

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