

The Association of Family Medicine Residency Directors (AFMRD)

Discussion Forum Information and Guidelines

The AFMRD discussion forum was created as a safe place for members of the organization to communicate with others facing the same issues, problems, experiences, celebrations, heartaches, and opportunities. It is a “gated community” but, in the name of transparency, AFMRD wants to inform the membership who has access to the discussion forum.

- All program director members
- All associate program director members
- All associate members
- All AFMRD staff
- Senior Leadership and Management in the AAFP’s Division of Medical Education as AFMRD contracts with the AAFP for executive and staff services.

The AFMRD knows the discussion forum is one of the most valuable benefits of membership in the organization. There is no desire to restrict the free-flowing conversations which take place on the forums. However, there is a need for some guidelines pertaining to what can be placed in the forum.

We reserve the right (but assume no obligation) to remove comments that are racist, sexist, abusive, profane, violent, obscene, or that libel, incite, threaten, make personal attacks, or otherwise fail to comply with the AFMRD Discussion Forum Guidelines.

In addition, we will not permit messages selling products, political campaigning or endorsements, or promoting commercial or other ventures.

Only information which can be expected to be of interest to AFMRD members by virtue of its relevance to either (1) issues in graduate medical education or (2) AFMRD related activities should be posted.

Do not post any false, inaccurate, misleading, defamatory, tortuous, abusive, threatening, harassing, profane, obscene, offensive, pornographic, hateful, infringing, anti-competitive or illegal information or materials, as well as, **any communications regarding salaries or pricing (including negotiations with payers) are prohibited.**

The AFMRD does not condone and will not be responsible for any such information or materials or for any resulting liability.

Do not post commercial or promotional messages. In fairness to your community, if you have an economic interest in any product or service, you should mention your relevant interest or affiliation when posting about or otherwise discussing that product or service (or the product or service of a competitor). All community participants deserve to know this information so that

they can make their own determination whether another participant's background or affiliation colors that person's remarks.

Do not post any information, software or other material protected by copyright, patent, trademark, trade secret or other proprietary right without the permission of the rights owner. By posting information, software or other material, the posting party warrants and represents that it owns such rights in the information, software or other material, or has received permission from the person or entity who owns such rights, in the information, software or other material. By posting information, software or other material, the posting party grants the AFMRD and other subscribers to AFMRD Communities the non-exclusive right and license to display, copy, publish, distribute, transmit, print and use such information, software or other material. Subject to the grant of this license, the posting party retains any other rights that the party may have in such information, software or other material.

Do not post any information or materials which contain any virus, Trojan horse, corrupted file, worm, time bomb, cancelbot or other computer programming routine that is intended to damage, detrimentally interfere with, surreptitiously intercept or expropriate any system, data or information.

Do not post any information or materials, which contain personal health information as defined by HIPAA. Online community participants should be familiar with HIPAA privacy and security standards and review all information prior to submission to avoid inadvertent disclosure.

The AFMRD accepts no responsibility for the opinions and information posted by users. In the event that any inappropriate posting is brought to the AFMRD's attention, the AFMRD has the right, but not the obligation, to remove all or part of the posting and/or terminate a user's access to AFMRD Communities. AFMRD reserves the right to reveal your identity (or whatever information it may know about you) in the event of a complaint or legal action arising from any content posted by you.

AFMRD may modify, suspend or discontinue, on a temporary or permanent basis, any AFMRD Community service at any time for any reason. All rights of termination shall be within the sole discretion of the AFMRD.

To communicate directly to AFMRD please use afmrd@aafp.org rather than posting to the discussion forum.