Washington State Medical Association

WSMA Medical Student and Resident Advocacy Program

A program from the WSMA for medical students and residents who want to develop an understanding of Washington's legislative process and issues important to the physician community. This includes learning how to be an effective advocate, engaging directly with legislators, and visiting the state Capitol on a Lobby Day. Following the completion of the program, participants will be awarded a certificate by the WSMA. The program is free for medical students and residents in Washington state. Enrollees in the program receive automatic membership in the WSMA.

PROGRAM FORMAT Five virtual one-hour meetings (5:30-6:30 p.m.) and one in-person lobby day at the state Capitol in Olympia.

PROGRAM DATES November 2026–February 2027

PROGRAM SCHEDULE

Wednesday, Nov. 18 (virtual): Legislative Campaigns and PAC Engagement
Developing relationships with candidates on the campaign trail through political action committee engagement and the outcomes of the 2026 election.

Wednesday, Dec. 2 (virtual): Introduction to WSMA and the House of Delegates
Overview of the WSMA and organized medicine and how to participate in the House of Delegates process to shape WSMA policy and advocacy efforts.

Wednesday, Dec. 16 (virtual): Legislative Issues
Issues of importance to the physician community, including health care workforce, administrative burden, scope of practice, and more.

Wednesday, Jan. 13 (virtual): How to Be An Advocate
How to contact your legislators' offices, testify before a committee, develop relationships with legislators, and more.

Wednesday, Jan. 27 (virtual): Bill Case Study
Take a closer look at a bill being considered before the Legislature and how it impacts the physician community.

Wednesday, Feb. 10 (in person): Lobby Day
Participants will have the chance to visit the state Capitol, listen in on floor action or legislative committees, meet with legislators, and more.

For more information on the program, contact Malorie Wilson at malorie@wsma.org.

To learn more and register for the WSMA Medical Student and Resident Advocacy Program, visit the program webpage at wsma.org/student-resident-advocacy. The deadline to register is Oct. 31, 2026.

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