

American College of Rheumatology Volunteer Eligibility

Per the ACR bylaws, the following categories of members cannot hold a position on an ACR Standing Committee:

- Emeritus Members
- Honorary 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. 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 and 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) for ACR members employed by commercial entities and insurance companies, please refer to the chart below.

Committees including subcommittees, task forces, and special projects	Commercial Entity	Insurance
ACR Board of Directors	Yes – but not eligible to become officer	Yes – but not eligible to become officer
ACR Executive Committee	No	No
Collaborative Initiatives Special Committee	No	No
Communications & Marketing	Yes	No
Corporate Relations	No	No
Division Directors Special Committee	No	No
Education	No	No
Ethics and Conflict of Interest	Yes	No

Finance	Yes	No
Government Affairs	No	No
Journal Publications	No	Yes
Nominations and Appointments	No	No
Pediatric Rheumatology Special Committee	Yes	No
Quality of Care	No	No
Registries and Health Information Technology	No	No
Research	Yes	No
Rheumatologic Care	No	No
Rheumatology Training and Workforce Issues	No	No
RheumPAC	No	No
ARP Executive Committee	No	No
ARP Membership & Nominations	No	No
ARP Practice	No	No