

American Association of Orthodontists_®

And Join as a Founder of the AAO National Advocacy Network!

ADVOCACY

What is the AAO National Advocacy Network?

In the fall of 2022, AAO's Council on Governmental Affairs (COGA) created the National Advocacy Network (NAN) to maximize AAO Member grassroots influence across the United States and Canada for offense and defense relating to our advocacy priorities. This inaugural class of NAN Founders will help chart the future for our success by enhancing the profession, and protecting patient health and safety through grassroots advocacy influence driving evidence-based policy the AAO can support.



Who are the NAN Founders? YOU!

If you are a volunteer interested in advocacy and willing to learn, grow, and offer your talents, we want your leadership as a NAN representative. Candidates can be policy and political veterans or anyone with a can-do spirit and a passion for AAO's mission through advocacy.



What is Grassroots Advocacy?

It is the most effective way to influence our policy priorities by empowering AAO Members to use their voice to advocate on key issues and industry regulation through outreach to elected officials and other key decision makers.

WHAT YOU'LL GET!

- Leadership opportunities with AAO
- The opportunity to be part of an inaugural class of AAO Membership, which will lead the advocacy network in innovative ideas and grassroots opportunities
- Onboarding, Training, and Resources from the AAO Advocacy Team for your success
- Better understanding of your state and associated issues impacting your profession
- Networking and relationships with counterparts across the country as well as key stakeholders in your state
- Spokesperson training (if interested)
- Unique and exclusive AAO Advocacy and AAOPAC opportunities
- Cutting edge strategies for AAO Advocacy and AAOPAC that can also translate to benefitting your business
- Ability to make a difference for others through support for the orthodontic specialty + patient health and safety
- Better understanding of your state/province and associated issues impacting your profession
- Networking and relationships with counterparts across the country as well as key stakeholders in your state/province



Two immediate roles TO FILL IN EACH STATE ACROSS THE COUNTRY:



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Component Advocacy Liaison (CAL):

Working closely with COGA and the AAO Advocacy Team, Founding CALs will serve as their state's or province's chief point of contact for the National Advocacy Network. This role can include monitoring state/provincial regulation and legislation; recruitment of additional NAN leadership; representing AAO at key policy events; and working with counterparts throughout the nation to share lessons learned and insights to benefit Advocacy influence on AAO Member priorities.



AAO Political Action Committee (AAOPAC) Captain:

Working closely with the AAOPAC Board and the AAO Advocacy Team, the Founding AAOPAC Captains will serve as their state's point of contact for AAOPAC fundraising that fuels AAO Advocacy priorities not only in Washington, DC but in states across the country. This is a key leadership role inside the National Advocacy Network that will also include recruitment and development of other leaders for AAOPAC growth and sustainability. Captains will also represent AAOPAC at key political events and work closely with counterparts throughout the nation to fully leverage resources and relationships for AAOPAC success.

*Per FEC regulations, AAOPAC Captain must be a U.S. Citizen or permanent resident.

COMMITMENTS, SKILLS & ABILITIES:

- Willingness to participate in internal and external meetings for AAO (virtual and in-person)
- Strong attention to detail and organization
- Relationship building skills
- Ability to maintain levels of confidentiality
- Commitment to recruiting new NAN leaders for growth & sustainability
- Up to four hours monthly anticipated for success in this role
- Minimum 2-year commitment to service leadership role (volunteer)



If you are ready to join this NAN
Founding team and want to learn more,
please reach out to AAO's Grassroots
and Digital Advocacy Specialist Kim
VanVeen by sending an e-mail to

KVanVeen@aaortho.org

to share your interest. Candidates will be considered and selected for service beginning early in 2023.

We look forward to Founding NAN Leaders contributing to AAO's Advocacy and AAOPAC success!