

Commission on Membership and Member Services (CMMS) 2025 Annual Report

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Purpose & Scope of Work

The American Academy of Family Physicians (AAFP) has over 128,000 members, including active members, residents, and students. The purpose of the Commission on Membership and Member Services (CMMS) is to support the American Academy of Family Physicians (AAFP) and its chapters in efforts related to member recruitment, retention, engagement, and service. The commission's scope of work includes defining the value of membership, reviewing membership services, supervising Member Interest Groups (MIGs), and addressing career and practice issues across different member populations. CMMS also plays a key role in managing AAFP awards and administration and promotion of the Degree of Fellow. As a young and aspiring family physician, our role was to represent the perspectives and voices of future family physicians.

Activities & Achievements*Winter Cluster 2025:*

The CMMS met in-person in Kansas City, MO in January 2025 for Winter Cluster. At each meeting, we review membership data, including rates, retention, and emerging trends. Some major themes include New Physician recruitment, lifetime membership, and membership renewals. We also discussed member satisfaction, dues, and how members perceive the value of their membership. We also help serve the academy by reviewing AAFP policies to make sure they still align with our mission and values. During this meeting, we also had a thorough conversation about the AAFP Awards that are given out annually. We examined the nomination and review procedures to improve efficiency. There are so many family physicians doing incredible work, and our Academy wants to make sure our awards process is updated to highlight family physicians across the country.

Summer Cluster 2025:

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The CMMS met virtually in June 2025 for the Summer Cluster. We reviewed the recommendations from the Winter Cluster and analyzed survey results from the Annual Chapter Leader Forum (ACLF) and the National Conference of Constituency Leaders (NCCL). The commission noted that NCCL received an “Excellent” or “Good” rating from 98% of respondents. The commission discussed ways to increase student awareness of the AAFP and retain new physicians as members within the organization. Ideas included emphasizing the value and benefits of the Academy to medical students and residents, especially graduating residents who are about to becoming New Physicians with the AAFP.

Lessons Learned and the Value of Serving on CMMS

It has been a great honor to serve on the Commission on Membership and Member Services. The AAFP is made up of over 41,000 medical students and residents, and we had the immense privilege of providing our two voices on behalf of all students and residents to the conversations that guide our academy. We met incredible physicians from across the country (from California to New York to Texas) who also served on the Commission. It was inspiring to engage with a community of physicians who love and advocate for family medicine every day. In this role, we saw how the Academy works to serve its large and diverse membership. The strength of the AAFP lies in its members.

Note: This report was prepared by the resident or student representative(s) listed and includes their account(s) of the business conducted during their term. This is not an official record of business proceedings from the AAFP or any other entity. To find out more about the business of the AAFP, its congresses, commissions, and current policies visit aafp.org.