
NYACP Advocacy Intern Experience

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I am grateful to have had the opportunity to be an NYACP Advocacy Intern for the 2024 legislative session.

It was an eye-opening learning experience about the process of policy and legislation, especially on matters that affect physicians and their patients daily. As a resident physician, I feel empowered by my newly developed skills in tracking, understanding, and following legislation through its various stages. This will be key in my developing career as a primary care physician and I can already see myself helping patients understand how to navigate their care both within the medical setting and out in their daily lives. For example, when patients come to me with questions about disability accommodations, mental health resources, prescription coverage and access issues, and much more, I can not only refer them to the appropriate services but also educate them on how state regulations affect these areas of their lives. I now know that I can identify their needs and keep track of which proposals I would want to speak out about during my future ACP involvement.

I look forward to my NYACP activity throughout residency in order to have an impact on our working conditions and training standards. I will continue to speak out in favor of protecting our scope of practice in our patients' best interests, to ensure that they always receive the highest standard of care according to evidence-based medicine rather than political whims or uneducated opinions.

I was pleasantly surprised by the ferocity and passion with which the NYACP representatives support New York State's physicians in every aspect of healthcare, from prescription policies to licensing standards and beyond.

I found this internship to be a valuable education and inspiration. I would encourage all my co-residents in internal medicine to pursue this experience at some point during their training so that they can expand their views about what patient care can entail beyond the prescription pad.