Oregon Academy of Family Physicians Policy Handbook

Revised April 2018

A compendium of past and present policy positions adopted by the OAFP Congress of Members.
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“Where we were” policies are in italics.
POLICIES OF THE OREGON ACADEMY OF FAMILY PHYSICIANS

1. ABORTION

Abortion is a matter in which the ultimate decision should be left to the individual patient and physician. State funds should be restored for abortions for medically indigent women. (May, 1979)

The Academy should work with the State Health Division to ensure that third trimester abortions be discouraged; and encourages Academy members to educate patients and their communities that alternatives to abortion are available, including birth control, adoption and support groups for mothers, and assist them in exercising their options. (May, 1985)

2. ACCESS TO CARE

The Academy should work with Oregon physicians to discuss continuing and new ways to promote and assure care of the medically indigent and make consumers aware of these options. (May, 1987)

The Academy should work to suggest programs and legislation for medical care of the indigent. (May, 1987)

The Academy encourages its members to care for society’s poor, either by volunteering at clinics already established, or by some other means. (May, 1988)

The Academy supports development of plans and funding for universal access to affordable health care and should continue to be actively involved in legislative efforts to this end. (May, 1990)

The Academy urges that perinatal care of pregnant women of seasonal migrant farmworker families be made eligible for reimbursement under Medicaid. (May 1991)

The Academy supports continued discussions at the AAFP level to complete a proposal for universal coverage for all people in the US and supports, in concept, the 7 elements for universal coverage outlined in the draft proposal by the Task Force on Universal Coverage. (May, 2001)

3. ADVANCEMENT OF FAMILY MEDICINE

The Academy encourages and will solicit contributions from among its membership and others to the Family Practice Department for the enrichment of its educational programs and will establish a mechanism to develop and actively promote an ongoing program of giving to the OHSU Department of Family Practice. (May 1982)

The Congress authorized an organization within the Academy whose purpose would be the establishment of a permanently endowed Chair of Family Practice at OHSU. (May 1983)

The Congress changed the name of the Ad Hoc Committee on OAFP/OHSU Liaison to “Committee for the Advancement of Family Medicine” and changed the scope of the Committee’s project from an endowed Chair of Family Practice to a $300,000 to $500,000 endowment of the Department’s activities. (May, 1985)
4. ALCOHOL CONSUMPTION

The Academy, in recognition of ORS 471.030 which charges the OLCC to promote temperance in alcohol consumption, opposes monthly sales “specials” and questions the legality of special sales and should seek an AG opinion on the subject.

The Academy recommends that fortified wines should be put in the same class as other products sold only in OLCC liquor stores. (May, 1986)

5. AMERICAN SOCIETY OF ASSOCIATION EXECUTIVES

The Academy encourages its executive staff to join ASAE and, as an indication of support, pays the annual dues. (May 1980)

6. ANAPHYLACTIC REACTION

The Academy supports amendment of the appropriate statute to enable appropriately trained law people to legally administer epinephrine in the event of severe anaphylactic reaction due to any cause. (May 1988)

7. BASIC HEALTH CARE

The Academy adopted a concept of basic health care, as follows:

   BASIC HEALTH CARE

1. Treatment of sudden severe illnesses (e.g., heart attack, infections, acute severe psychiatric illness, accidents, broken bones or pneumonia).

2. Education and preventive care for children (e.g., well child care; immunizations, vision, dental and hearing care, both preventive and restorative).

3. Family planning, including prenatal services.

4. Treatment of on-going conditions with an expectation of cure or life expectancy of over five years (e.g., diabetes, severe depression, arthritis, hypertension, schizophrenia, hip replacement).

5. Prescription drugs and medical supplies.

6. Mental health treatment services for crisis situations (e.g., attempted suicide, victims of violence, child abuse and other situations which ma require hospitalization).

7. Education and preventive care for adults (e.g., screening for cancer, hypertension, heart disease and diabetes).
The foregoing represents a minimal level below which no citizen should fall. (May, 1990)

8. BIRTHING

_The Academy acknowledges the importance of patients’ wishes in seeking alternative birth options and encourages the development of hospital-based birth centers which can provide a safe desirable alternative to standard hospital deliveries and avoid the risks inherent in home births attended by inadequately trained birth attendants._ (May, 1980)

The Academy supports making the birth experience as free from trauma and hazard as possible. (May, 1984)

The Academy supports drafting of legislation for licensing and regulation of birth attendants. (May, 1984)

The Academy supports legislation for licensing and regulation of freestanding birthing centers. (May, 1984)

9. BOXING

The Academy urges its members who participate in pre-match physical examinations to make a greater effort to educate athletes and their families as to the potential long-term neurological consequences of boxing; and promote practices which increase the safety of the sport. The Academy encourages athletic endeavors other than boxing. (May, 1984)

10. BREAST FEEDING

The Academy urges the AAFP to provide and promote ongoing medical education regarding the benefits of breast feeding. (May, 2000)

11. BYLAWS

The name of the document was changed to “Bylaws of the Oregon Academy of Family Physicians” eliminating the word “Constitution” throughout. (May, 1981)

The Bylaws of the OAFP were amended to eliminate references to officers as “he” and “his” and to indicate both sexes. (May, 1982)

12. CHAIR OF DEPT. OF FAMILY MEDICINE

The Board of Directors of the Academy will include the Chair of the Department of Family Medicine at OHSU as an ex-officio member. (May, 1996)

13. CHIROPRACTIC, NATUROPATHY
The Academy will continue to support the OMA positions on legislative and other governmental measures relating to expansion of chiropractic and naturopathic practice, insofar as they are consistent with the goals of the OAFP.

14. CLIMATE CHANGE

The Academy will ask the AAFP to update their climate change and air pollution policy to specifically include language about “greenhouse emissions from human activities. (March, 2016)

The OAFP supports local climate change mitigation and adaptation strategies which seek to realize the United States’ Nationally Determined Contribution by (1) endorsing state and legislation and regulations to curb greenhouse gas emissions and (2) collaborating with other health professional and environmental organizations to promote ambitious action on climate change. (March 2016)

15. CONFLICT OF INTEREST

The Purpose of this Conflict of Interest (“Policy”) of the OAFP is to protect the interests of the Academy when it is contemplating entering into a transaction or arrangement that might benefit the private interest of a member of the Board of Directors of the Academy (“Board”), an officer of the Academy (“Officer”), a member of a Academy Committee with Board-delegated powers (“Committee”), or any other employee of the Academy (“Employee”). This Policy is also intended to assist the Board, the Officers, and the Employees as well as members serving in other organizational capacities to fulfill their respective obligations to act at all times in the best interest of the Academy.

Definitions

- **Aware**: Aware means actual knowledge without any duty to inquire.
- **Compensation**: Compensation is defined as direct and indirect remuneration (whether in cash or in kind), as well as gifts or favors that are substantial in nature.
- **Conflict of Interest**: A Conflict of Interest exists with respect to any issue on which the Academy may act where
  (i) an Interested Person has a Personal or Private Interest, or
  (ii) an Interested Person is “aware” that a member of his or her Family has a Personal or Private Interest.
- **Family**: Family is defined as that person’s spouse, children, parents, or siblings.
- **Interested Person**: Interested Person is defined as: any member of the Board; any Officer of the Academy; any member of a Committee; or any Employee.
- **Personal or Private Interest**: A Personal or Private Interest is defined as one or more of the following interests, arising directly or indirectly:
  (i) An ownership or investment interest in any entity (other than a 5% or less ownership in a publicly-traded corporation) with which the Academy has a transaction or arrangement;
(ii) A compensation arrangement with the Academy or with any entity or individual with which the Academy has a transaction or arrangement;
(iii) A position in a public office or institution, whether appointed, elected or employed, which will require participation in matters involving the Academy;
(iv) An uncompensated consultant, officer, committee member or board member of any entity with which the Academy has a transaction or arrangement; or
(v) Any other interest which may compete with or conflict with the interests of the Academy.

Disclosure of Potential Conflict of Interest
Any Interested Person who has a Personal or Private Interest in a measure, contract, resolution, grant, grant application, or other transaction presented to the Board or a Committee thereof for deliberation, authorization, approval, or ratification; or any Interested Person who reasonably believes such an interest exists in another person; must make a prompt, full, and frank disclosure of the Personal or Private Interest, either verbally or in writing, to the Board or Committee prior to its acting on such contract or transaction. The Interested Person must disclose the existence of his or her other Personal or Private Interest and all material facts, known to him or her about the Personal or Private Interest and potential Conflict of Interest.

Procedures Required for Board Action When a Conflict of Interest Exists
a. When an Interested Person has a Personal or Private Interest in any measure, contract, resolution, grant, grant application, grant performance review or other transaction presented to the Board or a Committee, the Board or Committee must follow the procedures below when acting on the related measure, contract, resolution, grant, grant application, grant performance review, or other transaction.
b. The Interested Person may make a presentation at the Board or Committee meeting, but after such presentation and discussion, the Interested Person must leave the meeting during the vote on the grant transaction or arrangement that results in the Conflict of Interest.
c. The Board or Committee may appoint, if appropriate, a disinterested person or committee to investigate alternatives to the proposed measure, contract, resolution, grant, grant application, transaction or other Conflict of Interest.
d. After exercising due diligence, the Board or Committee will determine whether the Academy cannot obtain a more advantageous transaction or arrangement with reasonable efforts under the circumstances, from a person or entity that would not give rise to a Conflict of Interest.
e. If a more advantageous transaction or arrangement is not reasonably attainable under circumstances that would not give rise to a Conflict of Interest, the Board or Committee shall determine by a majority vote of the disinterested members whether the transaction or arrangement is in the Academy’s best interest and for its own benefit and whether the transaction is fair and reasonable to the Academy and will make its decision as to whether to enter into the transaction or arrangement in conformity with such determination.
The Board or Committee will further follow all conflicts of interest laws to the extent they apply to the Board.

1. The President and Executive Committee shall review and monitor the annual disclosure forms and bring to the attention of the Board or appropriate committee the disclosed Personal or Private Interests.

2. If the Board or Committee has reasonable cause to believe that an Interested Person has failed to disclose an actual or possible Personal or Private Interest or has engaged in a Prohibited Action, it shall inform the Interested Person of the basis for such belief and afford the Interested Person an opportunity to explain the alleged failure to disclose or alleged Prohibited Action.

3. If, after hearing the response of the Interested Person and making such further investigation as may be warranted in the circumstances, the Board or Committee determines that the Interested Person has in fact failed to disclose an actual or possible Personal or Private Interest or has engaged in a Prohibited Action, it shall take appropriate disciplinary and corrective action as outlined herein.

**Disciplinary and Corrective Action**

If the Board determines that an Interested Person has failed to disclose an actual or possible Personal or Private Interest or engaged in a Prohibited Action, the Board may do one or more of the following:

1. counsel the Interested Person regarding his or her obligations under this Policy;
2. exclude the Interested Person from future discussions and voting on the matter at issue and any related matters;
3. exclude the Interested Person from participation on specified committees or as an officer of the Board.

If the Board determines that an Interested Person has failed to disclose an actual or possible Personal or Private Interest or engaged in a Prohibited Action, and the disciplinary and corrective actions outlined in Section III.C.1. would be insufficient to protect the best interests of the Academy or would impair the Interested Person’s ability to fulfill his or her responsibilities to the Academy, then the Interested Person may be removed from his or her position as Director, Officer, Committee member, or employee in accordance with the applicable Academy bylaws, policies and procedures.

**Procedures for Adequate Record Keeping**

The minutes of the meetings of the Board and all Committees with board-delegated powers must include:

1. The names of the persons who disclosed or otherwise were found to have a Personal or Private Interest, any action taken to determine whether a Conflict of Interest was present, and the Board’s or Committee’s decision as to whether a Conflict of Interest in fact existed.

2. The names of the persons who were present for discussions and votes relating to the transaction or arrangement; the content of the discussions, including any alternatives to the proposed transaction or arrangement; and a record of any votes taken in connection therewith.
Distribution of Policy
This Policy must be distributed to all Interested Persons on at least an annual basis. All such Persons shall be required to complete, sign and deliver to the Academy President/CEO the Acknowledgment and Disclosure Statements. (October, 2008, as required by IRS 990)

16. CONSUMER ALLIANCE PROGRAM

The Academy will ask the AAFP to decline to renew the Consumer Alliance with The Coca Cola Company when it expires in 2010, and re-evaluate the program to ensure it is consistent with public health interests and is aligned with the mission and values of the AAFP. (May, 2010)

17. CONTRACEPTION INFORMATION

The Academy supports revising the patient education site familydoctor.org to include up-to-date, comprehensive information about reproductive options including contraception, medical abortion, adoption and other alternatives. (May, 2004)

18. CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES

The Academy recognizes that there is a place for narcotic analgesic management in some cases of benign chronic pain. (May, 1991)

19. COST OF MEDICAL CARE

The Academy encourages its members to convey to their patients the fact that a good portion of the responsibility for rising costs of medical care lies with federal and state government agencies and other economic forces independent of medicine. The primary goal of physicians is to provide the highest quality of medical care possible. Academy members are encouraged to be cognizant of the cost-effectiveness of every procedure in their office practice and strive to minimize rising costs of medical care. (May, 1979)

20. DEA NUMBERS

The Academy discourages release of Drug Enforcement Administration license numbers for purposes other than verification to the dispenser that the prescriber is authorized to prescribe under the law. (May, 1994)

21. DIRECT TO CONSUMER ADVERTISING

The OAFP supports a ban on direct to consumer advertising of prescription drugs and medical devices. (March, 2016)

22. DISCRIMINATION (against non-Board certified FPs)
The Academy will work with insurers, HMOs, PPOs, and others to assure that otherwise well-qualified family physicians who are members of the OAFP who are not Board certified are not excluded from provider panels or otherwise discriminated against in terms of reimbursement. (May, 1994)

23. DOCUMENT AND RECORD RETENTION

A. The attached Record Retention Schedule sets forth the appropriate retention period for various types of Documents. Subject to the exceptions described below, Documents in general should not be retained for more than three years. It is advisable to catalog or index stored Documents in order to facilitate their retrieval and production pursuant to a records subpoena.

B. While it should generally be assumed that the three-year Document retention period applies to any type of Document not listed on the attached schedule, each individual must exercise common sense in determining whether a Document falls outside the general “three-year rule.” If you are unsure of what category a particular Document falls into or if you believe there may be circumstances that warrant a deviation from the stated policy, you should consult with the Academy’s Executive Director.

C. Emails are subject to automatic deletion after 60 days. However, emails (including attachments) that would fall within a more specific document category set forth on the attached Record Retention Schedule and, therefore, subject to a longer retention period should either (i) be archived in order to maintain such email (see the applicable Academy policy for archiving) or (ii) be reduced to paper copy and retained in the appropriate file with all electronic versions being deleted.

D. Regardless of any established Document retention period, once the Academy or any officer, director or employee has any knowledge of an actual or potential legal investigation, claim, proceeding, or suit, that individual must immediately notify the Academy’s Executive Director of the same. The Executive Director, in consultation with the Academy’s legal counsel, will determine, based on information received from that individual together with other inquiries that the Executive Director and legal counsel determine are necessary or desirable, which Documents may be relevant to the matter or are reasonably likely to be requested during discovery and/or are the subject of a pending discovery request. The Executive Director and legal counsel will prepare and issue a written notice (a “Suspension Notice”) advising that all Documents described in such notice must be preserved until the pending or anticipated matter is concluded; i.e., all destruction and discarding of such Documents must be immediately suspended (a “Suspension”) until further directed, in writing, by the Executive Director.

Keep in mind, too, that the definition of the term “Document” is very broad. The category in which you place a particular Document may vary depending on the content of the Document and the relationship of that Document with other Documents. For example, suppose the Academy and a supplier enter into a contract, and that, subsequent to the execution of the contract, there is correspondence between the Academy and the supplier that is intended to
clarify an ambiguous term in the contract. While the correspondence may be a letter, in this case it may become an important Document at a later time, so it should be retained on the same basis as the contract itself. (October 2008, as required by the IRS 990)

24. **DRUG FORMULARIES**

The OAFP will work with the Oregon Insurance Commission or through the state legislative process to:

1. Require insurers to include covered formulary alternatives to each denied medication in the initial letter of denial of coverage

2. Report the percentage of denials in each drug category.

3. Require that insurers be proactive, notifying patients and providers *before* the new formulary takes effect that a formulary change will affect coverage of a specific medication

4. Require that insurers provide the specific reason for denial of coverage in the initial letter of denial (April, 2015)

25. **DUIL**

*The Academy supports legislation (SB 160—1979 session) which admits into evidence in civil and criminal cases refusal to take a breathalyzer test to determine if a person has been driving under the influence of alcohol. (May, 1979)*

The Academy heartily endorses the 1983 OMA position paper on drunk driving and urges passage of legislation conforming to its guidelines (May, 1983)

26. **DYING PATIENTS**

The Academy will continue to educate its members about their role in caring for the dying and will promote the availability of improved palliative care options for the terminally ill and thereby encourage more effective home care for them.

27. **ELECTIONS**

*The Bylaws of the OAFP were amended to provide for election of officers by mail ballot to allow all eligible members to vote. (May, 1983)*

The Congress directed that two candidates be nominated for each Board of Directors position. (May, 1986)

28. **ENDORSING CANDIDATES**
The OAFP does not endorse candidates (July, 2008)

29. ENVIRONMENTAL RADIATION RELEASES (HANFORD)

The Academy supports the performance of rigorous epidemiologic studies of averse health effects in the population exposed to environmental radiation releases—the “downwinders”—and will convey support for scientifically valid assessment of exposure and effects to appropriate agencies, including the Oregon Health Division and the U.S. Department of Energy; and explore developing CME concerning health effects of radiation exposure. (May, 1994)

30. EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION

This Compensation Policy applies to the compensation of the following persons employed by the Oregon Academy of Family Physicians:

This Policy requires that all of the following elements be included in this process: (1) review and approval by the board of directors and/or the compensation of the Academy; (2) use of data as to compensation of comparable positions; and (3) contemporaneous documentation and recordkeeping.

1. Review and approval. The compensation of the person shall be reviewed and approved by the board of directors, provided that persons with conflicts of interest with respect to the compensation arrangement at issue are not involved in the review and approval.

2. Use of data as to comparable compensation. The review and approval of the compensation of the person at issue shall include data as to compensation for similarly qualified persons in functionally comparable positions as similarly situated organizations.

3. Contemporaneous documentation and recordkeeping. There shall be contemporaneous documentation and recordkeeping with respect to all reviews, deliberations and decisions regarding these compensation arrangements. (October, 2008 – as required by IRS 990 requirements)

31. FAMILY PHYSICIANS DOING OB

The Academy would do all in its power to have CNA amend its rules with respect to family physicians doing C-sections and numbers of deliveries, and discuss directly with professional liability carriers the problems of restrictions on qualified family physicians doing obstetrics (May, 1987)

The Academy endorsed the Oregon ACOG prenatal form and encouraged its use by Academy members doing obstetrics. (May, 1988)

The Academy should continue to address the cost and availability of professional liability insurance necessary for rural family practice. (May 1988)

The Academy believes that family physicians should be reimbursed for intrapartum care when the patient is subsequently referred to an obstetrician for C-section. (May, 1990) May, 1991)
32. **FAMILY PHYSICIANS INQUIRY NETWORK**

The Academy will encourage its members to subscribe to the EVP Newsletter and to contribute clinical questions to the Family Physicians Inquiry Network and will ask the AAFP to support the FPIN’s mission by becoming a founding organizational member. (May, 2007)

33. **FIELD BURNING**

The Academy believes that health effects of field burning are of concern to the Oregon Academy of Family Physicians and that the OAFP should exert influence so that the State Health Division will assume responsibility for design, coordination, performance and evaluation of studies to reliably define the significance of field burning to public health. (May, 1981)

34. **FLUORIDATION**

The Academy supports legislation and/or programs that would fluoridate municipal water systems. (May, 1991)

The Academy supports continuation of King Fluoride (mouth rinse) programs in Oregon’s public schools. (May, 1991)

35. **FOUNDATION**

The Academy supports the establishment of an Oregon Academy of Family Physicians Foundation for the purpose of providing resources to its members. (May, 1994)

The Academy will provide a portion of the dues increase to the Foundation (May, 1999)

36. **GAMBLING**

The Academy supports limiting gambling advertising and will provide leadership in providing education regarding gambling addiction.

37. **GRADUATE MEDICAL EDUCATION FUNDING**

The Academy strongly supports the principal concepts included in MedPAC recommendations related to GME funding and will express that support to our Congressional delegation, the OMA and the AAFP. (April, 2011)

38. **GUIDING PRINCIPLE FOR OAFP DECISIONS**

The Academy will ask this question, “Does this improve the health of my patients and community” as a general guiding policy when making decisions about proposed legislation or new AAFP policy. (April, 2012)

39. **GUNS**
The Academy supports a ban on the sale, manufacture or possession of lethal plastic handguns in the State of Oregon. (May, 1988)

The Academy supports Ballot Measure 99, the Gun Violence Prevention Act. (May, 2000)

The Academy urges the Oregon legislature to adopt Project Safe Neighborhoods and encourages the State Division of Education to institute and fund a firearm safety program into the curriculum of all Oregon public elementary schools. (May, 2001)

The Academy supports background checks for all gun purchases in the State of Oregon. (April, 2013)

The Academy will write a letter to the Office of the Surgeon General requesting a comprehensive report on gun violence on the order of the 1964 Report on Smoking, detailing the urgency of action to prevent firearm suicides and homicides in the U.S. using a public health, harm reduction approach. (March, 2016)

The Academy will support sensible restrictions on gun ownership at a state level and support state laws that would protect children from dangerous or unsupervised gun use. (April, 2018)

40. **HEARING**

The Academy strongly discourages the playing of music at decibel levels known to be damaging to the inner ear (in accordance with existing OSHA guidelines; and supports state legislation to limit decibel levels at entertainment centers. (May, 1986)

41. **HOSPITAL GOVERNING BOARDS**

The Academy encourages the inclusion of physicians on governing boards of all Oregon hospitals. (May, 1980)

42. **HOSPITALISTS**

The Academy will monitor the use of hospitalists in Oregon and periodically report to the membership on the issue of hospitalists.

43. **HOSPITALS IN PRIMARY CARE**

The Academy opposes the concept of hospitals entering into the practice of primary care. (May, 1979)

44. **INDIAN HEALTH SERVICE**

The Academy urges the AAFP to become a coalition member of the Friends of the Indian Health Service. (May, 2000)

45. **INDIVIDUALIZED PHYSICIAN RENEWAL PROGRAM (IPRP)**
The Academy endorses the development and implementation of Oregon’s IPRP and encourages its members to participate as mentors and to participate in the development of methods to measure clinical performance as a basis for establishing group norms. (May, 1990)

46. JOB POSTINGS

We will not charge OAFP members to post job openings on our website, but will change non members. (Nov. 2008)

47. JOINT VENTURE

This Joint Venture Policy requires that the OAFP evaluate any proposed participation in joint venture arrangements under applicable federal tax laws and take appropriate steps to safeguard the Academy’s exempt status with respect to such arrangements. This Policy applies to any joint ownership or other similar contractual arrangement through which there is an agreement to jointly undertake a specific business enterprise, investment, or exempt-purpose activity as further defined in this Policy.

1. Joint ventures or similar arrangements. For purposes of this policy, a joint venture or similar arrangement means any joint ownership or contractual arrangement with a taxable entity or individual through which there is an agreement to jointly undertake a specific business enterprise, investment, or exempt-purpose activity without regard to: (a) whether the Academy controls the venture or arrangement; (b) the legal structure of the venture or arrangement; or (c) whether the venture or arrangement is taxed as a partnership, an association, or a corporation for federal income tax purposes. A venture or arrangement is disregarded, however, if it meets both of the following conditions:

   (i) 95% or more of the venture’s or arrangement’s income for its tax year ending within the Academy’s tax year is excluded from unrelated business income taxation (including, but not limited to (w) dividends, interest, and annuities; (x) royalties; (y) rent from real property and incidental related personal property except to the extent of debt financing; and (z) gains or losses from the sale of property); and
   (ii) the primary purpose of the Academy’s contribution to, or investment or participation in, the venture or arrangement is the production of income or appreciation of property.

2. Safeguards to ensure exempt status protection. The Academy will (a) negotiate in its transactions and arrangements with other members of the venture or arrangement such terms and safeguards as are adequate to ensure that the Academy’s exempt status is protected; and (b) take appropriate steps to safeguard the Academy’s exempt status with respect to the venture or arrangement. Some examples of such safeguards are:
   (i) retaining control over the venture or arrangement sufficient to ensure that it furthers the exempt purpose of the Academy;
   (ii) requirements that the venture or arrangement gives priority to exempt purposes over maximizing profits for the other participants;
(iii) that the venture or arrangement not engage in activities that would jeopardize the Academy’s exemption; and
(v) that all contracts entered into with the Academy be on terms and conditions that are arm’s length or more favorable to the Academy. (October, 2008, as required by the IRS 990)

48. **LOBBYIST**

The Academy will raise dues for Active members by $25/year in 2007 and, if necessary, another $25 in 2008 to hire a contract lobbyist. (May, 2006)

The OAFP agreed to sign a 2 year contract with Doug Barber at $2750/mo. Contract to run from September 2008 to September 2010 (July, 2008)

49. **LONG TERM CARE FACILITIES**

The Academy urges members to continue responsibility for care of their patients following patient’s admission to long term care facilities; and promote quality health care in such facilities.

The Academy encourages members to continue responsibility for the care of their own patients following admission to long-term care facilities, or to make appropriate alternate arrangements for the care of their patients; and strongly encourages its members to share responsibility for and participate in the care of long-term facility patients who have no previously established relationship with a primary care physicians. (May, 1992)

50. **MARKETING TO CHILDREN**

The Academy will ask the AAFP to encourage McDonalds and other national fast food corporations to immediately cease marketing promotions to children. (April, 2011)

51. **MEALS AT ACADEMY FUNCTIONS** (low fat, low cholesterol)

Whenever possible, food served at all general membership, Board and committee meetings will follow the guidelines of the AHA (with respect to low fat, low cholesterol content) and that if this proves difficult due to lack of knowledge or resolve by establishments proposed to be patronized by the Academy, Academy will work with the Oregon Heart Association and other concerned organizations to insure that these establishments receive and follow the necessary information and guidelines. (May, 1992)

(Reversing the foregoing) the Academy will attempt to approach AHA guidelines for most Academy-related meals and give members the option to request meals for special dietary needs by contacting the Academy staff in advance. (May, 1994)
The Academy will make nutrition information available for the food served during official gatherings, going so far as to ask caterers to provide this information. (March 2016)

52. MEDICAL CERTIFICATE FOR MARRIAGE LICENSE

The Academy supports legislation (SB 615-1981 Session) to remove the requirement of a medical certificate as a prerequisite to issuance of a marriage license and encourages patient education efforts toward the value of premarital counseling as an important component of health maintenance and continuing of patient care. (May, 1981)

53. MEDICAL STUDENTS

The Academy will pay 50% for the first year of medical student AAFP membership, and subsequently reimburse 100% of dues to those students who exhibit a continuing interest in membership by paying dues in subsequent years. (May, 1991)

The Academy will encourage OHSU to make all reasonable efforts to use an expansion of the medical school class size to increase the proportion of students interested in primary care and from rural backgrounds. (May, 2007)

54. MEDICAID ELIGIBILITY

The Academy requests the AAFP to lobby congress to repeal the proof of citizenship requirement for Medicaid eligibility.

55. MEDICARE

The Academy will ask the AAFP to address current barriers to outpatient Resident and medical student education raised by current Medicare regulations. (May, 2001)

56. MEDICATIONS, prescribing, dispensing

The Academy supports the rights of family physicians to prescribe and dispense medications whenever and wherever appropriate and in the best interests of the patient. (May, 1987)

57. MEMBERSHIP

The Academy supports the creation of an AAFP Affiliate Membership category for Family Medicine Clinic Managers and Administrators.

58. MENTAL HEALTH

The Academy established an Ad Hoc Committee on Mental Health to advance understanding and knowledge about mental health among family physicians by organizing workshops and conferences; and to cooperate with organizations whose functions include addressing issues of mental health as they affect the personal and professional lives of physicians. (May, 1983)
59. **MOTORCYCLE HELMETS**

The Academy strongly supports legislation (HB 2656-1979 Session) making protective head gear for motorcycle operators and passengers mandatory for all ages. (May, 1979)

60. **NARCOTICS, use of for chronic pain**

(See controlled substances)

61. **NATIONAL CONFERENCE FOR SPECIAL CONSTITUENCIES**

The OAFP will provide a $1500 stipend for up to 3 participants at the NCSC (July, 2008).

62. **NATIONAL PRACTITIONER DATA BANK**

The Academy urges changes to the current law that would require notification of a practitioner each time his/her file is accessed, providing him/her with the name and address of the individual or organization that has requested information. (May, 1992)

63. **NUCLEAR WAR**

The Academy encourages its members to become knowledgeable about the health implications of even a limited nuclear exchange and to work diligently to inform the public and political leaders that a nuclear holocaust is the greatest threat to the health and propagation of the human race. (May, 1981)

The Academy reaffirmed its position that nuclear war is not meaningfully survivable and that there is no medical response in the event of nuclear war and urges the State of Oregon to not participate in disaster planning for nuclear war. The Academy remains in favor of disaster planning, and particularly, disaster planning for nuclear disaster (e.g., Chernobyl).

64. **NURSE PRACTITIONERS**

*The Academy opposes permitting nurse practitioners to prescribe drugs. (May, 1979)*

*The Academy opposes the formulary as approved at the present time (May, 1980) and through its Health Care Services Committee, recommend to the Nurse Practitioner Advisory Council a formula that can be recommended. (May, 1980)*

*The Academy should work with the OMA to support legislation to repeal the nurse practitioner act. (May, 1980)*

It is the policy of the Academy to seek and reflect a harmonious relationship with nurse practitioners as members of the health care team, endorsing nurse practitioners as allied workers with the supervision of a physician. (May, 1982)
65. **OBESITY**

The Academy supports implementation of the Healthy Active Oregon Statewide Physical Activity and Nutrition Plan and supports the AAFP Americans In Motion Program. The Academy supports clinic and community based programs, active community environments and legislation to support funding and implementation of clinical and community programs to address obesity. (May, 2004)

66. **OFFICE LABORATORIES**

The Academy opposes any legislative effort to mandate that laboratory test be performed only by laboratory technologists in offices of fewer than five physicians. The Academy should encourage and assist physicians in seeking quality control mechanisms to maintain high quality work in physicians’ offices. (May 1979)

67. **OHSU DEPARTMENT OF FAMILY MEDICINE**

*The Academy supports the application of the OHSU to the state Legislature for inclusion in OHSU funding of an additional faculty position of family practice. (May, 1979)*

The Academy encourages the University of Oregon Health Sciences Center and Oregon state legislators to provide more training programs for family physicians. (May, 1979)

The Academy through its Public Policy committee and Public Relations Committees is directed to place greater emphasis on the training of family physicians at both student and resident levels at University of Oregon Health Sciences Center. (May, 1981)

The Academy will explore the inclusion of the Family Practices Residency Program as a line item budget of the State Legislature. (May, 1983)

The Academy encourages OHSU to develop a focused training program in rural family medicine. (May, 1988)

68. **ONE KEY QUESTION**

The Academy endorses the “One Key Question” campaign, that all doctors should routinely ask women of reproductive age if they intend to become pregnant in the next year, and provide appropriate services as indicated, including screening for pregnancy-related risk factors, provision of prenatal vitamins, complete contraceptive counseling, and counseling on STI prevention. (April, 2011)

69. **OREGON HEALTH PLAN**

*The Academy opposes lowering the income level for qualification for the Oregon Health Plan and adopts “Support the original Oregon Health Plan concept of revising the benefits package*
rather than disenrolling people” as an action item for implementation for universal access to healthcare.

70.  **OREGON MEDICAL ASSOCIATION**

The Academy amended its Bylaws to make the Delegate and Alternate Delegate to the OMA elected members of the Board of Directors. (May, 1989)

71.  **PAYMENT MODELS**

The OAFP endorses the AAFP’s method of payment attribution and payment model described in the white paper titled “Advanced Primary Care: A Foundational Alternative Payment Model for Delivering Patient-Centered, Longitudinal, and Coordinated Care”. (April, 2018)

72.  **PAP SMEARS**

The Academy supports repeal of legislation requiring certain females to be offered pap smears upon admission to hospitals and encourages hospitals to begin gathering data now (1979) which will offer a base for an effort toward repeal in the 1981 session. (May, 1979)

73.  **PATIENT CENTERED MEDICAL HOME**

The OAFP will make the education, research and advocacy for Patient-Centered Medical Home a top priority for the next five years. (May, 2009)

OAHP will advocate for primary care payment reform using the Standards, Measures and Guiding Principles for Patient Centered Primary Care Homes developed by the Standards Advisory Committee appointed by the Oregon Health Authority (May, 2010).

74.  **PHARMACEUTICAL MANUFACTURERS**

The Academy, in addition to adoption by reference of AMA guidelines for relationships with pharmaceutical, device, and medical equipment industries [Report F (I-90) of the AMA Council on Ethical and Judicial Affairs]; recommends to its members the conclusion of the American College of Physicians White Paper: “Would you be willing to have these arrangements generally known?” as a useful measure of acceptability of particular interactions between a physician and industry.


The Academy will remind its members of the existing policies regarding receiving gifts of value from the pharmaceutical industry and will review and if necessary revise existing policy. (May, 2001)
The Academy will ask the AAFP to investigate the pharmaceutical industry’s pattern of profiteering from the pharmaceuticals they sell, with the intent of searching for effective ways of presenting this issue to the public, to stakeholders, and to the medical community. (April, 2015)

The OAFP will ask the AAFP to search for ethical, legal and business means to address the pharmaceutical industry’s pattern of profiteering from the pharmaceuticals they sell. (April, 2015)

The Academy supports allowing Medicare part D to negotiate for drug prices. (March, 2016)

75. PHARMACEUTICAL INDUSTRY SUPPORT

The Academy requests the AAFP to produce a single source, easily accessed and transparent document delineating all sources of pharmaceutical industry support for AAFP activities, the journals and publications and the AAFP Foundation. This report should use a logical and consistent methodology to report the funding and be distributed by 1/31/08. The OAFP also strongly suggests that the affiliated organizations, such as STMF and AFMRD, do a similar analysis of their pharmaceutical funding support and post the data on their website. The Academy will adopt these same reporting policies. (May, 2007)

The OAFP Board of Directors voted unanimously to forego all pharmaceutical support for any OAFP operations, including CME programs and magazine advertising. The OAFP will not accept any pharmaceutical exhibitors, nor any unrestricted grants from pharmaceutical companies. Included with pharmaceutical companies are vaccine manufacturers.

Occasionally, the OAFP is offered a CME program from a 3rd party. Examples include other state Academies, national associations and universities. Most likely, one or more pharmaceutical companies provided support for that program at some point in its creation. It is unrealistic to trace back the funding sources of every CME program. When considering these programs, our due diligence will include discussions with the CME provider and assurances as to the complete autonomy of the subject matter. (Nov. 2007)

The OAFP will support the AMA’s CEJA report (July, 2008)

76. PHYSICIAN AID IN DYING

The Academy will establish a mechanism for preparation of a discussion paper for the guidance of its members. (May, 1991)

The Academy will develop educational programs on care of the terminally ill patient, including relief of pain and suffering and anxiety of the patient and the patient’s family; such education to include helping physicians to evaluate programs available for terminally ill patients and their
families and where such programs are not available, to help develop community programs. (May, 1994)

The OAFP, without supporting or opposing physician assisted suicide, will make available to members who desire it, educational resources that will enable them to respond knowledgeably to inquiries of patients regarding physician assisted suicide or aid in dying. (May, 1996)

The Academy will compile a bibliography on physician aid in dying and make it available via the Oregon Family Physician. (July, 1996)

The Academy opposes passage of the Pain Relief Promotion Act. (May, 2000)

77. PRECEPTORS

The Academy encourages its members to serve as clinical preceptors for medical students. (May, 2007)

78. PRENATAL TESTING

The Academy recommends that the Oregon Health Division conduct an ongoing, evidence-based review of serologic testing for “routine” prenatal tests to determine cost-effectiveness and usefulness. (May, 2000)

79. PRESCRIPTION MONITORING PROGRAM

The Academy supports the creation of an electronic Prescription Monitoring Program. (May, 2008)

80. PRIMARY CARE SPENDING

The Academy asks the AAFP develop strategies and resources to advocate for increasing the percentage of health care spending devoted to primary care applicable at both the national and state levels; and work with payers to advocate for increasing the percentage of primary care spending throughout the nation. (March, 2016)

81. PRIVILEGING

The Academy supports the AAFP disseminating information regarding core privileging and working with other specialty societies to embark on research that will determine minimum criteria for procedures to help credentialing entities fairly judge physicians’ qualifications to perform them. (May, 1998)

82. PROFESSIONAL LIABILITY INSURANCE

*The Academy should do all in its power to have CNA amend its rules with respect to family physicians doing C-sections; and numbers of deliveries and discuss directly with professional*
liability carriers the problems of restrictions on qualified family physicians doing obstetrics. (May, 1987)

The Academy should continue to address the cost and availability of professional liability insurance necessary for rural family practice. (May, 1988)

The Academy established a Risk Management Committee to deal with any and all problems that arise for family physicians with respect to professional liability insurance, including insurance company mandated limitations of their practices, and liaison with carriers who cover family physicians and advise the Board and other committees of the Academy on loss prevention efforts. (May, 1989)

The Academy petition and assist the OMA and other pertinent organizations to pursue state legislation directed toward physician liability insurance relief for physicians providing obstetrical care in rural areas. (May, 2002)

The Academy use its key contact network to educate state and federal legislators and local communities about the critical effects of liability insurance premium increases on rural obstetrical care, the public health impact and the adverse economic impact. (May, 2002)

The Academy will send a resolution to the OMA, and AAFP asking them to make work on state and national efforts at tort reform a top priority. (May 2002)

83. RECYCLING, RECYCLED PAPER

The Academy is directed by the Congress to purchase and use only recycled copier paper, fax paper, envelopes, mailing labels, business cards and other paper products wherever possible. (May, 1991)

The Academy is directed by the Congress to provide receptacles for recycling at all meetings of the Academy. (May, 1991)

The Academy urges members to use recycled paper products and to recycle paper in their offices. (May, 1991)

84. REIMBURSEMENT

The Academy supports the concept of more equitable reimbursement for cognitive service as opposed to procedural service. (May, 1984)

The Academy will use its influence to encourage insurance payers to accept and reimburse billings by family physicians based on existing Prolonged Service Codes for obstetric services and will educate its members about Prolonged Service Codes at educational opportunities. (May, 2004)
85. RELATIVE VALUE SCALE UPDATE COMMITTEE (RUC) COMPOSITION

The Academy will ask the AAFP to recommend that the composition of the Relative Value Scale Update Committee (RUC) be changed to provide primary care representation at least equal to the proportion of primary care physicians in the physician workforce. (May, 2007)

The Academy will ask the AAFP to petition CMS to develop an independent RVS Advisory Board with membership representative of the current physician workforce and will encourage the AAFP to withdraw from any further participation in the RUC, with clear communication that the withdrawal is based on flaws in the current process that cannot be corrected without total restructuring (April, 2011).

86. ROUTINE LABORATORY TESTS ON HOSPITAL ADMISSIONS

The Academy opposes mandatory routine admitting laboratory tests on all hospital admissions. (May, 1979)

87. RURAL CLERKSHIP PROGRAM

The Academy supports continuing the required Rural and Community Health Clerkship at OHSU, using the Oregon Office of Rural Health’s definition of “rural”. (April, 2013)

The Academy will advocate for all medical schools in Oregon to increase the number of primary care physicians they graduate. (April, 2013)

The OAFP Board of Directors will request the Oregon Area Health Education Centers to provide an annual report to regarding the Rural Health Clerkship and its effects. (April, 2013)

88. RURAL HEALTH

The Academy encourages OHSU to develop a focused training program in rural family medicine. (May, 1988)

The Academy should continue to address the cost and availability of professional liability insurance necessary for rural family practice. (May, 1988)

The Academy supports the development of an AHEC system, and strongly supports legislation (SB 438, 1989 Session) for tax credits to physicians practicing in rural health care shortage areas. (May, 1989)

The Academy established a Rural Health Committee. (May, 1991)

The Academy agreed to become a founding member of the Oregon Rural Health Association (at a cost of $500 per year), a group whose focus was to improve rural health in Oregon (November, 1994)
89. SEAT BELTS, INFANT RESTRAINTS IN MOTOR VEHICLES

The Academy continues to support promotional activities toward education and involvement of Academy members in the seat belt and infant restrain program, including consideration of physician education lectures or seminars at the 1985 Annual Scientific Assembly. The Academy should set up a distribution network for dissemination of public education pamphlets and other materials to Oregon family physicians.

*The Academy encourages members’ involvement in the seat belt intervention study of the OAFP Research Committee and OHSU. (May, 1984)*

The Academy supports legislation to make available some seats with seat belts in school buses and public transportation. (May, 1984)

The Academy supports passage of regulations which would allow the use of approved vehicle restraints for infants and children in aircraft during takeoff and landing. (May, 1984)

The Academy supports legislation requiring the use of seat belts in private passenger vehicles. (May, 1984), (May, 1990)

90. SEXUAL ISSUES-GUIDELINES FOR PHYSICIANS

The Academy endorses the spirit and intent of the Oregon Medical Association “Guidelines for Physicians – Sexual Issues”, while acknowledging differences in family medicine which make some portions of the Guidelines seem inconsistent with highly appropriate practices of family physicians. (May, 1995)

The Academy will draft guidelines about sexual misconduct in medical practice and distribute these guidelines to the membership and will present these guidelines to the AAFP Congress of Delegates. (May, 2004)

91. SINGLE PAYER

The Academy supports single payer national health insurance as an effective strategy to achieve universal access. (May 2009)

92. SOCIAL DETERMINANTS OF HEALTH

The Academy will provide education to its members about the social determinants of health, both what they are and how family physicians can impact them. (April 2015)

93. SPEAKER AND VICE SPEAKER OF THE CONGRESS
The Academy will limit the terms of the Speaker and Vice Speaker of the OAFP Congress to three consecutive one-year terms. (May 1998)

94. STEM CELL RESEARCH

The Academy requests the AAFP to develop a policy statement in support of the development of new embryonic stem cell lines and support the removal of restrictions against government funding for the advancement of scientific research to develop new cell lines using embryonic stem cells.

95. SUPPLIES AND MATERIALS

The OAFP supports working to achieve full reimbursement to physicians for the cost of supplies and materials used in patient care.

96. SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

When the Congress is asked to support or oppose a ballot measure or legislation, a complete copy of the text must be made available.

97. TANNING PARLORS

The Academy believes that it is appropriate that patrons of suntan parlors be made aware of the risks associated with repeated episodes of suntanning and supports legislation requiring suntan parlors to display clearly to patrons a sign warning of the ill effects of repeated suntanning. (May, 1981)

The Academy urges members to advise patients of the hazards involved in tanning. (May, 1982)

98. TOBACCO

The Academy promotes health lifestyles as a core of preventive programs offered by physicians, health departments, health plans and voluntary health associations and encourages physicians to take advantage of teaching opportunities that arise when counseling pregnant patients; and the OAFP encourages Medicaid, prepaid health plans and insurance companies to sponsor or pay the cost of smoking withdrawal methods for their beneficiaries; and urges physicians to become exemplars for their patients and communities by stopping smoking themselves, by placing no smoking signs in their offices and waiting rooms, and by discouraging smoking in hospitals. Members are urged to routinely assess the smoking habits of patients and encourage them to quit smoking by offering direct educational assistance or referring them to community stop-smoking clinics. The Academy urges members to alert cigarette smokers to the risks associated with smoking and encourage them to recognize and be sensitive to the needs of non-smokers, support educational programs related to cigarette
smoking and continue to pressure cigarette companies to produce and market cigarettes that may be less hazardous. (May, 1980)

The Academy supports continuing, as a minimum, the current taxes on each package of cigarettes and allocating 20% of the revenues thus generated to education and prevention programs directed toward the medical consequences of smoking, with currently functioning non-profit organizations such as the Oregon Lung Association, being eligible to receive such funds to develop such programs and disseminate them. (May, 1982)

The Academy supports draft legislation (1983 Session) which would tax tobacco products with resultant revenue dedicated to anti-smoking education. (May, 1983) (May, 1990)

The Academy supports a ban on cigarette advertising, including promotional distribution of free cigarettes in Oregon. (May, 1985) (May, 1992)

The Academy supports legislation that would mandate cautionary labeling on containers of smokeless tobacco. (May, 1985)

The Academy was directed to prepare black ordered postcards for physicians to mail to their legislators each time a patient died of tobacco-related disease, which would inform the legislator that a patient died of lung cancer, COPD, coronary heart disease, other tobacco-related cancer or vascular disease; and stating that the physician supported a ban on tobacco advertising. (the AAFP adopted a similar resolution and was to provide the cards; however they never did). (May 1987)

The Academy opposes the sale of tobacco products via vending machines and supports state and local legislation to prohibit such sales in Oregon. (May, 1990)

The Academy encourages pharmacists not to sell tobacco products in pharmacies in Oregon. (May, 1990) (May, 1991)

*The Academy encourages the Oregon Association of Hospitals to make all Oregon hospitals smoke-free. (May, 1990)*

*The Academy urges its members to refuse to authorize smoking by their patients in hospitals where smoking is allowed on physicians’ orders. (May, 1991)*

*The Academy supports prohibition of smoking in nursing homes and urges the AAFP to support nationwide prohibition of smoking in nursing homes. (May, 1994)*

The Academy will educate its members and the public regarding the health hazards of cigar smoking. (May, 1997)
The Academy opposes legislation that would limit local communities in Oregon from enacting ordinances that would benefit the health of their people. (May, 2001)

The Academy supports a tax increase of 50 cents per package of cigarettes and a proportional increase for other tobacco products. (May, 2002)

The Academy encourages its members to support reinstitution of the 10 cent per pack tobacco tax and will work in conjunction with other organizations toward this goal. The Academy will also work to support additional tobacco taxing initiatives. (May, 2004)

99. TRAVEL REIMBURSEMENT

Travel to Board Meetings
It is expected that board members will drive to and from board meetings. They will be reimbursed at the IRS established rate per mile.

When a board member must travel 150 miles or more to attend a board meeting, the OAFP will provide the IRS per diem rate for one night in a hotel. (April, 2012)

Out of State Travel
The OAFP will provide a per diem for out of state travel. We will follow the federal guidelines for reimbursing meals, ground transportation and incidental expenses. The per diem will NOT cover hotel expenses. The OAFP will reimburse actual hotel expenses. (April, 2012)

Air Travel: When flying is necessary, the OAFP will reimburse one round trip coach fare to the city of destination. Airline receipt must accompany the reimbursement request.

100. UNIFORM PRENATAL RECORD

The Academy will work with Oregon ACOG and other entities to make future revisions of the Uniform Prenatal Record simpler and easier to use while maintaining its value as a vehicle to document prenatal care. (May, 1998)

101. UNIVERSAL HEALTH CARE COVERAGE AND ACCESS

The Academy will form a task force to create a coalition of health care organizations and other interested parties with the goal of developing a plan for universal health care coverage and access for all Oregonians. The task force will report to the board and membership on a regular basis. The task force and the Board of Directors will inform, encourage and facilitate active participation by the members in the process of pursuing universal health care coverage and access for all Oregonians. (May, 2003)

The OAFP endorses universal access to comprehensive, affordable, high-quality health care through single-payer legislation at the state level. (April, 2014)
102. **UNREASONABLE DOCUMENTATION**

The Academy supports efforts to simplify necessary documentation and resist unnecessary and unreasonable documentation required by government and private agencies. (May, 1990)

103. **VA HOSPITALS**

The Academy encourages the conversion of Veteran Administration acute care facilities to convalescent and chronic care centers with provision of acute care for veterans through the private community health care system. The Academy discourages the construction of new Veterans Administration hospitals. (May, 1981)

104. **VACCINES**

The Academy advocates that the Oregon State Health Division publicize distribution of free vaccines and its availability to OAFP members and others before distribution patterns are finalized, that distribution be equitable among physicians who request to participate and that priority in distribution should be to county health departments and similar public agencies. (May, 1982)

The Academy asks the AAFP to work in conjunction with other national organizations to initiate discussions with pharmaceutical manufacturers, the FDA and the CDC to search for remedies to assure the availability and timely distribution of critical drugs and vaccines. (May, 2001)

105. **WEIGHT LOSS**

The Academy promotes sensible weight reduction through proven scientific methods and reaffirms its opposition to the prescription of amphetamine-like medications for weight loss and is concerned about false and misleading advertisements for weight reduction schemes. (May, 1982)

106. **WHISTLE BLOWER**

The OAFP is fully committed to providing a workplace that is open to and fosters communication concerning all aspects of its organization and operations, including compliance with all applicable federal, state and local laws, regulations, rules and ordinances relating to corporate or financial misconduct and fraud. Toward that end, the Academy has adopted this Policy to protect its employees from unlawful threats, discrimination, retaliation or discharge as a result of their lawful reporting of, or providing or causing to be provided, information about what they reasonably believe to be corporate fraud or other violations, or possible violations, by the Academy or its agents of any applicable laws, or objecting to or refusing to participate in any such activity or practice, not only to accommodate, but to encourage, responsible whistleblowing. This Policy is not intended to address claims or allegations of harassment, sexual or otherwise, or discrimination in the workplace; those issues are covered in separate policies adopted by the Academy.
A. The Academy designates the Vice President of the Board of Directors of the Academy as the primary person responsible for receipt of any concerns or information that an employee reasonably believes represents or relates to a violation of any law by the Academy or its agents, including, without limitation, financial statement disclosures, accounting, internal accounting controls, and/or auditing matters and for administering this Policy.

B. If an employee is uncomfortable with discussing, or for any reason prefers not to submit to, or discuss a concern with the Vice President, the employee may instead choose to contact any other member of the Executive Committee of the Board to discuss the concern. For purposes of this Policy, any member other than the Vice President that receives a concern is referred to as a “Primary Contact.”

C. Any employee of the Academy may submit, on a confidential and anonymous basis if the employee so desires, any concern that such employee reasonably believes relates to the violation of any laws by the Academy or its agents. Although a concern may be initially discussed with the Vice President or any other Primary Contact, all concerns must be set forth in writing and forwarded by U. S. mail (marked with the notation “PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL COMMUNICATION – ADDRESSEE ONLY MAY OPEN – Submitted pursuant to the Whistleblower Policy”) to the Vice President or other Primary Contact, as the case may be. If being submitted anonymously, the employee should take particular care to provide sufficient information to allow a full investigation of the matter.

D. Upon receipt of a concern, the Vice President or other Primary Contact, shall refer the concern to the full Executive Committee, whereupon the Executive Committee will promptly and fully investigate the concern so reported and take all necessary and appropriate remedial and disciplinary action to correct the concern reported. In conducting such investigation and implementing subsequent remediation, the Executive Committee shall comply with all laws regarding, and otherwise use reasonable efforts to protect, the confidentiality and anonymity of the reporting employee.

E. There shall be no retaliation or discrimination of any kind against an employee who submits a concern in good faith even if such concern is ultimately determined to be unfounded; provided, however, the submission of a concern based on information that the employee knows to be false or without a good faith, reasonable belief in its truth and accuracy is not protected by this Policy and may subject the reporting employee to disciplinary action up to and including termination of employment.

F. The Executive Committee shall retain as a part of its records all concerns and information regarding the investigation and outcome thereof for a period of not less than 7 years. (October, 2008, as required by IRS 990 requirements)
107. WORKFORCE

The Academy supports health care reform that includes significant provisions for:

- enhanced educational opportunities and incentives for students to enter primary care disciplines, especially family medicine
- opportunities for students to attain loan repayment in return for service to underserved communities,
- increased financial support for primary care residencies
- reform of the current GME system to promote and achieve an appropriate balance of primary care to specialty care residencies of at least 50%

108. X-RAYS IN PHYSICIANS’ OFFICES

The Academy is opposed to further legislative restrictions on office personnel taking x-rays in the physician’s office; encourages the development of programs for continuing education of office personnel in radiation safety and increasing availability of such programs so as to facilitate appropriate continuing education of office personnel in rural areas and encourages consideration of alternative pathways in certification of x-ray personnel for safe radiological practice in small offices. (May, 1979)

The Academy should work with the Board of Radiologic Technologists to assure availability of academically sound courses in radiologic safety to temporary and limited permit applicants. Elective courses in specific anatomical categories should be made available for temporary and limited permit applicants. Courses should be so planned as to be geographically convenient and timely. (May, 1981)