



Oct. 6, 2022

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To: Ohio Family Medicine Residency Program Directors  
From: OAFP Board of Directors  
RE: Policy on Resident Voting Opportunities

During the Ohio Academy of Family Physicians (OAFP) Board of Directors meeting held on Sept. 29, a new policy on resident voting opportunities was established that we would like to share with you.

**“Family medicine residency programs in the state of Ohio should ensure, with reasonable exception that all family medicine residents have the opportunity to participate in the election process by allowing adequate time away from clinical duties so that one may cast their ballot during designated polling hours or the program provide sufficient assistance in acquiring absentee ballots for their trainees.”**

#### Rationale:

This policy decision was not taken without clearly considering the demands placed on active resident training centers. We know how busy you are and what a tremendous service you provide to the surrounding community. However, given that health care advocacy and participation in one’s civic duty go hand in hand, the OAFP Board of Directors felt it was an important statement to make during this critical time in medicine.

To make your process easier, information regarding voting in Ohio is accessible online at [www.voteohio.gov](http://www.voteohio.gov) including opportunities to register to vote, a link to request an absentee ballot, and a whole lot more.

We appreciate your consideration of our statement. Your actions help to support Ohio’s future family physicians advocate for public health, their specialty, their communities, and especially their patients.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Executive Vice President Kate Mahler, or me anytime.

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Cc: OAFP Board of Directors