

ILLINOIS STATE MEDICAL SOCIETY

**Resolution 07.2018-01
(A-19)**

Introduced by: Nestor A. Ramirez, M.D., M.P.H., ISMS Member

Subject: New Class of Direct ISMS Membership

Referred to: Council on Education & Health Workforce

1 Whereas, our ISMS is suffering from an ongoing decrease in membership with
2 very minimal gain of new members; and

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4 Whereas, an active but partial type of direct membership may give prospective
5 members a sense of belonging, participating in discussions and trying to fulfill some of
6 their goals at a lesser cost and with less time commitment; and

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8 Whereas, the type and extent of benefits and privileges of such a membership
9 would be limited and will be described by the Board of Trustees and/or the House of
10 Delegates; and

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12 Whereas, such a membership would entitle the prospective physician to be called
13 an ISMS member, and to be counted in our ISMS' advocacy actions; and

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15 Whereas, this type of membership would not require the physician to have an
16 active licensed practice in Illinois, only graduation from a medical school listed in the
17 World Directory of Medical Schools published by the World Federation for Medical
18 Education ([WFME](#)) and the Foundation for Advancement of International Medical
19 Education and Research ([FAIMER](#)); and

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21 Whereas, this action might require a bylaws change; therefore, be it

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23 **RESOLVED**, that our ISMS explore the creation of a new class of **physician**
24 membership which could be called Affiliate, Associate, at-Large, or any other
25 terminology to be determined by the Board of Trustees and/or the House of Delegates;
26 and be it further

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28 **RESOLVED**, that such membership category would pay reduced annual dues
29 equal to approximately one fourth of the full membership dues at any specific time; and
30 be it further

1 RESOLVED, that these members would be **counted** as active members, with
2 rights and privileges to be limited and determined by the House of Delegates and the
3 Board of Trustees; and be it further
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5 RESOLVED, that the only absolute requirement be that the physician should
6 have graduated from a Medical School listed in the World Directory of Medical Schools
7 published by the World Federation of Medical Education (WFME) and the Foundation
8 for Advancement of International Medical Education and Research (FAIMER),
9 regardless of licensure status in Illinois; and be it further
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11 RESOLVED, that these members be encouraged to voice their opinions
12 regarding issues of medicine in the State of Illinois through participation in any and all
13 ISMS activities, without voting ability; and be it further
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15 RESOLVED, that this category of membership should be established for a three-
16 year pilot period, which would be reconsidered at the end of that time; and be it further
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18 RESOLVED, that when these individuals fulfill all other requirements for a
19 regular membership, efforts will be made to recruit them to the higher category of
20 membership; and be it further
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22 RESOLVED, that if this resolution may require a bylaws change, the Speakers
23 of the House of Delegates make the necessary arrangements to permit its discussion in
24 a timely manner.

Fiscal Note:

This proposed membership category entails reduced annual dues equal to approximately one fourth of the full membership dues at any specific time.

Existing ISMS policy related to this issue:

House of Delegates did not adopt Resolution A103 (A-18), New Class of ISMS Membership, at its 2018 Meeting. (HOD 2018)

Bylaws Section 1. Members. Members shall consist of Regular members, Emeritus members, Retired members, Service members, Distinguished members, In-training members and Student members. Members enjoy full rights and privileges, including the right to vote and hold office, and are counted in determining the strength of the Society's Delegation to the American Medical Association.

Regular Members. Regular members shall be those physicians licensed to practice medicine in all its branches in the State of Illinois, who are either residents of the State of Illinois or who practice principally in Illinois, are persons of good moral character and professional standing, and are members of their ISMS component society.

The Illinois State Medical Society should: (1) carefully consider the delicate balance of dues and membership; and (2) maintain reasonable dues within the context of budgetary reviews and long-range planning in order to preserve medicine's strength by member involvement and participation. (HOD 1985; Last BOT Review 2011)

It is the policy of ISMS to carefully consider the delicate balance of dues and membership, and maintain reasonable dues within the context of budgetary reviews and long-range planning. (HOD 2015)

All members of the Society are individual physicians regardless of the way in which they participate in the delivery of health care. (HOD 1996; Last BOT Review 2011)

Board of Trustees approved, in concept, ISMS participation in a voluntary ISMS/county medical society pilot program, offering a dues-free membership period for up to one year to all non-members, with active follow-up solicitation for their continuing membership. Members in this pilot will not be counted for purpose of representation until paid membership begins. (BOT 2010-OCT)

Board of Trustees ratified ISMS participation in the voluntary Membership Growth Pilot Program offering a dues-free membership period in 2011 to all non-members who have not been members for one year, as presented, including that participants in this pilot will not be counted for purposes of representation until paid membership begins. Further, all Illinois county medical societies will have the option of choosing to participate in this pilot program. (BOT 2011-JAN)

Board of Trustees approved a graduated dues discount for 2011 Partnership for Member Growth pilot program participants converting to paid membership, beginning with an 80 percent annual dues discount effective July 1, 2012, a 50% dues discount for 2013 and increasing to 100 percent dues payment in 2014. (BOT 2012-FEB)

Board of Trustees approved a one-year extension for the Partnership for Membership Growth pilot program applying to the 2012 membership year for ISMS and county medical societies that wish to participate. Billing for 2012 pilot participants would begin in January 2013 at an 80% annual dues discount, a 50% annual dues discount for 2014 and 100% dues payment in 2015. (BOT 2012-FEB)

Board of Trustees approved that Partnership for Membership Growth participants be eligible to receive member benefits, including electronic communications, advocacy services and benefits programs; but are not eligible to serve as a delegate, council or committee member, officer, trustee or AMA delegate, or to be counted as a member when determining leadership representation for the HOD or trustee allocation, until they are full dues-paying members. (BOT 2012-FEB)

House of Delegates adopted Substitute Resolution A102 (A-15), which calls for ISMS to continue to publicize all available dues discounts, carefully consider the delicate balance of dues and membership, and maintain reasonable dues within the context of budgetary reviews and long-range planning. (HOD 2015)

Board of Trustees approved establishment of a three-year pilot program to allow International Medical Students to become affiliates of the ISMS and their county medical societies, subject to the following guidelines: • Those eligible for this affiliate category must be individuals currently enrolled in a medical school accredited by the U.S., and must be U.S. citizens with permanent residence in Illinois. • This is a non-dues-paying affiliation, which aligns with recent ISMS Board action to waive medical student and resident physician dues. • Participants will receive all ISMS and ISMS Medical Student Section communications, but will not be able to hold office or be included in any membership allocation totals within ISMS or its Medical Student Section. • In order for a student to be eligible, their county medical society must similarly participate in the pilot program and is responsible for verifying permanent residency in Illinois before forwarding participant applications in the pilot to ISMS. • The pilot program will begin with the 2016 membership year and run through the 2018 membership year, when an evaluation will be conducted to determine ongoing feasibility of the International Medical Student affiliation, either through an extension of the pilot or a recommendation to the ISMS House of Delegates that it be made a permanent membership opportunity. (BOT 2016-JAN)