

Bylaws – Appendix B

Position Paper Endorsement Protocol

Effective date: February, 28th, 2015

1. Purpose

This protocol has been developed to streamline the process by which position papers are endorsed by OMSA to maximize the quality and relevancy of OMSA endorsed position papers. Additionally, this protocol calls for an increase in the percentage of OMSA executive member support from 50%+1 majority to a 2/3 majority to ensure that OMSA endorsed papers are representative of a larger majority of medical students. To not discourage paper submissions, a peer-review process will be implemented to help develop position papers that do not initially meet the 2/3 majority.

2. Scope

Applies to all ideas and position papers endorsed and approved by OMSA.

3. Definitions

Position paper: A written report that outlines one or multiple author's opinion about an issue. The report can include intentions or suggests that pertain to the issue.

4. Policy Statements

Position papers endorsed by OMSA Executive Council shall undergo the following process to receive approval (see attached).

OMSA will receive and evaluate completed position papers but strongly encourages authors to formally discuss potential position papers with OMSA executive members before, and during, the writing process. This discourse allows OMSA executive members to vet position paper content/scope and provide authors with feedback. The content and ideas proposed by each approved paper must fall into OMSA's scope of interest in advocating for medical students.

Policy papers endorsed by OMSA must fall within the following scope: Positions expressed by OMSA should also support the role of OMSA and its political advocacy committee. OMSA is the dedicated student voice of the OMA, representing the views and concerns of the over 3,000 Ontario medical students on a number of issues. As future physicians dedicated to the health of Ontarians, its representatives advocate for changes in medical education, health policy and care delivery that will benefit both its members and the people they train to serve.

This process also encourages review of the paper by the OMSA Council at least two times before voting to ensure OMSA executive familiarity with relevant content.

