

How-To: SSHP Policy Chair Implementation

What is the Function of the SSHP Policy Chair?

The SSHP Policy chair function is to communicate health-system pharmacy-related issues to members, facilitate policy initiatives both within and outside the society, and coordinate legislative advocacy opportunities for students to guide decisions in health care and medicine. Student pharmacists can become active constituents in their respective states, driving positive change for the profession of pharmacy. By helping students voice their opinion on the value of pharmacy, policy chairs can guide decisions to change health care and medicine to better serve our patients.

Roles and Responsibilities of the SSHP Policy Chair

The role of an SSHP Policy Chair is to advocate for students to practice to the top of their license, both in school and through the transition process as they become new practitioners. This role includes:

- Explaining the common methods used in advocacy and its importance
- Strengthening knowledge of current legislation by communicating ASHP policy highlights and student advocacy opportunities
- Providing updates on local and national policies through chapter meetings and newsletters
- Collaborating with other student organizations to coordinate advocacy activities for your local chapter
- Facilitating opportunities to meet local political leaders

Questions to Address When Establishing

- Are there other groups that are focusing on policy-related activities (e.g. public health, student government) within the pharmacy, medical, or nursing schools?
- Do you have the capacity to support policy initiatives? When is it appropriate to partner with other organizations/groups?
- Which individuals have proven success in policy-related work or enthusiasm about and advocacy?

See **SSHP Advocacy Resources** document for event ideas, resources, and how to stay connected!
