



WISCONSIN ACADEMY of FAMILY PHYSICIANS



2021-22

WAFP LEGISLATIVE POLICY AGENDA

About The Wisconsin Academy of Family Physicians (WAFP)

The **Wisconsin Academy of Family Physicians** is a statewide association of Family Medicine doctors established in 1948 to:

1. Promote and maintain high professional and ethical standards in the practice of Family Medicine.
2. Encourage young people to prepare for active careers in Family Medicine.
3. Help provide continuing education to family physicians.

The WAFP – a chapter of the **American Academy of Family Physicians** – represents 3,000 members, making the WAFP the single largest physician specialty group in Wisconsin. In addition, the Wisconsin Academy of Family Physicians Foundation supports many of our educational and research programs for medical students, including those that would reduce the shortage of primary care physicians in Wisconsin.

WAFP Mission

The mission of the WAFP is to promote excellence in health care and to improve the health of the people of Wisconsin through the advancement of the art and science of Family Medicine, the specialty of Family Medicine and the professional growth of Family Physicians.

We also strive to increase access to quality health care in Wisconsin through legislative advocacy and work to support fair and meaningful legislation concerning health care issues in our state.

About Family Medicine

Family Medicine is the medical specialty that provides continuing and comprehensive primary health care for individuals and families. Family Medicine integrates the biological, clinical and behavioral sciences, and its scope encompasses all ages, both sexes, each organ system and every disease entity.

Family Medicine includes health promotion, disease prevention, health maintenance, counseling, patient education, diagnosis and treatment of acute and chronic illnesses in a variety of health care settings.

Family physicians serve as the entry point for most of a patient's health care needs and more patients are seen by family doctors than any other specialty. Family physicians are advocates for patients in coordinating use of the entire health care system and are responsible for the patient's long-term care.

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