

Policy for Promoting Outside Requests

The Maryland Academy of Family Physicians (MDAFP) reserves the right to promote events, surveys, submit letters of support and other requests from outside our organization in accordance with this policy. For the purposes of this policy “outside requests” are from other entities for activities in which the MDAFP has not been involved in the planning process or execution. The decision whether to promote outside requests is at the discretion of staff in consultation with the Executive Committee.

Outside requests should, at a minimum, meet the following criteria:

1. Be relevant and valuable to Family Physicians and the scope of practice of Family Medicine
2. Be relevant and valuable to Family Medicine patients
3. Be consistent with policy and decisions made by MDAFP in the past
4. Be consistent with the MDAFP strategic plan
5. CME activities should comply with ACCME requirements
6. Surveys may need IRB approval and requests should include
 - a. Purpose of the survey
 - b. Background information
 - c. The survey questions
 - d. Accompanying correspondence

The MDAFP reserves the right to:

1. Screen all requests based on the above criteria
2. Agree or decline to promote any outside request for any reason
 - a. Agreeing to promote any outside request from any entity does not guarantee that all or similar requests will be accepted in the future.
 - b. Declining to promote any outside request from any entity does not guarantee that all or similar requests will be declined in the future.
3. Determine the means and frequency of promotion for any outside requests we agree to promote

Reasons the MDAFP may decline to promote any outside requests include but are not limited to:

1. Commercial bias (actual or perceived)
2. Political bias (actual or perceived)
3. Non-compliance with ACCME requirements for CME events
4. Lack of or unclear relevance or benefit to Family Physicians, the scope of Family Medicine, and/or the MDAFP
5. The content of educational outside events is not evidence-based and/or customary and generally accepted medical practice

This policy is not exhaustive and is subject to change.