



# Policy & Advocacy Committee Charter

## Purpose

The ACU Policy & Advocacy Committee is appointed and charged with responsibilities associated with development of the policy agenda for the Association and appropriate responses to legislation and federal initiatives impacting ACU members and their patients. The Committee shall seek to develop and enhance member abilities to serve in advocacy leadership positions on behalf of the Association. The actions of the Committee will be consistent with the ACU mission and strategic plan to improve the health of America's underserved populations and to enhance the development and support of the health care clinicians serving these populations.

## Membership

- The Committee shall consist of at least one member from the ACU Board, at least 3 volunteers from the membership at large, a student and one ACU staff member.
- Membership is open to all ACU membership categories. Volunteers from all membership types, health professions, and experience levels are encouraged.
- The Committee Chair is appointed by the ACU Board President for a two-year term.
- The Committee Staff is appointed by ACU's Executive Director to assist the Committee.
- The Committee Chair will coordinate with the Board President to ensure that committee members are from diverse segments of the ACU membership.

## Meetings

- Regular Committee meetings shall be held at least quarterly.
- The Committee shall maintain minutes of the meeting and report regularly to the Board of Directors.

## Time Commitment

- The members of the Committee should plan on a minimum of one, one-hour conference call on a quarterly basis.

## Committee Priorities

- Promote appropriate membership engagement in policy and advocacy activities.
- Review the strategic plan for the last five years to align work of the committee with organizational priorities.
- Develop a progressive advocacy structure for the Association. Recruit and engage leaders to represent the Association's positions with press and elected officials/governmental agencies.
- Assure that advocacy issues related to all member groups are considered for action: individual members (including NHSC members and alumni) and organizational members (NHSC placements organizations, PCOs, PCAs, Free Clinics, etc.).
- Assure diverse membership on this committee to provide programming reflecting needs of all clinicians - including but not limited to geographic and professional focus.