



American College of Preventive Medicine

ACPM 2019 Legislative Advocacy Agenda

ACPM works to promote federal policy that advances the practice of preventive medicine across all levels of the health system. The College has a strong record of endorsing policies that bolster disease prevention and health promotion efforts which aim to save lives, create healthier communities, and transform our healthcare system.

In 2019 ACPM will prioritize the following policy issues.

Tier I

ACPM will take action on these critical issues to:

1. Educate Congress and the Administration of the untapped dividends realized through training preventive medicine physicians, their impact on the health system, and the need to expand the preventive medicine training pipeline.
 - Advocate for the restoration of FY2016 level funding provided to preventive medicine residency programs in the Health Resources and Services Administration fiscal year 2019 budget in the amount of \$11.136 million.
 - Increase engagement with other regulatory bodies, including the Veterans' Administration and the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, to expand opportunities for collaboration with and support of preventive medicine residency programs.
2. Prevent violent death and injuries in communities around the country.
 - Continue to protect funding for and expand the National Violent Death Reporting System (NVDRS).
 - Increase funding to the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to study the effect of gun violence and unintentional gun-related injury on public health and safety.
 - Support evidence-based restrictions on gun sales and implementation of background checks.
3. Increase the focus on prevention, population health, and social determinants of health in public policy to ensure that our health system is one built around promoting health and preventing disease.
4. Ensure that any healthcare reform efforts maintain support for disease prevention and health promotion programs and adhere to ACPM's [Principles of Health Reform](#), including:
 - Retain coverage for all those currently insured;
 - Ensure patient protections in the marketplace, including prohibitions on benefit caps and prohibitions on discriminations against persons with pre-existing conditions, and;
 - Support first dollar public and private insurance coverage of recommended clinical preventive services.
5. Support the goals of the U.S. National Vaccine Plan. Uphold vaccination requirements for school entry and limit vaccine exemptions to only those with medical contraindications, oppose efforts that aim to roll back government support of vaccinations, and support access to and coverage of immunizations for adults.

Tier II

ACPM will actively work with key partners to:

1. Protect disease prevention and health promotion programs and incentives in any entitlement reform attempts.
2. Advocate for public health engagement and action on climate change including adoption and implementation of effective mitigation and adaptation measures, including prioritizing investment in public health preparedness, surveillance, education, training, and research.
3. Educate Congress and the Administration on the potential of Lifestyle Medicine and support federal legislation in line with the tenants of Lifestyle Medicine.
4. Raise the minimum age of legal access to all tobacco products to 21 years and support Food and Drug Administration (FDA) oversight of e-cigarettes and associated products, including:
 - a. Prohibiting access and marketing to children and adolescents;
 - b. Regulating the ingredients and chemicals included in e-cigarette products, and;
 - c. Limiting exposure in public and high-risk environments.
5. Prevent further cuts to the Prevention and Public Health Fund.
6. Advocate for sustained, predictable, and sufficient funding for the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).
 - Oppose any cuts for public health activities at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) including community prevention initiatives, research, surveillance and tracking, and public health infrastructure;
 - Support a public health emergency fund at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) with a minimum \$300 million investment that does not supplant other funding.
7. In collaboration with our coalition partners, advocate for increased non-defense discretionary (NDD) funding, relief from sequestration, the authorization and reauthorization of public health programs, and the highest funding possible for the 302(b) allocation to the Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education Appropriation Subcommittees.
8. Protect the health of women and women's reproductive rights.
 - Ensure women's access to comprehensive, coordinated, and high quality reproductive health services to include education; emergency, short, and long-term contraception; and comprehensive family planning services.