

2025 AMA Medical Student Advocacy Conference Agenda

March 6–7 | Hilton Washington DC National Mall The Wharf

Times are Eastern and subject to change. For the latest agenda, please visit ama-assn.org/mac.

Thursday, March 6		
1–3 p.m.	Conference check-in/casual networking, photo headshots and welcome <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conference badge and materials pick-up (ID required for check-in) • Networking and welcome <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Enjoy coffee, meet students, explore offerings from AMA partners – Professional photo headshot—get yours or sign up for a later time slot 	Archives Lounge & Archives
3–3:10 p.m.	Kick-off: 2025 AMA Medical Student Advocacy Conference <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kaylee Scarnati, AMA Government Relations Advocacy Fellow, and your host for this year’s conference, delivers opening remarks. 	L’Enfant Ballroom
3:10–3:25 p.m.	Welcome address <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AMA President Bruce A. Scott, MD, welcomes students by highlighting the importance of advocacy and the conference’s role in delivering past wins, including the passage of the Retirement Parity for Student Loans Act of 2022 allowing employers to match student loan payments to 401(k) contributions. Later focused on navigating the road ahead, Dr. Scott will outline ongoing AMA advocacy on pressing issues including Medicare reform. 	L’Enfant Ballroom
3:25–3:55 p.m.	Congressional perspective: Rep. Kim Schrier, MD (D-Wash.)	L’Enfant Ballroom
3:55–4:05 p.m.	AMPAC address <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Brianna Ma, student member, AMPAC Board of Directors, will explain what a political action committee or PAC is, why it is important and how students can get involved. 	L’Enfant Ballroom
4:05–4:35 p.m.	Congressional perspective: Sen. John Barrasso, MD (R-Wyo.)	L’Enfant Ballroom
4:35–5 p.m.	Education session: Medicare <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bryan Hull, JD, MPH, senior legislative counsel, AMA, and Kaylee Scarnati, AMA Government Relations Advocacy Fellow, will provide background information to contextualize Medicare physician cuts, its impact on students, and the key talking points associated with this important topic. 	L’Enfant Ballroom
5–5:15 p.m.	Break <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Refreshments provided 	L’Enfant Ballroom Foyer

5:15–5:45 p.m.	Advocacy in 2025 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> David Thomas and Sage Eastman, who are bipartisan partners at Mehlman Consulting, will provide an overview of the politics and policy landscape surrounding President Trump’s return to Washington and preview some of the changes and opportunities that lie ahead.. 	L’Enfant Ballroom
5:45–6:15 p.m.	Advocacy training: Legislative Advocacy 101 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> David Lusk, founder of Key Advocacy, and Tripti Kataria, MD, MPH, MBA, the AMA Council on Legislation’s vice chair, will lead a training session on how to prepare for and conduct an effective meeting with legislators and staffers. Mock Hill visit demonstration will enlighten attendees understanding of the process. 	L’Enfant Ballroom
6:15–6:30 p.m.	Hook, line and sinker: Hill visit training with Soapbox <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Christopher Kush, MPP, CEO, Soapbox Consulting and Kaylee Scarnati, AMA Government Relations Advocacy Fellow, will introduce Hill visit resources—worksheets, issue briefs, etc.—and explain how to use them to frame a successful meeting. 	L’Enfant Ballroom
6:30–7 p.m.	Advocacy training: Hill visits strategic planning <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Students will gather with their state to review their scheduled Hill meetings and work through the “Hill Visit Strategy Worksheet” to help prepare talking points and gather relevant background information for their meetings. AMA staff will be on hand to help students and answer questions. 	L’Enfant Ballroom
7–9 p.m.	Networking reception <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Network with hundreds of medical students. Drinks and heavy appetizers will be served. 	Solarium
Friday, March 7		
7–8 a.m.	Breakfast	Solarium and L’Enfant Ballroom Foyer
7–8 a.m.	Hotel check out and luggage drop-off <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Last chance! Get your professional photo headshot or sign up for a time slot. All stored luggage must be picked up by 5:30 p.m. 	Dupont
8–8:05 a.m.	Day two: Welcome and Hill visit preparation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Kaylee Scarnati, AMA Government Relations Advocacy Fellow, will review the bills, key talking points and legislative asks while outlining the agenda for the day and what to expect. 	L’Enfant Ballroom
8:05–8:35 a.m.	Education session: Maternal health <ul style="list-style-type: none"> AMA Advocacy staff including Alexis Pierce, senior attorney, Division of Legislative Counsel, Dana Lichtenberg, assistant director, Congressional Affairs, and Kaylee Scarnati, AMA Government Relations Advocacy Fellow, will provide background on the maternal health crisis, the role Congress plays, and an overview of the AMA’s ongoing advocacy. 	L’Enfant Ballroom

8:35–9 a.m.	Education session: GME funding <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Alexis Pierce, senior attorney, Division of Legislative Counsel, AMA, Christopher Sherin, assistant director, Congressional Affairs and Kaylee Scarnati, AMA Government Relations Advocacy Fellow, will deliver important background information on graduate medical education (GME), the Resident Physician Shortage Reduction Act, REDI, key talking points, and the legislative ask to present on the Hill. 	L’Enfant Ballroom
9–9:20 a.m.	Closing remarks <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Programming concludes; students will reconvene with their state/region to review and practice talking points, etc., before being released to board the buses. 	L’Enfant Ballroom
9:20 a.m.	Board buses for Capitol Hill <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Charter buses will depart promptly at 9:30 a.m. • Don’t forget to bring your white coat! 	Hilton Lobby
10 a.m.	Conference attendee student group photo—steps of the U.S. Capitol	United States Capitol Building
10:30–4 p.m.	Capitol Hill visits <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advocate for the future of medicine by meeting with your legislators and their staffers to discuss pressing health policy issues and request the actions needed to address these important topics. • Charter buses will run 1–4 p.m. from Capitol drop-off/pick-up area back to Hilton Washington DC National Mall The Wharf. 	United States Capitol Building
4 p.m.	Last charter bus departs from Capitol drop-off/pick-up area back to Hilton Washington DC National Mall The Wharf	United States Capitol Building