

Frank S. Virant, MD, FAAAAI AAAAI 2025-2026 President

Program Directors Assembly Winter Meeting
January 10, 2026

An allergist / immunologist membership organization dedicated to advancing the knowledge and practice of allergy, asthma and immunology for optimal patient care.

1

AAAAI Executive Committee



L to R: Frank S. Virant, MD, FAAAAI, President; Carla M. Davis, MD, FAAAAI, President-Elect; Leonard B. Bacharier, MD, FAAAAI, Secretary-Treasurer; Paul V. Williams, MD, FAAAAI, Immediate Past President; Anna H. Nowak-Wegrzyn, MD, PhD, FAAAAI, At-Large Representative

An allergist / immunologist membership organization dedicated to advancing the knowledge and practice of allergy, asthma and immunology for optimal patient care.

2



AAAAI 2026 Travel Scholarships & Awards

Domestic Fellows-In-Training
250 scholarships | \$312,500 in funding

International Fellows-in-Training
14 scholarships | \$28,000 in funding

High School/Undergraduate Student
21 scholarships | \$29,400 in funding

PhD Travel Scholarship
17 scholarships | \$20,500 in funding

Medical Student/Residents
246 scholarships | \$253,900 in funding

TOTAL: \$614,900 supporting fellow and student travel to the 2026 AAAAI Annual Meeting

2026 AAAAI & AAAAI Foundation Grant/Award Offerings

- Three Foundation Faculty Development Awards (each \$300,000 over 3 years)
- Three Foundation Award to Sustain Research Excellence (each \$100,000 over 1 year)
- One AAAAI Drug Hypersensitivity Award (\$150,000 over 2 years)

An allergist / immunologist membership organization dedicated to advancing the knowledge and practice of allergy, asthma and immunology for optimal patient care.

3



AAAAI Chrysalis Project

In addition to the travel scholarships...

The Chrysalis Project was developed to increase medical student and resident knowledge about the pathogenesis and treatment of common allergic and immunologic disease, to increase student awareness of training programs in allergy and immunology and to introduce promising students to a field that represents an exciting option in medical education.

2026 Chrysalis Project

60 → 70 participants



2025 Chrysalis participants in San Diego, CA

An allergist / immunologist membership organization dedicated to advancing the knowledge and practice of allergy, asthma and immunology for optimal patient care.

4

AAAAI Fellows-in-Training

FIT Liaisons:

- Advocacy Committee
- Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Committee
- New Allergist/Immunologist Assembly (NAIA)
- Office of Medical Education
- Practice Management Committee
- Primary Immunodeficiency Committee
- Social Media

FIT-Faculty Reviewer Program:

Purpose: to facilitate faculty mentorship to assist FITs in learning how to review for scientific journals.

More information online including training materials:
<https://www.aaaai.org/professional-education/fellows-in-training/fitfacultyreviewer>



Jordon Jagers, MD
FIT Committee Chair



Christian G. Toribio Dionicio, MD
FIT Committee Vice Chair



Bluesky: @fitaaaaiorg.bsky.social
Facebook: FITAAAAI
Instagram: aaaai_fit
Threads: aaaai_fit
X: FIT_AAAAI_org

5

Program Directors Assembly (PDA)

- Allergist Resources ▾
- Practice Management ▾
- Professional Education ▾**
- Conditions & Treatments ▾
- Tools for the Public ▾
- About ▾

Professional Education / For Program Directors

FAVORITE

For Program Directors

Access information on:

- Assembly committees
- In-Training Exam
- PDA toolbox
- A/I training programs

The AAAAI is committed to offering allergy / immunology program directors information and tools to assist with the vital responsibilities of overseeing the curriculum for fellows-in-training, as well as recruiting the best talent into the specialty.

The Program Directors Assembly (PDA) membership includes program, associate, assistant and co-directors of A/I training programs that are officially accredited by the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME) or the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada (RCPSC). Currently there are over 195 assembly members from 84 US and 14 Canadian A/I training programs.

Along with educational duties, program directors are responsible for maintaining the accreditation of their training programs. This section includes PDA related resources.

Program Director Assembly Committees and Liaisons
[Program Directors Assembly \(PDA\) Executive Committee](#)

Share this page:



Other Pages in this Section

- About Careers in Allergy / Immunology
- Continuing Education Center (CME)
- Grants, Awards & Scholarships
- Leadership Institute
- Podcasts

<https://www.aaaai.org/professional-education/program-directors>

6



AAAAI ANNUAL MEETING
2026 American Academy of
 Allergy, Asthma & Immunology
 PHILADELPHIA, PA FEBRUARY 27-MARCH 2, 2026

Advancing Precision Medicine from Discovery to Patient Care



2026 AAAAI Annual Meeting

Presidential Plenary: Generative & Agentic Artificial Intelligence (AI) in Clinical Medicine: A Paradigm Shift in Patient Care

Continuing This Year - Discovery

New Mechanisms of Type 2 Immunity, is the third annual three-day conference that specifically features cutting-edge basic science research.

2026 AAAAI Practice Management Course (taking place at the AAAAI Annual Meeting)

Ticketed session

Friday, February 27, 2026

7:30 am-12:30 pm

3:00-4:30 pm (for Fellows-in-Training and New Allergists)



**Practice
 Management Course**

An allergist / immunologist membership organization dedicated to advancing the knowledge and practice of allergy, asthma and immunology for optimal patient care.

7



AAAAI Advocacy

- **Bipartisan reintroduction of penicillin Allergy Verification and Evaluation (PAVE) Act to add penicillin allergy delabeling to Medicare intake and annual exams**
- Collaborating to stop Medicare physician pay cuts, reform reimbursement and fix utilization management/prior authorization, which impacts ALL payers' policies
- **Successfully argued for CMS to exempt key A/I codes from "efficiency adjustment" Medicare pay cuts**
- Working to permanently extend pandemic-era telemedicine policies
- **Fighting to protect and expand research investment in allergy/immunology**
- Encouraging early introduction of peanut in federal nutrition support programs
- **Promoting increasing residency spots & debt repayment for medical school grads in underserved areas**
- Ongoing engagement with payers to protect patient access to evidence-based care
- **Initiating state-level advocacy outreach in follow up to 2025 Strategic Plan**

An allergist / immunologist membership organization dedicated to advancing the knowledge and practice of allergy, asthma and immunology for optimal patient care.

8

AAAAI Presidential Initiatives Update

An allergist / immunologist membership organization dedicated to advancing the knowledge and practice of allergy, asthma and immunology for optimal patient care.

9

AAAAI Presidential Initiatives Develop Practice Management Course Sessions on Friday, February 27 at the AAAAI Annual Meeting

1202 – Practice Management Course – Part 1 (Members) 7:30 AM – 12:30 PM

- Welcome & Overview (Virant)
- Coding and Billing Pearls for Allergy Practice (Vaughn)
- Tales From the Dark Side: Understanding How Insurance Companies Work (Howrigan)
- Protecting Your Practice: Cybersecurity and Fraud (Yassin, Rogers)
- RVUs: How to Determine Your Value and Maximize Your Worth (Iman, Ciaccio)
- Alternative Practice Pathways (Miller, Hernandez-Trujillo, Green)
- Survival of the Fittest: Maximizing and Optimizing Your Allergy Practice (Bansal, Bajowala)

1603 – Practice Management Course – Part 2 (FITs & NAIs) 3:00 PM – 4:30 PM

- Coding and Billing Basics (Vaughn)
- Contract Negotiation Strategies (Hernandez-Trujillo)

An allergist / immunologist membership organization dedicated to advancing the knowledge and practice of allergy, asthma and immunology for optimal patient care.

10

AAAAI Presidential Initiatives

Develop Educational Media for PCPs, Public on "How the Allergy, Asthma, Immunology Specialist Can Help"

- **Why refer to an Allergist/Immunologist?**
- **Sections:**
 - Anaphylaxis Medication Allergies & Delabeling Radiocontrast Reactions
 - Food Allergy Asthma & Respiratory Disease Chronic Rhinosinusitis
 - Immunodeficiencies Stinging Insect Reactions Chronic Urticaria & Angioedema
 - Atopic Dermatitis Eosinophilic Esophagitis
- **Section Outline:**
 - The problem:
 - Why it matters:
 - How the A/I Specialist can help:
- **Next Steps:**
 - Develop colorful electronic brochure ... in the works!
 - Distribution → members, website, social media ... others?

An allergist / immunologist membership organization dedicated to advancing the knowledge and practice of allergy, asthma and immunology for optimal patient care.

11

AAAAI Presidential Initiatives

Develop Joint Task Force Process to Transition Select Practice Parameters to Living Documents

- **Atopic Dermatitis Parameter "Living Parameter Pilot"**
 - Update on antihistamines → near submission
 - Update on new topicals, systemic treatments done → data analysis now
- **Living Parameter Process for GRADE documents**
 - Urticaria (2026) Severe Asthma (2026) anticipated as living parameters
 - Publish addenda when data analysis is complete (JACI-IP, Annals)
 - Consider proactive communication with third-party payers
 - **Process:**
 - GRADE McMasters Evidence In Allergy Group surveillance in place
 - JTFPP Leadership coordinates Living Guideline pathway, budget requests etc.

An allergist / immunologist membership organization dedicated to advancing the knowledge and practice of allergy, asthma and immunology for optimal patient care.

12

AAAAI Presidential Initiatives

Expand Chrysalis Project from 60 to 70 participants

- **Applications for the Chrysalis Project**
 - Adding 10 participants does not significantly impact funding vs. the cost of covering a resident to attend AAAAI separately
 - Current funding has been \$232,050/year but usually under budget
 - 186 applicants eligible for the 70 Chrysalis slots!
 - FIT mentorship at 1:1 hopefully - currently 45 volunteers but hope to be at least close to 1:1 ratio - several FITs expressed willingness to take on more than one if needed

An allergist / immunologist membership organization dedicated to advancing the knowledge and practice of allergy, asthma and immunology for optimal patient care.

13

AAAAI Presidential Initiatives

Initiatives Progress Summary

- **Develop Practice Management Course on Friday of the Annual Meeting**
 - Part 1 (Members), Part 2 (FITs, NAs) on program for February 27, 2026
- **Develop Educational Media for PCPs, Public on Value of A/I Specialist**
 - Text for e-brochure edited → full brochure in the works → distribution
- **Develop JTF on Practice Parameters Living Parameter Process**
 - Atopic Dermatitis living updates nearly complete and ready for publication
 - Urticaria, Asthma in the living updates queue
 - Surveillance process in place for all GRADE Parameters
- **Expand Chrysalis Project to 70 Participants**
 - 70 Chrysalis participants enrolled with nearly 1:1 mentorship (FITs)

An allergist / immunologist membership organization dedicated to advancing the knowledge and practice of allergy, asthma and immunology for optimal patient care.

14

2024-2025 Faculty Development Awards Impact Study Results

\$ 11,800,000

has been provided by the Foundation in major awards since 1993

\$120,380,646

in federal grants have been granted to our award recipients after the Foundation provided initial support

50 of our 52

major awardees have continued their careers in allergy/immunology

15

Annual Benefit
PHILADELPHIA, PA—2026

Celebrating and Supporting Research

Purchase Benefit tickets with your Annual Meeting registration or by visiting www.aaaifoundation.org/special-events/benefit

Sponsored by: **Genentech**
A Member of the Roche Group

Join us
February 28, 2026

for a celebratory evening of delicious food, lively conversation and the special presentation of our

2026
Research Awards

Loews Philadelphia Hotel
7:00 to 10:00 pm
Cocktail Attire

16

AAAAI FOUNDATION

Virtual Run/Walk and Celebration

PHILADELPHIA, PA



Better Health, Brighter Future



Celebrate 14 years of the AAAAI Foundation Run/Walk!

Join us for food, music, awards, networking opportunities and a photo slideshow.

Sunday, March 1, 2026 · 5:30 pm

Stay fit before the Annual Meeting by participating in a Virtual Run/Walk. Compete for best time or most distance as an individual or a team.



Register online for only \$25!

For more information, visit www.aaaafoundation.org/special-events

