



AMERICAN COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS  
SERVICES, INCORPORATED  
INTERNAL MEDICINE | *Doctors for Adults*

## MEMORANDUM

**DATE:** February 20, 2009

**TO:** Board of Governors (US Chapters)

**FROM:** Bob Doherty, Senior Vice President  
Shuan Tomlinson, State Health Policy/PAC Analyst  
Governmental Affairs and Public Policy

**SUBJECT:** ACP Services Leadership Day on Capitol Hill, May 19-20

**CC:** Board of Regents, Members of Chapter Health and Public Policy Committees (HPPC),  
Chapter Staff, HPPC and Medical Service Committee (MSC), Council of Associates,  
Council of Medical Students, Council of Young Physicians

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It is once again time for ACP Services annual Leadership Day on Capitol Hill. I expect that the enthusiasm and excitement from last year's 500 plus Leadership Day attendance and the 2008 elections will spillover to this year's event and all ACP chapters will be represented—especially given the huge stakes for internal medicine.

There is great expectation for health care reform in 2009, as President Obama and key congressional leaders have made it clear that this will be among their top priorities. We must take this opportunity, with Leadership Day, to educate both new and incumbent congressional members on the issues affecting internal medicine. We will be asking Leadership Day participants to help us make the case for comprehensive health care reforms to make affordable coverage available to all, ensure that patients have access to an internist or other primary care physician, and improve and reform Medicare physician payments.

The *special briefing* for associates and medical students will be held on Tuesday (not Monday) this year, May 19, starting at 9:00 AM at the L'Enfant Plaza Hotel. A "happy hour" reception for associates and medical students will be held Monday night, May 18.

An *optional* grassroots advocacy training session will be offered on Tuesday, May 19, at 10:30 AM to help our first-time attendees or those who just want to refresh their skills. The training will be interactive, lively and well worth the extra time commitment. Registration will be open on Monday evening between 5:00 – 7:00 PM and again Tuesday morning at 8:00 AM. On Tuesday, a light lunch will be available between 12:00 PM and 12:50 PM for all participants

The regular program will begin Tuesday, May 19 at 12:50 PM with in-depth issue briefings by key congressional and administration staff. You will hear from me and other Washington insiders who will assess the current political environment and its impact on ACP issues. We anticipate that the program will include presentations by congressional staff for the key health committees and Obama administration officials. We will also be presenting our "Key Contact of the Year Award" and the Joseph F. Boyle Award for Distinguished Public Service during the dinner on May 19, which will also include an engaging presentation by a keynote speaker on the politics surrounding health care reform. This year's Boyle Award is U.S. Senator Blanche Lincoln (D-AR). We will start our Capitol Hill Day, Wednesday, May 20, with breakfast and speeches from key members of Congress or high ranking Obama administration officials at the L'Enfant Plaza Hotel (Grand Ballroom). Following that, attendees will disperse to their scheduled congressional appointments. A hospitality/debriefing room will be

available throughout the day of May 20 for attendees in 345 Cannon House Office Building (Cannon Caucus Room). Box lunches will be provided in the hospitality room.

**Selecting Your Chapter's Delegation** – Those you might consider for your delegation include: Governors, Governors-Elect, Regents, Health and Public Policy Chairs, Key Contacts, Federal Legislative Coordinators, and Associate and Student Members. (*For a list of Key Contacts from your state that have been particularly engaged in the legislative process, please contact Jolynne Flores, Grassroots Associate and PAC Supervisor, at 1-800-338-2746, Ext. 4532 or by E-mail at [jflores@acponline.org](mailto:jflores@acponline.org).*)

**Leadership Day Registration** – The Leadership Day registration form and link to the L'Enfant Plaza hotel reservation site are available on the Leadership Day webpage at <http://www.acpservices.org/leadday09/>. Attendees have the option of registering online or downloading the registration form and submitting the completed form. Governors can fill out the registration form for all of the chapter's participants or forward the form to the individuals being asked to participate. If you prefer to fax the registration form, send it to the attention of Shuan Tomlinson at FAX # 202-835-0442.

**Hotel/Flight Reservations** – Hotel reservations can also be made for the L'Enfant Plaza hotel online at <http://www.lenfantplazahotel.com/> (a link is also available on the Leadership Day webpage) or by phone at 800-635-5065. Please use **Group Code ACP516** for online reservations. If you call in your hotel reservations, our block rooms are under **ACP**. Room requests and rates cannot be guaranteed after April 20. You may find substantial savings with flights into the Baltimore-Washington International Airport (BWI). While the trip from BWI to downtown Washington is longer than the trip from Ronald Reagan National Airport, limousine/shuttle service is available. BWI is only a few miles farther from downtown Washington than Dulles Airport. During weekday travel, MARC trains make frequent trips from the BWI airport to Washington's Union Station (one-way ticket is \$7). A free shuttle is available for the 5-minute ride from the BWI Airport, baggage claim level to the BWI rail station. Go to <http://www.mtmaryland.com/services/marc/schedulesSystemMaps/penn.cfm> for more information and the MARC Penn Line train schedule.

**Arranging Your Chapter's Hill Visits for May 20** – Phone lists for the U.S. Senate and U.S. House of Representatives are attached for your convenience (pocketsize directories are being printed and will be mailed to you as soon as they are available), should you wish to call your representatives' schedulers for appointments. When your meeting appointments are made please fill out and fax to Shuan Tomlinson at 202-835-0042 the enclosed form titled "Appointments Arranged Form." Having this information in advance will give the governmental affairs staff the information they need to tailor their advice to you for your individual meetings.

When you are making your appointments, you are encouraged to ask the legislators' staff if the senator or representative has a particular health bill he or she is sponsoring or if there is a health issue *they* would like to discuss. You may want to visit the legislator's web site as an easy way to see what issues are of concern to them. In the Senate, the address is [www.senate.gov/](http://www.senate.gov/). In the House, it is [www.house.gov](http://www.house.gov/). The exact content of issues will be shaped by the flow of congressional activity between now and mid-May when our visits will occur.

**Background Materials to Follow** – In early May, you will receive briefing materials that will include background information on the issues and fact sheets to leave behind after your meetings, and general tips for planning your meetings. The Washington staff is available for any assistance you may need in preparing for and conducting your meetings.

For other information about Leadership Day, please contact *Shuan Tomlinson, State Health Policy/PAC Analyst, at 1-800-338-2746, Ext. 4547 or by email at [stomlinson@acponline.org](mailto:stomlinson@acponline.org).*

Chapter participation in Leadership Day and the key contact program is the bedrock of ACP's advocacy program. Thank you for your chapter's support!