

# **American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons Update**

**Ned Amendola MD, FAAOS, FRCSC, DABOS**  
**President**

# AAOS Leadership 2025



**Annunziato (Ned) Amendola, MD,  
FAAOS, FRCSC, DABOS**  
President



**Wilford K. Gibson, MD, FAAOS**  
1st Vice President



**Michael L. Parks, MD, FAAOS**  
2nd Vice President



**Paul Tornetta, III, MD, PhD, FAAOS**  
Past President



**16.2K**  
Attendees



**162**  
ICLs



**588**  
VIPER Papers



**32**  
Symposia

**300** Posters



**800** ePosters

**12** Poster Tours



**64** Poster  
Presentations

**68**



OrthoDome®  
Presentations

**4**



Technology  
Pitches

**5**



Spanish  
Sessions

**624**



Exhibitors

**169K** Square Feet  
Exhibitor Space



# Annual Meeting 2025

## By the Numbers





# AAOS 2026

## Plan Ahead With Us

Mark your calendar  
for the **AAOS 2026**  
Annual Meeting in  
New Orleans!

**March 2-6**  
(Monday - Friday)

[aaos.org/annual](https://aaos.org/annual)  
**#AAOS2026**



**AAOS**  
AMERICAN ACADEMY OF  
ORTHOPAEDIC SURGEONS

**2026 Annual Meeting**  
March 2-6, New Orleans, Louisiana

# Annual Meeting 2025

- **We are continuing to improve the Annual meeting : we are listening to our members :**
  - **Streamlined Education Program**
    - **60-minute sessions** create more flexibility and reduce cognitive fatigue..
    - Revamped case-based discussion sessions.
    - Working closely **specialty societies** to ensure the right schedule balance
  - **Optimized Industry Time**
  - **All-In-One Registration (Significant Change)**
    - **No charge for all ICL's**
  - **Enhanced Attendee Navigation**
    - Launching **blue-dot enabled navigation** in the app for intuitive wayfinding.

# Mission, Vision & Core Values

## Our Mission

Serving our profession to provide the highest quality musculoskeletal care

**Why** we exist

## Our Vision

**The** trusted leaders in advancing musculoskeletal health

**What** we aspire to become

## Our Core Values

- Leading to serve
- Shaping the future
- Excellence Together

**How** we operate



# Two Organizations | One Roof

The activities of both organizations often compliment each other

**501(c)(6)**

Organized to support our members' business interests

Membership | Advocacy  
**Association**

**Founded 1998**



Board of  
Directors

**501(c)(3)**

Obligated to serve the public good

Quality | Education | Research  
**Academy**

**Founded 1933**

...but sometimes are in conflict

# Role of the Board | What Does AAOS's Board Really Do?

## DOES

- Chart the future of AAOS
- Develop and oversee strategic plan
- Hand off execution to member experts and staff
- Oversee operational & financial performance
- Listen to voices from the field
- Hire, evaluate and compensate CEO



## DOES NOT

- Get in the weeds
- Take up issues that require deeper expertise



# 2024 – 2028 Strategic Plan

Improve musculoskeletal health through collaboration, innovation, and patient focus.



Focused on members, patients, and leadership in improving health



Lead health system delivery and payment model transformation to increase value for all



Greater patient engagement and partnership across the MSK community



Committed to diversity in patient care, AAOS leadership, and the profession

[aaos.org/StrategicPlan](https://aaos.org/StrategicPlan)

# AAOS | Domains

## 01

### Advocacy



- Regulatory
- Legislative
- State
- Communications

## 02

### Education



- Conventions & Exhibits
- Online Learning & Assessments
- Journals / Publishing
- Course Operations

## 03

### Membership



- Member Engagement
- Governance

## 04

### Registries & Quality



- Registries
- Quality & Patient Value

## 05

### Operations



- Finance & Accounting
- Human Resources
- Marketing & Communications
- Facilities / Meetings
- Information Tech
- Legal / Contracts
- Strategic Planning

# 2024 At-A-Glance



Education



Advocacy



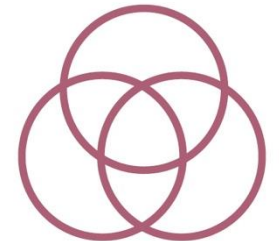
Membership



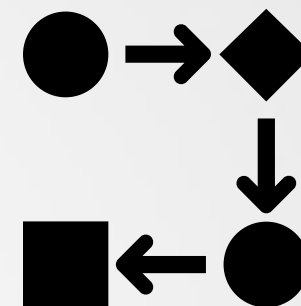
Leadership



Quality



Strategy



# Proposed Governance Changes

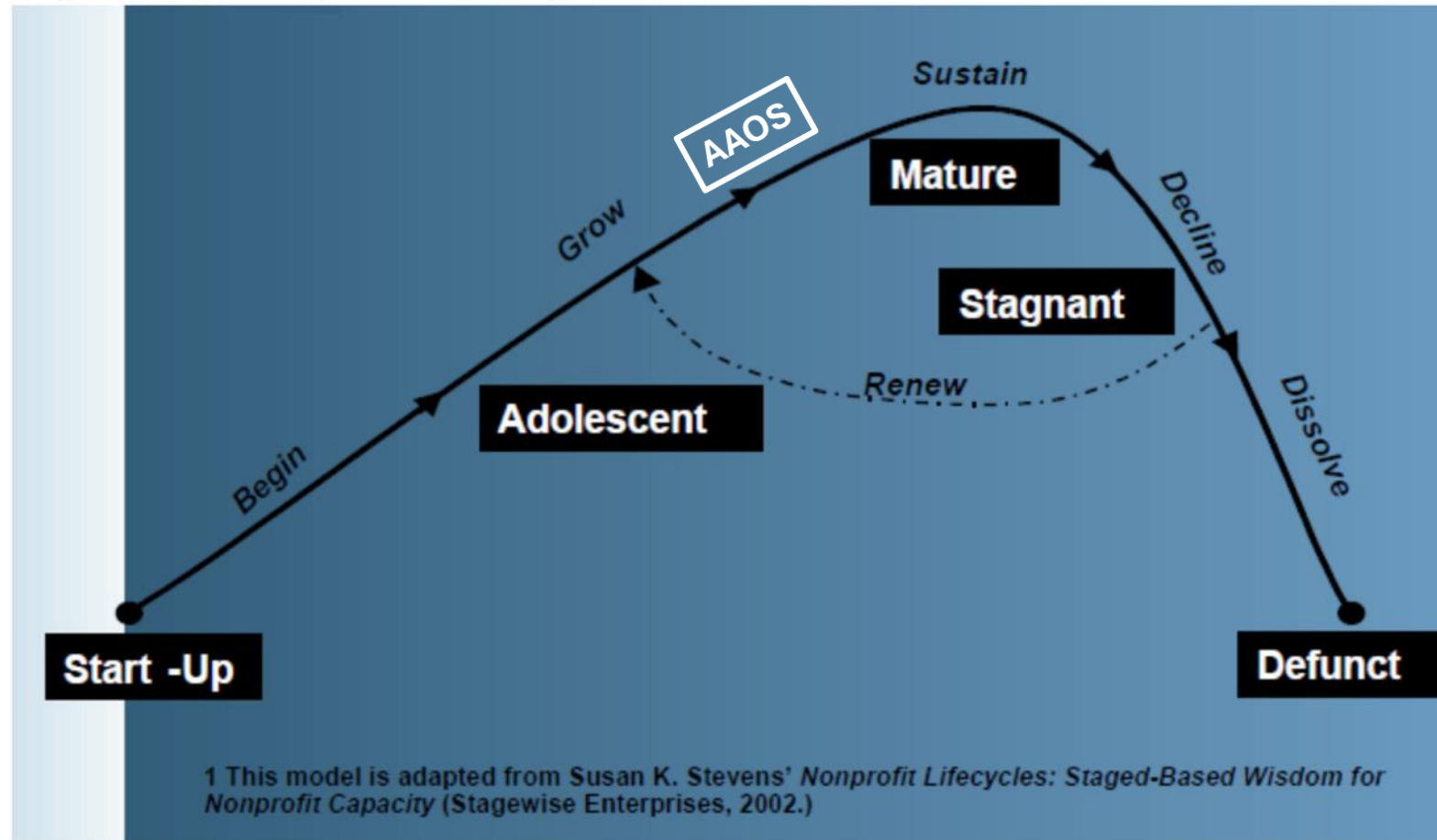


# Proposed Changes

- Streamlined Bylaws
- Board Composition and Efficiency
- What is necessary to Run the Organization
- Efficient and Effective Leadership with Skills Required for Success

# Organizational Life Cycle

Stages of Nonprofit Organizational Lifecycle



# What's NOT Changing



AAOS remains a member driven organization

AAOS is the voice of all orthopaedic surgeons

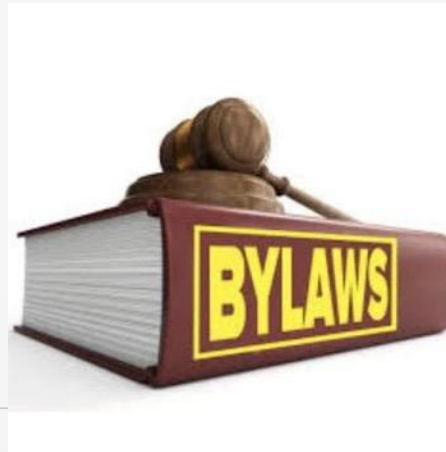
AAOS cares about the entire MSK community

# Streamlined Bylaws

- Essential set of bylaws codifying only:
  - Illinois state requirements
  - Existence of BOC and BOS groups



- Simplifies all processes
- Decreases the need to revise





# What is the difference between Bylaws and Policies?

- **Bylaws = Core governance rules** defining the organization's structure and operations (public-facing)
- **Policies = Operational guidelines** for specific situations (internal—facing) e.g. conflict of interest policy

# How Did These Changes Come About?

- Governance review at the 2023 Board Workshop
- Legal consultants analyzed for risk and benchmarked AAOS bylaws against high functioning nonprofit boards
- Multiple board discussions over 2 years
- Core Question:

**How can we be the most well informed, high functioning board for our members?**

- Final concepts approved at the 2/24 BOD meeting at Annual Meeting

# How are the new bylaws different?

- ❖ Bylaws streamlined from 60+ pages to 33  
for simplicity and clarity
- ❖ The only advisory groups codified in the  
bylaws are the BOC and BOS

# Nominating Committee

- Chair: no change
- 4 Elected Fellows (*ONLY 1 time not 3*)
- 3 BOD members from Governance Committee
- Slate and alternates recommended to BOD
- **Draft for skill sets**
- **BOD members understand current issues**
- **Institutional memory**
- **Rarely a candidate issue only BOD knows**








# A More Representative Nominating Committee !!!

- 6 Board members chosen by BOC and BOS are eligible to serve on the Governance Committee
- **Officers (Presidential Line and Treasurer) cannot serve on the Governance Committee**
- **Fellows can be elected to the nominating committee only once**
- A candidate slate plus alternates to BOD
- BOD accepts slate unless there is specific issue requiring alternate to be taken



# Focus on Active Fellows

- Only Active Fellows vote on all issues and members of the AAOS Nominating Committee 
- Ensures those most impacted by AAOS actions choose the organization's direction 
- Emeritus Fellows still contribute through committees and advisory roles 

# BOC/ BOS Representation

- BOS and BOC advisory bodies codified in the new bylaws
- **BOC and BOS unchanged in any way** (still three Board members from each advisory group who have full voting rights)
- Board composition unchanged

# 2025-2026 Board of Councilors (BOC) Officers



**Michael J. Leddy III, MD, FAAOS**  
*Chair*



**James W. Barber, MD, FAAOS**  
*Chair-Elect*



**Jeffrey R. McLaughlin, MD, FAAOS**  
*Secretary*



**Joel L. Mayerson, MD, FAAOS**  
*Past Chair*



# 2025-2026 Board of Specialty Societies (BOS) Officers



**Adolph J. Yates, Jr., MD, FAAOS**  
*Chair*



**Julie B. Samora, MD, PhD, MPH, FAAOS**  
*Chair-Elect*

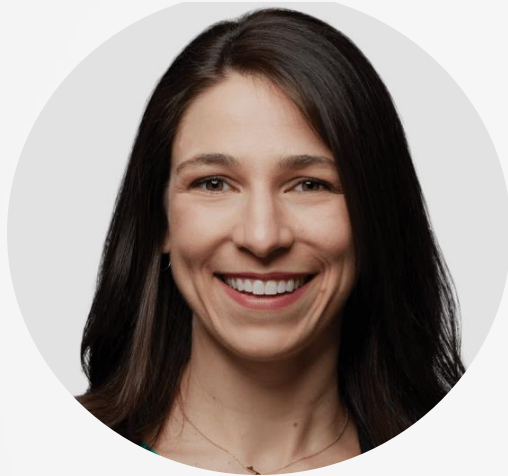


**Reid B. Nichols, MD, FAAOS**  
*Secretary*



**Armando F. Vidal, MD, FAAOS**  
*Past Chair*

# BOC Representatives – Oregon



**Elizabeth Lieberman, MD, FAAOS**



**Tamara S. Simpson, MD, FAAOS**

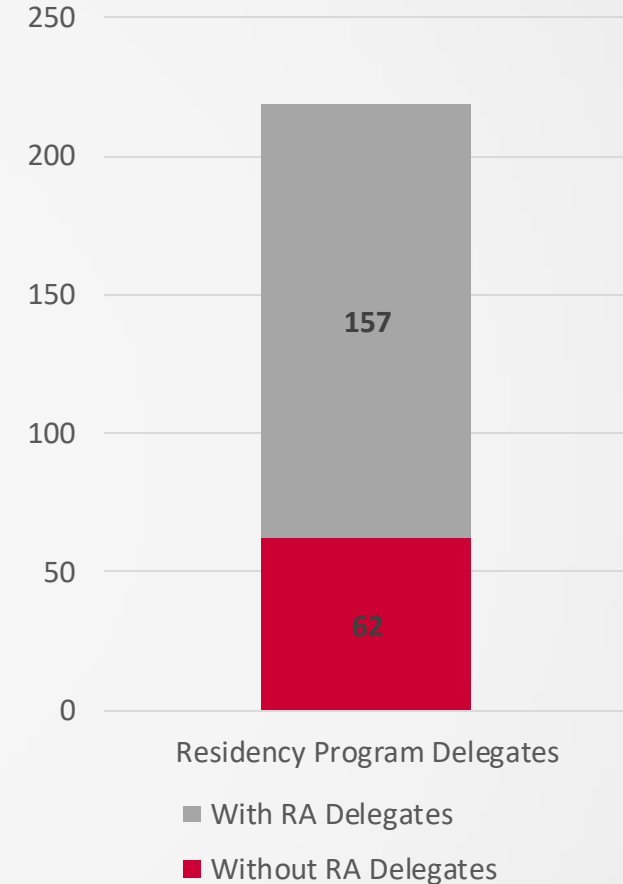
# Resident Assembly Delegates

**Julia Silver, MD**

**Oregon Health & Science University**

**Contact:** [residentassembly@aaos.org](mailto:residentassembly@aaos.org)

Each orthopaedic residency program selects a delegate to represent the program and its residents in all Resident Assembly matters.



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AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF  
ORTHOPAEDIC SURGEONS



### **Created in 1999:**

OrthoPAC's mission is to help advance the legislative agenda of AAOS and specialty societies.

### **We accomplish this mission using a variety of methods:**

direct lobbying, educational campaigns/resources, grassroots, social media, etc. OrthoPAC is the vehicle that opens political doors, allowing AAOS a seat at the table.



# PAC Activity

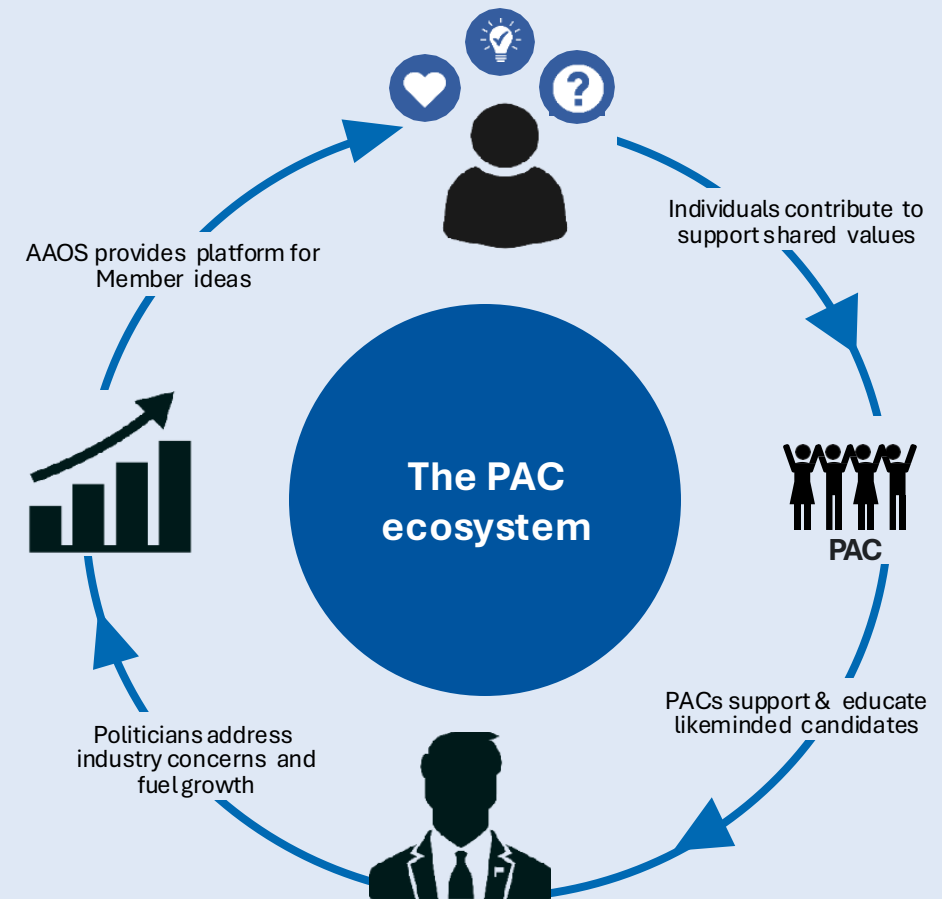
## What does it look like?

### Tools to Support Policy

- Provide AAOS member-physicians with direct access to policy makers
- Facilitate relationship building opportunities

### Helping Elect Ortho Champions

- Allow physicians to pool resources to support candidates with shared values
- OrthoPAC is #3 medical PAC in-terms of dollars raised





# What's at Stake?

Conversations about U.S. healthcare policy will occur whether we are in the room or not. Our priority is to be at the table and not on the menu. The government decides:

## How we are paid

Medicare Access  
and CHIP  
Reauthorization Act,  
Merit-based  
Incentive Payment  
System

## How we practice

Private, employed,  
academic,  
government,  
telemedicine

## What we can do

Scope, prior  
authorization

## Who we can treat

In network, out of  
network, Medicare  
beneficiaries

## What we can own

Hospital, imaging,  
ambulatory surgery  
center

O R T H O P A E D I C



# 119<sup>th</sup> Advocacy Agenda

Reform prior  
authorization and  
coverage reviews

Advance  
appropriate  
Medicare  
payment reform

Support repealing  
the ban on  
physician owned  
hospitals

Encourage surgeon led  
value-based models  
that promote  
opportunities for  
surgeons to act as  
conveners of risk and  
reward

# Other Important Advocacy Issues

Protecting health  
care workers from  
violence in  
clinical settings

Extension of  
telehealth  
flexibilities and  
payment

Hospital  
consolidation:  
transparency for  
payments in  
different settings  
(site-neutral)

Medical liability  
reform (State and  
Federal)

# Medicare Payment Reform

## AAOS Developments

- On Saturday, June 28<sup>th</sup>, the Senate passed H.R.1, which included a one-year payment increase under the physician fee schedule of 2.5% beginning January 1, 2026.
- The President has now signed the bill into law.
- AAOS continues to advocate for physician payment reform to be included in any viable vehicle.

# Prior Authorization

## Improving Seniors' Timely Access to Care Act (H.R. 3514/S. 1816)

- Reintroduced on May 20
- Currently has 178 House sponsors and 56 Senate sponsors
- Congressional Budget Office (CBO) estimates legislation costs \$0
- Codifies the Advancing Interoperability and Improving Prior Authorization Processes (e-PA) rule that was finalized by CMS in January 2024.

# Easing Restrictions on Physician-Led Hospitals

## Patient Access to Higher Quality Health Care Act

- Would repeal the ban on physician-led hospitals.

## Physician Led and Rural Access to Quality Care Act

- Would allow establishment of physician-led hospitals in rural areas and expansion of existing facilities.
- Introduced in the House and Senate for 119<sup>th</sup> Congress
- AAOS leading coalition with other physician groups

## Facilitating Accountability in Reimbursements (FAIR) Act

Requires separate National Provider Identifier (NPI) numbers for off-campus hospital outpatient departments.



# Protecting Musculoskeletal Research Funding

## FY 2026 Appropriations

On June 2025, the House Defense Appropriations subcommittee proposed \$700 million for the overall CDMRP program, which is an improvement from the March 2025 Continuing Resolution but still represents a ~54% cut overall to the program from FY 2025. AAOS is now focusing on Senate champions to potentially increase funding for FY 2026.

# How was OrthoPAC impactful in the 2024 Election Cycle?

Raised **\$3,239,081 (hard + soft dollars)** in the 2024 Election Cycle from

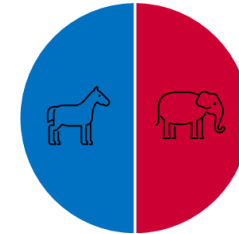
**3,780** AAOS Members

Bipartisan in Giving

- **55%** Republican
- **45%** Democrat

Helped Elect **4** New Physicians to Congress

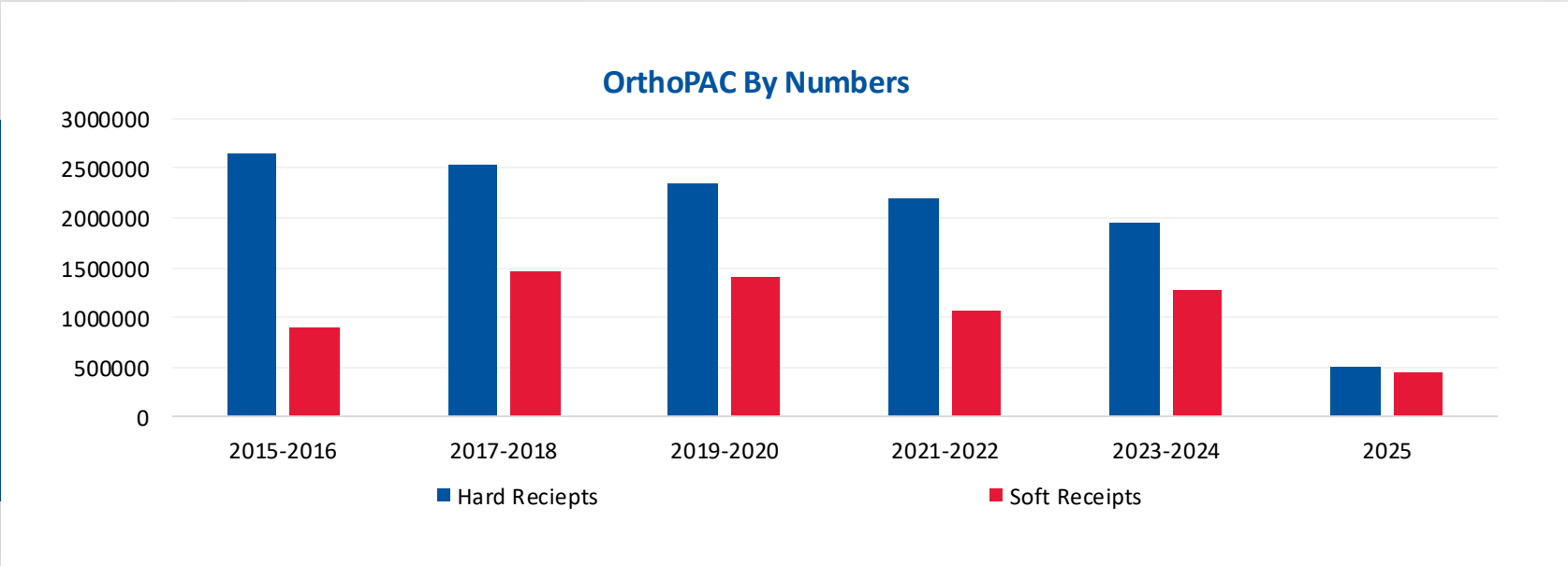
- Dr. Herb Conaway (D-NJ)
- Dr. Kelly Morrison (D-MN)
- Dr. Maxine Dexter (D-OR)
- Dr. Mike Kennedy (R-UT)



# OrthoPAC By the Numbers

Election Cycle	2015 - 2016	2017 – 2018	2019 – 2020	2021 - 2022	2023 - 2024	2025
Hard Receipts	\$2,638,100	\$2,532,100	\$2,346,300	\$2,190,000	\$1,957,954	\$509,866
Soft Receipts	\$898,000	\$1,462,500	\$1,409,500	\$1,077,079	\$1,281,127	\$451,265
Total	\$3,536,100	\$3,994,600	\$3,755,800	\$3,267,069	\$3,239,081	\$961,131

OrthoPAC Participation			
	Hard	Soft	Total
2025	954	448	1,402
2024	1,584	617	2,201
2023	1,777	1,373	2,927
2022	2,232	525	2,757
2021	1,936	568	2,504
2020	2,546	787	3,333
2019	2,725	430	3,155
2018	2,768	726	3,494
2017	2,808	806	3,614
2016	2,842	1,166	4,008
2015	2,782	788	3,570
2014	2,860	983	3,843



## Top 10 Specialty Physician Groups

Organization	2023-24 Cycle Hard \$ Receipts
American Society of Anesthesiologists	\$3,882,491
American Academy of Dermatology	\$2,046,301
American Association of Orthopaedic Surgeons	\$1,957,954
American College of Radiology	\$1,653,915
American College of Emergency Physicians	\$1,613,599
American Academy of Ophthalmology	\$904,558
American Osteopathic Association	\$753,495
American College of OB-Gyn	\$797,003
American College of Cardiology	\$670,778
American College of Surgeons	\$662,452

## What We're Up Against...

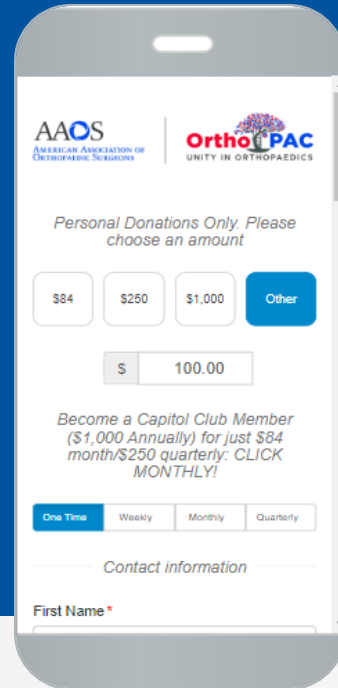
Organization	2023-24 Cycle Hard \$ Receipts
American Society for Justice (Trial Lawyers)	\$8,174,797
American Hospital Association	\$3,767,327
United Healthcare	\$3,143,910
American Medical Association	\$2,096,338
American Physical Therapy Association	\$1,142,414
Federation of American Hospitals	\$752,461
American Osteopathic Association	\$753,495
American Nurses Association	\$478,733
American Podiatric Medical Association	\$452,234
American Chiropractic Association	\$266,659

# Let's PAC OUT the Map in 2025!

## Oregon OrthoPAC Participation 9% in 2024

Let's get to 20% in 2025!

- › Text OROrtho to 41444
- › Venmo @OrthoPAC



AAOS  
AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF  
ORTHOPAEDIC SURGEONS

OrthoPAC  
UNITY IN ORTHOPAEDICS

Personal Donations Only. Please  
choose an amount

\$84 \$250 \$1,000 Other

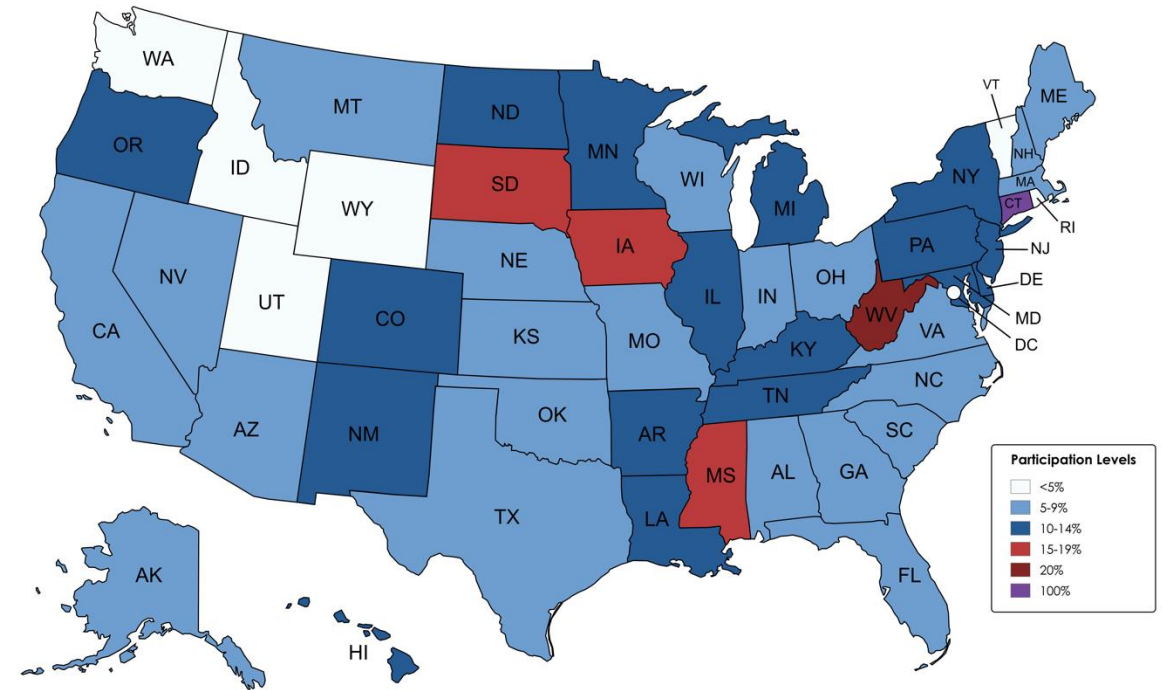
\$ 100.00

Become a Capitol Club Member  
(\$1,000 Annually) for just \$84  
month/\$250 quarterly: CLICK  
MONTHLY!

One Time Weekly Monthly Quarterly

Contact information

First Name \*



# Thank you to our 2025 Oregon OrthoPAC Donors!

Heidi Bloom, MD, FAAOS  
David Brown, MD, FAAOS  
Matthew Budge, MD, FAAOS  
**Marc Davidson, MD, FAAOS**  
Patrick Denard, MD, FAAOS  
Christopher Estes, MD, FAAOS  
Brett Gingold, MD, FAAOS  
**Gregory Gamstad, MD, FAAOS**  
James Jackman, MD, FAAOS

**Bret Kean, MD, FAAOS**  
**Robert Orfaly, MD, FAAOS**  
**Nathan Orvets, MD, FAAOS**  
Sarah Rogers, MD, FAAOS  
**Kathryn Schabel, MD, FAAOS**  
**Tamara Simpson, MD, FAAOS**

## Join the fight for our specialty!

› Text OROrtho to 41444

› Venmo @OrthoPAC

Capitol Club Member  
**\$1,000**

Diamond Club  
**\$2,500**

Max-Out Donor  
**\$5,000**





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# Shape the Future of AAOS

Apply for Council & Committee Positions  
by August 1!

Now is your opportunity to  
contribute to the mission  
and vision of AAOS!



**Visit [aaos.org/cap](https://aaos.org/cap) to apply by August 1.**

# Let's Get Social



@AAOS1  
@OfficiaUAAOS



@AAOS\_1



American  
Academy of  
Orthopaedic  
Surgeons (AAOS)



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Orthopaedic  
Surgeons



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Surgeons

**Create** an engaged community of AAOS members and future musculoskeletal health care professionals, patients and community

**Encourage** conversation, user-generated content, and information-sharing among key audiences

**Increase** # of engagement by 15% year-over-year



21,000 New Followers



307,000+ Engagements



6.7 Million+ Impressions

# Follow @AAOSAdvocacy on X





**Ned Amendola, MD**

**President, AAOS**