



# Student Liaison to the Latino Medical Student Association 2024 Annual Report

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## **Liaison to the Latino Medical Student Association (LMSA)**

Alvaro Cortez

The Medical College of Georgia at Augusta University

Augusta, GA

Class of 2026

### **Purpose & Scope of Work**

Founded as the National Network of Latin American Medical Students (NNLAMS) in 1987, the Latino Medical Student Association (LMSA) is a non-profit organization with the goal of unifying all Latino medical students into one organization, actively promoting the recruitment and retention of Latino students at all training levels, educating medical students on Latino health issues, and advocating for the rights of Latinos in health care. Throughout the years, LMSA has successfully provided leadership opportunities for Latinos and promoted volunteerism in the Latino community. The mission of LMSA is to unite and empower medical students through service, mentorship, and education to advocate for the health of the Latino community.

The student liaison to LMSA is a national LMSA partner responsible for facilitating effective communication with the LMSA Communications Team. The primary objective is disseminating crucial information regarding AAFP events, such as the National Conference and available scholarship opportunities. This communication aims to enhance awareness and accessibility, enabling a more significant number of students to attend the National Conference affordably. Additionally, the liaison disseminates information about LMSA programming and opportunities to the FMIG student network. Lastly, the liaison plays a pivotal role in organizing and collaborating on events that actively promote and encourage student engagement in the AAFP and LMSA, fostering a supportive and inclusive environment for student participation.

### **Activities & Achievements**

#### ***Family Medicine Interest Group (FMIG) National Leadership Team***

- Collaborate on the FMIG monthly newsletters and specifically disseminate information on LMSA programming/events to our FMIG student members.
- Collaborate with the FMIG National Leadership Team on planning for the FMIG Leadership Summit and the Program of Excellence Award Event at the 2024 AAFP National Conference.

### **2024 AAFP National Conference**

- Collaborate closely with the LMSA Communications Team to effectively promote the AAFP National Conference and associated scholarships through the national LMSA newsletter and official LMSA Instagram page.
- Co-plan a programming workshop with a colleague, which will be delivered as one of the sessions at the FMIG Leadership Summit. The workshop will equip attendees with essential skills and knowledge that will help them succeed in the FMIGs at their institutions.
- Organize a URIM workshop during the AAFP National Conference, focusing on a topic that will be determined soon. This workshop aims to address the unique challenges and opportunities faced by URIM attendees. By providing a supportive and inclusive environment, the workshop will foster meaningful discussions and provide strategies to increase the representation and success of URIM individuals in family medicine.

### **2024 Latino Medical Student Association National Conference (upcoming in September)**

- Collaborate on and co-lead a panel discussion with local Hispanic/Latino/a/x physician leaders in primary care specialties to foster meaningful dialogue and emphasize the importance of increasing Latino students' representation in medicine, particularly in family medicine.
- Implement strategies to raise awareness and encourage participation in the various programs offered by the American Academy of Family Physicians (AAFP) among medical students.
- Actively engage with students, both individually and at the AAFP booth in the exhibit hall, to promote the benefits of AAFP membership and enroll a substantial number of students as new AAFP members.

### **Lessons Learned and the Value of Serving on .....**

As the AAFP student liaison to LMSA, it has been a gratifying experience to support and strengthen two organizations that align with my values and identities as a future physician. This role has given me valuable insights into the structure and organization of the AAFP and LMSA and how both organizations foster student growth. Through my role, I have learned the importance of effective communication and teamwork in developing and promoting AAFP events to the LMSA community. Likewise, it has allowed me to engage with other student leaders to support the growth and interest of family medicine as a career choice. In addition, I have been able to collaborate with the AAFP to engage and empower underrepresented in medicine (URiM) medical students as future leaders in primary care. Overall, my experience as a liaison between the AAFP and LMSA has equipped me with the ability to collaborate, effectively communicate, and advocate the need for increased representation of Hispanic & Latino/a/x physicians within family medicine.

*Note: This report was prepared by the resident or student representative(s) listed and includes their account(s) of the business conducted during their term. This is not an official record of business proceedings from the AAFP or any other entity. To find out more about the business of the AAFP, its congresses, commissions, and current policies visit [aafp.org](http://aafp.org).*