

Your Representation in the UMA House of Delegates

The House of Delegates is the highest authority and policy-making body of the Utah Medical Association. Any UMA member is eligible to be a delegate and may attend the meetings even if not a delegate but may not vote unless a delegate. The House of Delegates directs by resolution and setting of policy the issues that will be addressed by UMA annually. This is why it is so important for you to represent your group as a delegate and vote. The House of Delegates conducts its business at the annual meeting, normally held on a Friday and Saturday in September. Delegates normally serve two-year terms.

Under the Bylaws of UMA, the House of Delegates debates and adopts the policies of the organization, receives reports from UMA officers and component societies, considers Bylaws amendments, approves the annual budget and membership dues, and elects UMA officers.

There are three ways each UMA member is represented in the House of Delegates: by county or regional medical society, by state specialty society, and by mode of practice.

County or Regional Medical Societies

Each of the 15 county or regional medical societies in the state can send at least one delegate to the annual meeting; larger societies get one delegate per 30 members. All UMA members are automatically members of their respective county or regional medical societies. Those county or regional societies are allocated delegates to represent their members in the House.

State Specialty Societies and Group Practice

State specialty societies and large group practices are able to send delegates if a majority of their members are members of UMA and they meet chartering requirements of UMA. They get one delegate per 30 UMA members they represent. UMA members may choose which chartered specialty society will represent them in the House, even if they are not members of the specialty society chosen.

All UMA members not represented by a large practice group are represented by the solo and small group delegates, which in Salt Lake County are allocated by the members' designated main hospital-of-practice and in the rest of the state by county society.

Resolutions

Individual delegates may introduce resolutions to be considered by the House of Delegates. Component or specialty societies may also introduce resolutions if reviewed and approved by the membership or leaders of the societies. UMA's General Counsel can provide guidance in how to prepare a resolution. The Speaker of the House appoints delegates to serve on reference committees, which consider the resolutions, offer opportunity for discussion, and prepare their recommendations to the House. As the reference committees report their recommendations to the House, the resolutions may be debated, amended, and finally voted on by the full House. Resolutions adopted by the House become official UMA policy.

Resolutions need to be submitted to the UMA office 30 days prior to the convening of the House by 9 am, to be considered on-time. Resolutions submitted after that time, but within two weeks of the House, will be considered late resolutions and only considered by the House if agreed to by a majority of the delegates.

Officers

UMA officers are elected at the annual House of Delegates meeting. They include president, president-elect, immediate past president, honorary president, secretary, treasurer, delegates and alternate delegates to the AMA, speaker and vice speaker of the House of Delegates.