



# DID YOU KNOW?

## COVID-19 Resources for Students and Residents

Since March, students and residents have had their educational paths interrupted. As the pandemic spreads, so does confusion about training and safety. Many learners are facing social isolation, navigating rapid transitions to virtual learning and testing, having rotation schedules upset, seeing board exam dates shift, questioning residency recruitment and Match requirements, and losing out on milestone ceremonies like graduation.

Although there are still many unknowns, the AAFP is working hard to correct the imbalance between questions and answers by advocating for learners and keeping them informed of changes.

Over the past month and a half, AAFP staff have consulted with representatives in the student and resident communities as the organization worked to develop the following resources and act on various issues. Chapter staff can access many of these resources and are encouraged to share them with members and educators:

- Medical Student online community – The AAFP is launching a new online community on May 7 that is just for medical student members. Students can join the community to share experiences, learn from others, ask questions, and, hopefully, find support and solutions. AAFP staff will bring new information to that community on a continual basis.
- Resident online communities – In April, every AAFP resident member was enrolled in an online community that gives family medicine residents space to discuss and share emerging issues that affect resident learning and well-being, changes in graduate medical education and care delivery, principles and experiences in health care leadership, and aspiration for career and professional development. In addition, the AAFP invited all family medicine chief residents to participate in an expanded Chief Resident online community that had previously been limited to those who were registered participants of the AAFP Chief Resident Leadership and Development program. This is an opt-in community. Contact Sam Pender at [spener@aafp.org](mailto:spener@aafp.org) to add family medicine chief residents to this community.
- AAFP Policy on Learner Safety During Pandemic – These guidelines are meant to support and protect learners as states and institutions consider options to deploy students to help with the pandemic and rely on residents to fill critical inpatient care needs.
- Advocacy – The AAFP is advocating for student debt relief in every COVID relief package and workforce legislation. Students can add their voice to the AAFP's advocacy efforts.
- FMIG support - Our national Family Medicine Interest Group (FMIG) Network is connecting with groups across the country and surfacing helpful and inspiring stories from students.
- Free express board review - The AAFP's recent board review course([aafp.digitellinc.com](http://aafp.digitellinc.com)) has been made free online for residents until November.

Additionally, all students and residents have access to the AAFP's COVID-19 resources for family physicians. These resources are updated continually, and include many relevant materials on career, finance, clinical policy, clinician safety, and mental well-being.

Contact Ashley Bentley by email with questions or for more information about any of these efforts.

