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Special Note: Several established chapter CSMs have found it beneficial for their Chair to attend the Governor's council meeting as either a voting or nonvoting member, depending on the structure. One CSM chapter indicated that all members are invited to participate in the twice-yearly 8 Council meetings as observers to meet the chapter leaders and learn about the chapter structure. Chapters are encouraged to consider these relationships when developing chapter CSMs.

One of the first steps in forming a chapter Council of Student Members is creating a statement of your purpose and goals. This provides you with an overall vision for the council. Working with your chapter Governor, you can adopt or modify the purpose to meet your chapter's needs. It should be realistic, measurable, and attainable. Whatever purpose you select should be reexamined periodically and updated as necessary. Governors should inform the chapter Council of Student Members about funding available for local events.

Having established the direction you want your council to take, you want to define goals to fulfill your all of the following:

Foster Interest in ACP

Encourage Medical Student membership and a lifelong interest in ACP. Encourage representation on local and [national ACP committees](#).

Foster Educational Opportunities

Your ACP chapter Governor is a valuable resource for information about ACP, current issues at the leadership level, and past and present local and national projects. Please refer to the [chapter website page](#)

CSM should work together to coordinate Medical Student activities at chapter meetings. Keeping in close contact with your chapter Governor is crucial to running an effective chapter council.

The Chair- governance, the Board of Governors (BOG), in submitting resolutions and representing issues. However, the Chair is -making body, the Board of Regents (BOR). Establishing a regular communication link with [national CSM representatives](#) will serve as an efficient mode of communication. They can update you on Medical Student activities in other chapters or at the national level, help you with questions and issues within your chapter council, and help you publicize good ideas and successful projects to the rest of the membership.

Medical Student Membership Benefits

Information about [national benefits for Medical Student members](#) is available at ACP Online.

John Tooker Evergreen Awards Program

The College recognizes that the organization's strength is grounded in its local chapters. Because of this, a program was created to recognize outstanding chapter efforts. The [John Tooker Evergreen Awards Program](#) provides visibility and recognition to chapters that have successfully implemented programs to increase membership, improve communication, bolster member involvement and diversity activities, and foster careers in internal medicine.

Student experiences with ACP will influence their decisions to continue membership after they graduate medical school. Be sure to communicate the benefits of ACP membership, which are free for Medical Students. For details, see <http://www.acponline.org/membership/benefits/students/>.

Medical Students will likely use platforms like X, Facebook, and Instagram to get news from
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Facebook or X

The Council of Student Members (CSM) seeks to connect ACP chapters with motivated students who can help organize student activities in your chapter. The CSM would also like to introduce Internal Medicine

Host a student abstract or poster competition at your chapter meeting. Many chapters forward their top winners to the ACP Internal Medicine meeting to compete in the national poster competitions. For more information about hosting an abstract competition i

We hope this reference has been helpful. Starting a chapter CSM may be challenging; however, the result is a body within your chapter that provides a forum for discussing Medical Student issues, develops programs for Medical Students, and increases opportunities for their participation in the chapter governance structure. We urge you to get involved. We hope your chapter CSM will bring forward issues you would like to have addressed at the national level. We welcome your comments and suggestions.

For more information, contact ACP staff via e-mail at acpgovernance@acponline.org.

