

Funding

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Fundraising for your FMIG

Fundraising Ideas

A very common question from student leaders is “How will we pay for all the programs we have planned?” “This” may refer to food being ordered for a lunch or dinner meeting, but may be related to other costs, such as advertising, audiovisual support, or service costs if the event is held off campus. The students may wish to bring in an outside speaker, which could entail transportation, lodging or honorarium costs.

This is an area in which an advisor almost always has a better understanding than the students, and can guide students to resources they might not otherwise find. Partnering with others, such as the department of family medicine, local family medicine residency programs, student government, other student interest groups, the state academy, other state organizations, and the AAFP is possible to provide funds for FMIGs.

Local Funding

Fundraisers by the FMIG

Any fundraising activity by the students’ needs to have five elements:

1. A specific purpose for the fundraiser, either for FMIG expenses or for a community organization
2. An item or service that is wanted by others
3. A group activity that is suggested by or has the buy-in from many student members
4. A business plan with a realistic financial target to achieve for the specific purpose
5. Student(s) who will take leadership

The most common fundraisers are t-shirt sales or sale of food items to other students (such as breakfast rolls on exam mornings). If raising funds for a community organization, students have sponsored running/walking events, faculty-student basketball games, talent shows which all involve admission fees. For these events advertising, broader student-faculty involvement and even non-school sponsorship are usually needed.

The Academic Department

At the beginning of the school year, the FMIG advisor and the FMIG student leaders may meet with the department chair to give a report on their accomplishments from the past year, discuss their proposed annual program, and request support for specific activities. This may be in the form of direct funding, but could also include other services, such as secretarial support, printing and copying service, and provision of space for meetings.

Faculty speakers are commonly used in presentations and the FMIG may ask that this be considered as department teaching credit.

If the department does fund-raising, the FMIG can request to be included as a named group to receive funds from alumni and department donors. The advisor can give the chair a list of formerly active FMIG students who have finished residency. These alumni may make a monetary donation to the FMIG as a gesture of their appreciation for the support they received while in medical school. In some cases, particularly grateful alumni may endow a fund to support student travel to the state or academy meeting or National Conference.

Student Government/Dean's Office

In some schools the student government will have a budget that includes funding for student interest groups. They also may have funding for students to attend national medically-related meetings, such as the National Conference.

Some Dean's offices will pay for the creation of a poster being presented by a student at a national meeting.

The Dean's office may also provide an access number for the copy machines at the school to student interest meetings.

Residency Programs

The residency program(s) in the area can contribute as well. Usually assistance comes in the form of resident or faculty speakers or materials for a workshop. Residency programs also sponsor dinners at their sites to recruit students to apply to their programs.

Regional Funding

State Academy

Each state has a state academy of Family Medicine. Some state academies can provide funding, suggest speakers and help connect with them, and assist it locating informational resources. A few large state academies provide more extensive resources including budgeted funding annually, dedicated staff support, web-based information, student scholarships to regional and national meetings, and organized meetings for students. Connecting with your state academy on an annual basis will keep you and the FMIG in the informational loop.

Regional residency programs

Depending on your school's location, there may be other residency programs nearby. If so, these programs may be interested in providing speakers, sponsoring an event, or providing other resources.

Other state organizations

The most common organization in this category would be a state AHEC (Area Health Education Center). These are organizations begun through federal grants to states, that are designed to provide health care to underserved areas. An AHEC can typically provide preceptors or presenters in family medicine, information, and occasionally funding for a meeting or program that addresses underserved practice within your state.

National Funding

American Academy of Family Physicians

The AAFP can provide comprehensive services to your FMIG. There are often funding opportunities available, frequently connected to specific goals FMIGs are encouraged to address.

The website (www.aafp.org/explore) provides a large amount of information on a wide variety of topics. You should be familiar with this site and encourage students to use it.

The National Resident and Student conference held in Kansas City each summer provides an opportunity for FMIG students to connect with the larger world of family medicine and other likeminded students. Scholarships are available.

FMIG student regional coordinators are also available to assist in FMIG planning and in answering questions.

Non-Profit(501-c3) Status

A few FMIGs have obtained non-profit designation. These organizations are highly functioning and may have done so for multiple reasons including:

1. Grant funds were obtained that necessitated the change in designation
2. Programs run out of the FMIG are of the nature that non-profit designation enhances the ability to run them, order supplies, or provide services at a reduced cost (i.e. Student Run Free Clinic).
3. The medical school does not offer accounts for medical student programming or clubs and the organization receives enough funding to impact tax status of individuals running the organization, including students or faculty advisors.

There are a lot of standards associated with non-profit status and students/faculty advisors should consult the medical school's legal counsel before looking into this option. The upside is that the FMIG might be eligible for local, state or national grant funding and also receive tax exemption from the state.

FMIG Funding Initiative

The AAFP and AAFP Foundation have partnered again to provide crucial financial support to campus-based FMIGs at U.S. allopathic medical schools in order to enhance student interest in family medicine.

In order to receive the funds, each FMIG must complete a list of requirements that can be found on Virtual FMIG. Groups should work with their state chapter to complete the requirements.

fmignet.aafp.org/funding

Details on Funding

Each FMIG, both campus-based and at branch campuses, is eligible to receive a \$600 grant in academic year 2012-13.

To receive the grant, each FMIG must complete the following requirements:

1. Complete, sign and submit [application](#) by December 7, 2012.
2. Complete FMIG [activity survey](#) by December 7, 2012.
3. Host at least one presentation on what family medicine is or innovations in family medicine (e.g., PCMH), or orchestrate and complete a project in community service or advocacy.
4. Download from the Virtual FMIG and administer [pre-tests](#) and [post-tests](#) during your FMIG's chosen activity.
5. Complete [program evaluation form](#)
6. Mail completed test forms, evaluation and application to address listed below by December 7, 2012.
7. Complete end of year [community service survey](#) by May 31, 2013.

Please mail evaluation, pre-tests and post-tests to:

Ashley Bentley

AAFP Medical Education

11400 Tomahawk Creek Parkway

Leawood, KS 66211

Questions? E-mail abentley@aafp.org or call (800) 274-2237, ext. 6725.

Student Membership Coordinator

Students who are AAFP members can sign up to be the designated Student Membership Coordinator for their medical school. In doing so, your FMIG will receive numerous materials from the AAFP and earn incentives for increasing AAFP student membership. Both the membership coordinator and the FMIG earn incentives.

Incentives for FMIGs:

- 25 new AAFP student applications - \$25
- 50 new AAFP student applications - \$50
- 75 new AAFP student applications - \$75
- 100 new AAFP student applications - \$100
- 150 new AAFP student applications - \$150

Each time the FMIG earns an incentive, the Student Membership Coordinator chooses to receive a gift card to Amazon.com, iTunes or Starbucks.

For more information on the Student Membership Program you can visit www.aafp.org/studentcoordinator.

Or contact:

Julie Herzog, AAFP Membership Division

jherzog@afp.org

913-906-6000 x6823

AAFP Student Membership Coordinator Program

2011-12 Academic Year

AAFP Student Membership Coordinators inform other medical students on their campus about the specialty of family medicine and the great benefits and resources available to American Academy of Family Physicians student members.

Student Membership Coordinators also help keep the lines of communication between the AAFP and campus FMIGs flowing smoothly.

Objective

- Increase AAFP Student Membership on your campus
- Receive incentives for increasing AAFP Student Membership on campus

Eligibility Requirements

- The Student Membership Coordinator **must be** an AAFP Student member
- The Student Membership Coordinator **must fill out** an AAFP Student Membership Coordinator application.
- The SMC application **must be sent** to the Student Member Relations Specialist at the National AAFP.

FMIG Incentives

FMIGs that help their Student Membership Coordinator increase AAFP Student Membership on their medical school campuses will receive the following incentives:

25 New AAFP Student applications: \$25

50 New AAFP Student applications: \$50

75 New AAFP Student applications: \$75

100 New AAFP Student applications: \$100

150 New AAFP Student applications: \$150

Student Membership Coordinator Incentive

Each time that the FMIG earns an incentive, the Student Membership Coordinator will also be awarded an incentive.

\$25 gift card (choose one)

Amazon.com

iTunes

Starbucks

Incentive Timeframe

AAFP Student Membership Applications received May 1– April 30

Incentive Tracking

Incentives will be tracked and awarded on a quarterly basis.

Know a medical student who fits the job? For more information contact Julie Herzog, Member Relations Specialist at jherzog@aafp.org.