

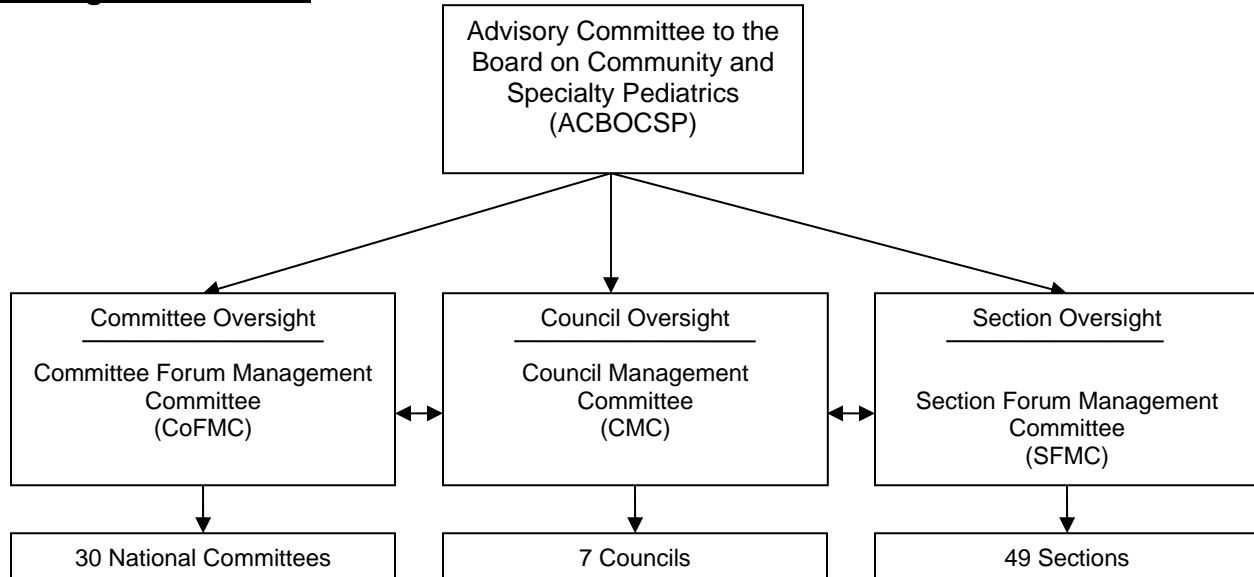


AAP Council Fact Sheet

What is a council?

Councils are membership entities designed around subspecialties or multidisciplinary fields. Each council is the primary source of expertise in a given field within the Academy. An executive committee of elected leaders governs each council. Although councils fulfill the functions traditionally held separately by national committees and sections, as a single entity their scope is expanded to encompass a broader vision and a wider array of activities. Councils not only generate policy, create educational programming and resources, develop and promote advocacy initiatives, and support translation of policy and education into practice, but they integrate and evaluate these efforts to maximize impact.

Oversight of councils



2009–2010 Council Forum Management Committee Members

Paula Duncan, MD, FAAP, Chairperson
 Barbara Frankowski, MD, MPH, FAAP
 Paul Lipkin, MD, FAAP

Benefits of the Council Structure

- Streamlines activities and reduces duplication of effort on activities that may have been conducted previously by a separate committee and section.
- Facilitates greater **integration** of policy, education, advocacy and implementation on a given topic.
- Designed to give members a strong voice in policy development and in other council activities. Councils strive to engage members by promoting bidirectional communication and by creating a wide variety of opportunities for member involvement in council activities.

Governance Guidelines Approved by the Board in May 2005

Number of Executive Committee Members Includes up to eleven Executive Committee members including the Chair. This number can be arrived at through attrition over the first several years of operating the council.

Number of Executive Committee Members Elected/Appointed All Executive Committee members are elected by the membership of the council. The Chair is chosen by the Executive Committee from among its members. The AAP Board of Directors does not need to review individual nominees.

Method of Recruiting Leaders Candidates for Executive Committee positions should be solicited from AAP chapters, the council membership, the AAP Board of Directors and through the opportunity for self-nominations. The Nominating Committee should recommend one or more individuals to fill each position; this should be followed by a general election by the council membership. A process should be in place to establish and publish criteria for each position and to screen candidates against these criteria.

Composition of Nominating Committee The Nominating Committee should have between three to five members (an odd number is preferable). No more than one of these members should be from the current Executive Committee; if the nominating committee included a member of the Executive Committee, this member should be ex officio. It is expected that nominations for Nominating Committee candidates will be solicited broadly among the council membership. The Chair of the Executive Committee should select the Nominating Committee members with the approval of the Executive Committee.

Terms of Executive Committee Members/Chair Terms for members of the Executive Committee should be up to two consecutive three-year terms. Terms for chair of the Executive Committee should be up to two consecutive two-year terms.

Liaisons Council should have flexibility to use liaisons and experts/ consultants as the need arises; however, current limitations in place for committees should apply (no more than 50 percent – or five – such individuals should be present at any meeting of the Executive Committee).

Role of the Past Chair of the Executive Committee

To be determined at the discretion of the council.

Council Structure Except for guidelines provided above for the structure of the Executive Committee, councils should develop a governance structure that meets the purpose and goals of the group, with strict consideration of budget constraints and governance/operations efficiency.