

Office of Student and Resident Diversity

Bylaws and Guidelines for the Medical Student Diversity Advisory Council  
(DAC)

**Article I – Name**

The name of this organization shall be the Medical Student Diversity Advisory Council (DAC). This is a formally recognized organization of the Office of Student and Resident Diversity, University of California Davis, School of Medicine and our authority stems from University of California policy 270-05 (Am. 8/15/22).

**Article II – Objective**

Established in April of 2010, the mission of the Medical Student Diversity Advisory Committee is to foster an environment in which medical education is coupled with developing a stronger appreciation and better understanding of diversity and inclusion. In unity with the institution's "Principles of Community", DAC seeks to cultivate a safe learning environment in which diversity can be explored through a means that is equitable, accepting, and empowering. This is accomplished through (1) Educational events and community engagement with the goal of inspiring future physicians who will serve marginalized communities; (2) Facilitating collaborations amongst diverse groups, create dialogue, celebrate heritage and advocate for social justice; and (3) Sharing and embracing individual backgrounds and collective experiences, with the aim of preparing future physicians as leaders in an increasingly diverse and global society.

The Diversity Advisory Council seeks to:

- 1) Provide a forum for discussion of common concerns and maintain an ongoing support group for all University of California, Davis School of Medicine students, especially those who identify with groups that are underrepresented or have been historically excluded in medicine.
- 2) Represent and report to collective underrepresented and historically excluded groups within the student body on a regularly-standing basis.
- 3) Regularly inform and bring forward issues to Office of Student and Resident Diversity.
- 4) Regularly inform and bring forward issues to other SOM committees (e.g., Committee on Student Progress).
- 5) Follow-up on actions taken by Office of Student and Resident Diversity and other Office of Medical Education committees to resolve issues relating to our School's diverse and inclusive learning communities.
- 6) Initiate task forces to address problems as they arise related to the mission of DAC.
- 7) Strive to maintain a safe and non-judgmental space, where those who identify with an underrepresented and/or historically excluded group in medicine feel confident concerns will be heard and addressed without fear of retaliation or misinterpretation.

## Article III – Membership

**Section 1:** The group is led by a faculty leader and supported by a staff member, both from the Office of Student and Resident Diversity.

**Section 2:** General student membership is automatically granted to two (2) member representatives of each DAC associated group who hold a leadership position within the group or who have been appointed by the group's leadership as a representative.

**Section 3:** The membership of the Council is open to all medical student interest groups that represent medical students deemed underrepresented or have been historically excluded in medicine by the Association for American Medical Colleges (AAMC) and the University of California Health Sciences Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Task Force, and medical student interest groups that have demonstrated commitment to diversity, equity, inclusion, and belonging.

**Section 4:** New medical student interest groups who desire to be included in the DAC will submit a request to the faculty leadership to initiate consideration. Membership approval will be evaluated by the Office of Student and Resident Diversity based on group alignment with the DAC mission.

## Article IV – Meetings

**Section 1:** DAC will hold regular meetings on a monthly basis, inclusive, unless otherwise ordered by the Faculty leadership.

**Section 2:** Special meetings may be called by the Faculty leadership, administrative coordinator, or upon the written request of five (5) members of DAC. The purpose for the meeting shall be stated in the request and/or announcement.

## Article V – Decision-Making

**Section 1:** Decisions shall be made by a simple majority vote of members present at a meeting where a quorum is established.

**Section 2:** A quorum requires at least five (5) DAC members are present. In the event of a tie, the Faculty Leadership vote shall be the deciding vote.

## Article VI – Amendment of Bylaws

**Section 1:** These bylaws may be amended by a two-thirds majority vote of the Council members present at a meeting where a quorum is established.

**Section 2:** No proposal relating to introduction, amendment, or repeal of group legislation shall be presented for vote to the general membership unless the proposal has been previously reviewed and approved by the Faculty Leadership.

## References and Related Policies

[270-05, Campus Organizations \(270-05\)](#)

[Association of American Medical Colleges Underrepresented in Medicine Definition](#)

[Association of American Medical Colleges Unique Populations  
UC Health Sciences Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Report](#)

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