

American College of Rheumatology Services for Fellows-in-Training

The ACR is proud to offer the following benefits and services to fellows-in-training:

Publications

Arthritis & Rheumatism contains peer-reviewed articles on diagnosis, treatment, laboratory research and socioeconomic issues related to all forms of rheumatic diseases.

Arthritis Care & Research is a peer-reviewed publication for health professionals interested in the rheumatic disorders. AC&R publishes original articles concerning clinical problems and research relevant to the care of rheumatic disorders as well as articles analyzing economic, educational and social issues.

The Rheumatologist is a monthly publication featuring clinical content, article reviews and features on practice issues affecting all those who treat rheumatology patients.

ACR/ARHP Membership Directory offers member information both online and in print.

Discounts

ACR members are eligible for discounted or free meetings, seminars and educational products.

Networking Opportunities

Leadership Opportunities

Fellows-in-training are eligible to serve on the ACR Fellows Subcommittee, a panel of fellows-in-training who advise the ACR Committee on Training and Workforce Issues about issues relevant to the educational needs of rheumatology trainees. This includes assisting with the planning of events and services for trainees at the ACR annual meeting. The ACR Fellows Subcommittee consists of eight trainees from the United States who each serve two-year staggered terms. For more information or questions about the Fellows Subcommittee email fellowssubcommittee@rheumatology.org.

Fellows List Serve

A listserv for fellows-in-training provides a forum for members, as well as opportunities to interact with peers and mentors.

Fellows Lounge

A fellows lounge provides opportunities for networking at the ACR/ARHP Annual Scientific Meeting.

Awards and Scholarships

Fellows-in-Training Travel Scholarship

The ACR Fellows-in-Training Travel Scholarship provides funding to attend ACR annual meetings for fellows-in-training in U.S. and Canadian rheumatology programs. The scholarship includes: meeting registration for scientific sessions and selected courses; travel expenses; lounge; and social events. Register for the 2008 FIT Travel Scholarship at www.rheumatology.org. Registration closes July 25, 2008.

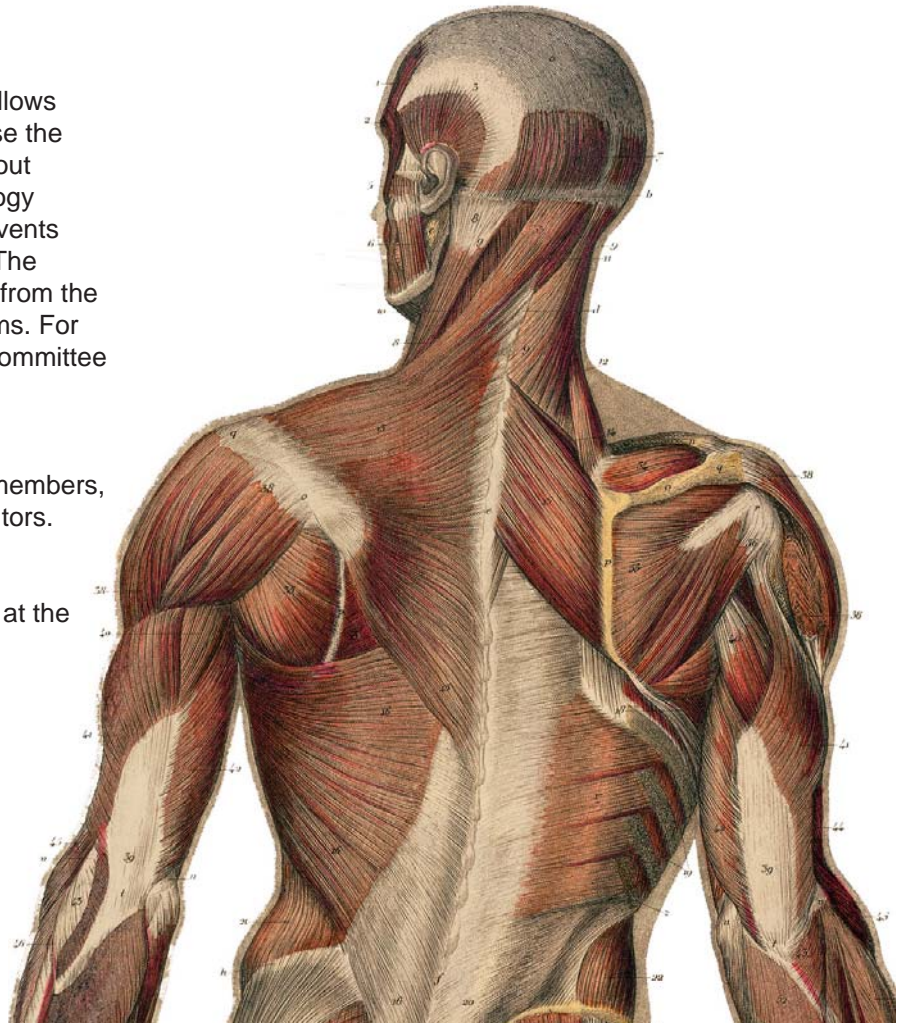
Education

The ACR provides professional education in many venues. The Annual Scientific Meeting is the premier scientific meeting devoted to rheumatic diseases, and draws thousands of rheumatologists from around the world. The ACR also offers the Winter Rheumatology Symposium, the State-of-the-Art Clinical Symposium, a rheumatology recertification exam preparation course and the Innovative Therapies in Autoimmune Diseases Conference.

Career Resources

Career Roadmap provides general timelines for completing rheumatology fellowships. The roadmap is based on insights and guidance from academic leaders and investigators, practitioners and fellows.

Career Connection, a jobs and résumé database service, is free to job seekers in rheumatology. Tools and services available through Career Connection include: a robust search engine; the ability to upload photos, references and articles you've written and published; job alerts; and a résumé builder.



American College of Rheumatology

Services for Trainee Members

Awards and Scholarships (Continued)

Distinguished Fellow Awards

The Distinguished Fellow Awards Program recognizes clinical and research fellows who are in rheumatology fellowship training programs and who have performed meritoriously. Recipients of these awards are honored at the ACR annual meeting.

Amgen Pediatric Rheumatology Research Award

The ACR REF/Amgen Pediatric Rheumatology Research Award recognizes and promotes scholarship in the field of pediatric rheumatology. Candidates for the award must be trainees enrolled in recognized ACGME-accredited pediatric rheumatology programs or a related research laboratories, and must be preparing for a career in pediatric rheumatology.

Clinical Investigator Fellowship Award

The ACR REF Clinical Investigator Fellowship Award provides a structured, formal, clinical research training program for rheumatology fellows or rheumatologists in the early stages of their career. This award is meant to support epidemiology, outcome-based research or direct patient-oriented research. Through this award, the REF provides a means for ensuring more qualified, highly-trained clinical investigators in the field of rheumatology.

Physician Scientist Development Award

The ACR REF Physician Scientist Development Award encourages qualified physicians without significant prior research experience to embark on careers in biomedical and/or clinical research in arthritis and rheumatic diseases. This mentored post-doctoral fellowship program provides salary support for the early years of research training in an environment that includes the active participation of established arthritis investigators and an affiliation with a clinical unit involved in the care of arthritis.

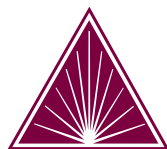
Political Advocacy

The ACR advocates on behalf of its members in two key areas: political advocacy and practice advocacy.

Political advocacy includes the activities of the Government Affairs Committee and RheumPAC, the ACR's political action committee. The GAC acts on behalf of the rheumatology community by monitoring and advocating for pending and proposed legislation that would impact ACR members and patients. Advocacy activities include: developing legislative "Issue Briefs" that inform the ACR membership about specific legislation, publishing the Public Policy Monitor, a monthly policy newsletter, and maintaining a "legislative tracking sheet" for each session of Congress.

ACR's Grassroots Action Center offers several ways for members to become involved. Members are encouraged to contact members of Congress, join the advocacy list serve, and participate in the "Advocates for Arthritis" conference, the annual congressional fly-in. RheumPAC allows the ACR to offer financial support to candidates who promote the interest and needs of rheumatologists and rheumatic diseases in the political process.

Practice advocacy describes the activities the College pursues with other bodies, such as insurance carriers and the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, to ensure that rheumatology care is properly valued. The ACR also maintains a seat in the American Medical Association House of Delegates.



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