

GOVERNING PRINCIPLES  
OF  
THE TENNESSEE MEDICAL ASSOCIATION  
RESIDENTS AND FELLOWS SECTION (RFS)

RESIDENTS AND FELLOWS SECTION (RFS)- There shall be a special section for physicians currently training in residency programs and fellowships in the state of Tennessee.

- I. PURPOSE. The purpose of the Resident and Fellows Section is
  - a. to increase involvement of residents and fellows in the Tennessee Medical Association and the component medical societies;
  - b. to introduce residents and fellows to the programs, benefits, services and policy-making structure of the organizing TMA itself; and
  - c. to help provide programs and services that will assist RFS members in their transition from training programs to fulltime practice.
  
- II. MEMBERSHIP. All physician members of the Tennessee Medical Association who are actively enrolled in postgraduate residency programs or fellowships may be members of the RFS.
  
- III. GOVERNING COUNCIL. There shall be a Governing Council of the Resident and Fellows Section to direct the programs and activities of the Section.
  - A. MEMBERS. The Governing Council shall consist of a RFS member selected locally to represent their program constituency at the state level. Each residency program shall be entitled to selected one member for every 50 RFS members or fraction thereof.
  - B. OFFICERS. The members of the Governing Council shall elect the following positions from among its composition.
    1. Chair: The Chairman will preside at the business meetings and meetings of the Governing Council.
    2. Chair-Elect: The Chair-elect shall assist the Chair, preside in the absence of the Chair, and serve as the Chair in the following year.

3. Secretary/Treasurer: The Secretary shall maintain such records as may be necessary or advisable for the conduct of the activities of this section and be responsible for oversight and reporting of the section's budget.
  4. Two Delegates and two Alternate Delegates to the AMA Resident and Fellows Section: The AMA Delegates and Alternate Delegates shall represent the members of the Section in the AMA Resident and Fellows Section.
  5. Delegate and Alternate to the TMA House of Delegates: The RFS will select one delegate and one alternate delegate to attend the TMA House of Delegates.
- C. TERM. Governing Council members, including Delegates and Alternate Delegates, shall serve a term of one year beginning June 1. Elections will be held in conjunction with the TMA annual convention each spring.
- D. VACANCIES. Any vacancy occurring on the Governing Council shall be filled at the next business meeting of the section. The Chair may temporarily fill a vacancy, pending the next business meeting, by appointing a member of the section, from that training program, to the Council. In the event that a delegate cannot fulfill their duties, the alternate delegate shall assume the responsibilities of that delegate.
- E. AUTHORITY. The Governing Council shall direct the programs and activities of the TMA Resident and Fellows Section subject to approval by the TMA Board of Trustees. Each local section shall have a Governing Council to direct and carry out local initiatives to further the local and state sections.
- F. APPOINTMENTS. It will be the responsibility of the RFS Governing Council to make appointments of section members to TMA committees and to other bodies of the Association, subject to confirmation by the appropriate TMA governing body.

- IV. MEETINGS. The RFS shall meet at least twice per year at the call of the Chair, with one meeting encompassing all state RFS members. Additional meetings may be called by the Chair.
- A. VOTING MEMBERSHIP. Eligible voters at an annual business meeting of the RFS shall be all qualified and certified physician members of the TMA RFS in attendance.
- B. PURPOSE. The purpose of the meetings of the Section shall be:
1. to provide educational and networking opportunities for RFS members;
  2. to hear local and regional section reports and take actions on appropriate issues to come before the RFS;
  3. to act on resolutions to be submitted to the TMA House of Delegates and/or AMA RFS Section.
  4. to elect the members of the TMA RFS Governing Council
- C. QUORUM. A simple majority of the governing council members must be present at any meeting to constitute a quorum of the RFS.
- D. RULES OF ORDER. The rules of order for conduct of business shall be the rules of order used by the House of Delegates of the Tennessee Medical Association.
1. VOTING AND VOICE. Any member of the Section may attend, introduce resolutions or reports, debate issues, and vote in the business meeting of the Section. Any member of the Tennessee Medical Association may be permitted a voice in the Section at the discretion of the Chair.
  2. NOTICE. Notice of the meeting to be held shall be provided to the membership of the Section at least 30 days prior to the meeting.

V. DUES and FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITY.

A. Dues - The amount of annual membership dues to be paid by residents and fellows to join the TMA, their local medical society and subsequently the RFS, shall be established by the RFS Governing Council.

B. Financially Self Supporting - The RFS of the TMA shall be self-supporting in all endeavors. The TMA Board of Trustees has the option of discretionary funding for certain activities as called for within budget requests to the Board by the Section.

VI. AMENDMENTS. These bylaws may be amended during any business meeting of the Section by a two-thirds vote of the entire RFS Governing Council and subsequent approval of the TMA Board of Trustees.