



American College of Rheumatology Volunteer Eligibility Policy

May 2025

Per the ACR bylaws, the following category of members cannot hold a position on the ACR Board of Directors, an ACR Standing Committee, Subcommittee, or Work Group:

- Transitional - Emeritus Members

Members who are primarily employed by, serving in a significant leadership role, and/or on the Board of a rheumatology organization with competing interests are ineligible to serve as a volunteer.

Volunteer eligibility will also be evaluated using the [ACR Conflict of Interest Principles for Board of Directors, Committees, Subcommittees, Task Forces, and Special Projects](#) and [ACR Conflict of Interest Guidelines for Key College Leaders](#). All Volunteers must complete a yearly disclosure form and confidentiality agreement. The disclosure form will need to be updated as needed.

Eligibility for Employees of Commercial Entities & Insurance Companies

The ACR values the unique perspective that employees who are primarily employed (primarily employed is defined as 50% or more of an individual's working time) by commercial entities (inclusive of insurance companies) can provide on ACR Committees, Subcommittees, Task Forces and Special Projects; however, the ACR is also committed to limiting both real and perceived conflict of interest in its activities.

In addition, the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME) guidelines do not allow members employed by commercial entities to participate in planning CME activities. A commercial entity is any entity that develops, produces, markets, re-sells, or distributes drugs, devices, services, information, therapies or other health care goods and services used or intended to diagnose, treat, monitor, or manage people. This definition is not intended to include entities through which health care professionals provide clinical services directly to patients.

To assist in deciding the best committee assignments (in addition to the associated Subcommittees, Task Forces, and Special Projects under the purview of the committee listed below) for ACR members employed by commercial entities, please refer to the chart below.

Committees including all associated subcommittees, task forces, and special projects	Commercial Entity (inclusive of insurance companies)
ACR Board of Directors	No
ACR Executive Committee	No
Collaborative Initiatives	No
Communications & Marketing	Yes
Corporate Relations	No
Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion	Yes
Division Directors	No
Education	No
Ethics & Conflict of Interest	No
Finance	No
Global Engagement	No
Government Affairs	No
Journals & Publications	No
ACR-ARP Membership & Awards	Yes
ACR Nominations & Appointments	No
Pediatric Rheumatology	No
Quality of Care	No
Registries & Health Information Technology	No
ACR-ARP Research	Yes
Rheumatologic Care	No
RheumPAC	No
Training	No
Workforce Solutions	No
ARP Executive Committee	No
ARP eLearning	No
ARP Nominations & Appointments	No
ARP Practice	No