



**National Congress  
of  
Family Medicine Residents**

**Governing Principles**

**Amended by the AAFP Board of Directors March 2008  
Updated June 2008**



## **AMERICAN ACADEMY OF FAMILY PHYSICIANS NCFMR GOVERNING PRINCIPLES**

**Article I. Purposes** The National Congress of Family Medicine Residents (NCFMR) consists of an annual meeting of family medicine residents convened for the purposes of (1) electing officers and other resident representatives of the American Academy of Family Physicians (AAFP), (2) providing educational courses and programs for family medicine residents, (3) fostering interaction among family medicine residents and (4) conducting such other business as may come before it, including the development of recommendations, policy statements and resolutions.

**Article II. Authority** The NCFMR exists under the authority granted to it by the AAFP, through the AAFP Board of Directors. These Governing Principles provide the framework under which the NCFMR shall conduct its business and the Principles may not be altered except by a majority vote of the AAFP Board of Directors.

**Article III. Rules of Order** The NCFMR may adopt such Rules of Order as it deems necessary to conduct its business, providing such Rules of Order are consistent with these Governing Principles and the Bylaws of the AAFP. If a conflict exists between any NCFMR Rules of Order and these Governing Principles or the AAFP Bylaws, the Governing Principles and/or AAFP Bylaws shall supersede the NCFMR Rules of Order.

**Article IV. Time of Meeting and Participants** The NCFMR shall meet annually at a time and place determined by the AAFP Board of Directors. Physicians who meet one of the following criteria are eligible to attend the annual meeting of the NCFMR: (1) physicians training in a three-year Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME)-accredited family medicine residency program; (2) physicians training in American Osteopathic Association (AOA)-approved rotating general or family medicine internships or AOA-approved general or family medicine residencies; or (3) graduates of ACGME-accredited or AOA-approved family medicine residencies who immediately extend training or enter a fellowship program upon completion of their residency training.

**Article V. Function of Commission on Education** The Commission on Education (COE), or its successor as designated by the Board of Directors, shall be responsible for planning the annual meeting of the NCFMR. During the interim between meetings of the NCFMR, the COE shall be responsible for acting on behalf of the NCFMR, subject to the approval of the AAFP Board of Directors. With the exception of recommendations for changes in these Governing Principles, all

resolutions, recommendations and policy statements adopted by the NCFMR shall be forwarded to the COE for appropriate disposition. Proposals from NCFMR to change these Governing Principles shall go directly to the AAFP Board of Directors.

**Article VI. Privilege of the Floor and Voting at NCFMR Business Sessions** All NCFMR registrants meeting one of the requirements set forth in Article IV shall have the privilege of the floor during any NCFMR business session. However, voting on any item of business coming before the NCFMR other than voting during an election, which is addressed in Article VIII, shall be limited to those attendees who are resident members of the AAFP.

Actions which must be forwarded to the COE (resolutions, recommendations and policy statements) require approval by a majority of those voting to be adopted. The vote required to adopt motions of a procedural nature, including amendments to the NCFMR Rules of Order, shall be as specifically provided by the NCFMR Rules of Order or the NCFMR parliamentary authority. For purposes of voting on any item of business other than an election, a quorum shall be defined as a majority of the delegates registered for the NCFMR.

**Article VII. Elected Positions** The NCFMR shall be responsible for electing (1) one resident nominee for the AAFP Board of Directors; (2) an NCFMR chair; (3) two individuals who will serve as alternate delegates to the AAFP Congress of Delegates and who will serve the following year as delegates; (4) one nominee for the Society of Teachers of Family Medicine (STFM) Board of Directors; (5) one nominee for the Association of Family Medicine Residency Directors (AFMRD) Board of Directors; and (6) one nominee for the American Academy of Family Physicians Foundation Board of Trustees.

The terms of office for each of the elected positions set forth above shall be specified in the NCFMR Rules of Order. No person may be elected who is not a resident member of the AAFP in good standing.

**Article VIII. Voting in Elections** Those entitled to vote in any NCFMR election shall consist of one delegate from each AAFP constituent chapter. Each such delegate must be a resident member in good standing of the AAFP and must be registered at the NCFMR as the delegate from the constituent chapter which he or she represents. A quorum for any election shall be a majority of the delegates registered for the meeting.

No candidate may be elected unless he or she receives the votes of a majority of those voting. The methodology for conducting elections and other rules governing the election process shall be as set forth in the NCFMR Rules of Order.

**Article IX. Removal from Office and Filling Vacancies** The NCFMR chair, resident delegates and alternates to the AAFP Congress of Delegates may be removed from office for cause by a two-thirds vote of the AAFP Board of Directors. The resident member of the AAFP Board of Directors may be removed from office in accordance with the provisions in the AAFP Bylaws relating to the removal from office of any AAFP director or officer. Those individuals selected by the NCFMR as nominees to the Society of Teachers of Family Medicine, Association of Family Medicine Residency Directors, and American Academy of Family Physicians Foundation serve at the pleasure of those organizations and can be removed from office only by those organizations in accordance with their own rules and regulations.

Should a vacancy exist for any reason in any of the positions elected by the NCFMR, such vacancy may, but need not, be filled by the AAFP Board of Directors. If the vacancy is to be filled, the Board shall first seek recommendations from the Commission on Education. Any vacancy which is filled by the AAFP Board of Directors shall be filled only until the next meeting of the NCFMR, at which time the NCFMR shall elect a successor.

**Article X. Parliamentary Authority** *The Standard Code of Parliamentary Procedure, Current Edition*, shall govern all proceedings of the NCFMR, except when in conflict with the AAFP Bylaws, these Governing Principles or specific provisions in the NCFMR Rules of Order.