

New Jersey Dental Political Action Committee

Action Plan

Purpose:

The purpose of the Political Action Committee (PAC) is to establish dentists and dentistry as a significant political force within the state of New Jersey by raising and allocating funds to educate New Jersey's dentists, dental professionals, and the public on the functions and impacts of government and politics on dentistry.

Duties:

- To establish dentists and dentistry as a viable political force within the state of New Jersey by means of raising funds to:
 - Educate New Jersey's dentists and others regarding the nature and action of government and politics, and;
 - Support candidates for office, political committees or political parties or organizations through financial contributions to their campaigns and/or other measures, and;
 - Endorse, if necessary and appropriate, candidates for office who are supportive of dental and other issues that are deemed important to dentistry or oral health.
- To do any and all things necessary or desirable for the attainment of the purposes above.

Composition:

The New Jersey Dental Political Action Committee shall be composed of:

- Any dentist, his or her spouse, members of his or her immediate family, dental students, para dental personnel and others, who contribute to NJDPAC at the minimum required amount that is determined by the NJDPAC Executive Committee annually.
- The Executive Committee shall consist of twenty-five (25) persons, twenty-one (21) of whom shall be duly elected by the NJDPAC Executive Committee. The Executive Committee shall ensure that all geographic dental components of the state are represented. The President, President-Elect, Vice President and Chair

of the Council on Governmental and Public Affairs of the New Jersey Dental Association shall serve as ex-officio voting members.

Time Commitment:

The NJDPAC meets approximately four (4) times per year via Zoom. The duration of the meeting is 1.0 - 1.5 hours. There is one joint meeting a year with the NJDPAC and COGPA, which is in person in June. All members are expected to attend the joint meeting.

Participation Expectations:

Terms:

- Candidates for membership shall be subject to approval by the Executive Committee and to the payment of an annual contribution.
- Twenty-one (21) members of the Executive Committee shall be elected by a majority vote of the Executive Committee members present, to a term of three (3) years. There shall be no limit to the number of terms an individual may serve on the Executive Committee. If vacancies happen by resignation, termination or otherwise, the Executive Committee may make a temporary appointment until its next Annual Meeting, at which time it shall then vote to fill the term of such a vacancy. However, that individual shall remain in the class to which the original Executive Committee seat was assigned.

Attendance: Any member of the Executive Committee who has been absent from three (3) consecutive regular meetings in a calendar year, may be subject to removal from the Executive Committee by the Officers. Any resulting vacancy shall be filled in accordance with the NJDPAC Bylaws.

Engagement: The Political Action Committee (PAC) actively engages with New Jersey's dental community to strengthen our collective voice in state politics. By fostering awareness of legislative and regulatory issues impacting dentistry, the PAC empowers dentists to participate in the political process. Through collaborative outreach, educational initiatives, and strategic support of candidates and policies, the PAC unites members in advancing the profession, promoting oral health, and safeguarding the interests of both practitioners and patients across New Jersey.

Conduct: The NJDPAC is committed to the principle that all individuals should be treated with dignity and respect. The NJDPAC strongly disapproves of any action or conduct by

members or employees which constitutes harassment of an individual on account of race, sex, sexual orientation, disability, age, religion, national origin or any other characteristic protected by law.

Resources:

Chair: Dr. Elisa Velazquez

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