

Early Career Development Committee (ECDC)

Charge/Objective

The Committee shall:

1. Work with AVMA staff to develop resources that will impact AVMA members early in their career
2. Create networking opportunities for individuals early in their veterinary career within the ECDC Online Veterinary Community
3. Actively engage recent graduates to elicit discussions and gather feedback for the AVMA on a real time basis

Membership, Method of Appointment, and Representation

The Committee shall consist of nine voting members who will represent the following:

1. 5 recent graduates (less than 5 years post-graduation)
2. 2 emerging leaders (5-15 years post-graduation)
3. A Faculty Advisor at a college/school of veterinary medicine
4. A representative from the American Society of Veterinary Medical Association Executives

All nine members of the ECDC are appointed by the Executive Board Chair. Nominations, including self-nominations, will be accepted for the nine positions, with preference given to those active within the ECDC Online Veterinary Community or nominated by a principal or constituent allied veterinary medical organization of the AVMA.

Initial terms will be staggered (one, two or three years) to ensure that no more than two members will end their service during any given year. Committee members are eligible to serve a second full three-year term. Consistent with AVMA policy, the member who served the initial one-year term will be eligible to serve two subsequent three-year terms.

Chair

The Chair of the ECDC will be elected annually from among the Committee's membership.

Meetings

ECDC meetings will be held up to twice a year in Schaumburg, IL at AVMA Headquarters.

Facilitator

A facilitator will be used as a link between the ECDC and AVMA staff to assist with the development and implementation of programs that will impact veterinarians early in their career.

Funding

Travel expenses will be authorized in accordance with AVMA travel policy.

Reports

The ECDC will advise and report to the Executive Board.

Life Expectancy

Committee performance will be reviewed in compliance with AVMA governance policies.

ECDC Online Veterinary Community

The ECDC Online Veterinary Community provides professional interaction and support among recent veterinary graduates and functions as a discussion group to gather feedback for the AVMA. The Community will be associated with the ECDC and designated for recent graduates that are less than five years post-graduation from veterinary school. This community is targeted to reach a maximum capacity of 150 individuals, but can be extended if interest dictates. ECDC Online Veterinary Community participants will commit themselves to regular electronic engagement within the Community.

All interested recent graduates may participate in the ECDC Online Veterinary Community. In addition, specific invitations will be extended to those recent graduates with the following experience:

- Former SAVMA or SCAVMA student officers;
- AVMA Veterinary Leadership Conference participants;
- AVMA Veterinary Leadership Experience participants;
- Other AVMA leadership program participants; and/or
- Those who have submitted their nomination for an AVMA entity, but were not selected.