



**POLICY ON PUBLIC STATEMENTS BY ACOG FOUNDATION
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEMBERS**

This statement must be signed and acknowledged by all ACOG Foundation Board of Directors members (hereinafter referred to as “Director” or “Directors”). This statement is not intended to govern debate within internal ACOG Foundation leadership meetings, nor to inhibit educational or academic discussions.

ACOG Foundation supports charitable, educational and scientific programs and activities that further the interests of the members of the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists (“ACOG”) and their colleagues to improve the lives of all people seeking obstetric and gynecologic care, their families and communities.

ACOG Foundation Directors may be called upon to publicly provide advice and guidance on women’s healthcare policy and practice. While ACOG Foundation recognizes that some women’s healthcare issues are the subject of controversy in the public and political arena, the public expressions and statements made by ACOG Foundation Directors - or any statement that could be construed as a public statement even if made outside of the official capacity as an ACOG Foundation Director , including statements on social media, in meetings with stakeholders, and in public forums – must be uniformly consistent with established ACOG Foundation and ACOG policies and clinical guidance, regardless of personal belief.

Upon accepting a position as an ACOG Foundation Director or seeking to be considered for such a position, it is critical to understand that Directors must present statements consistent with ACOG Foundation and ACOG policy when providing comment to or answering inquiries from any public source. Even when Directors make public statements outside of their official capacity as an ACOG Foundation Director, their position is often recognized and their comments interpreted to represent an official ACOG Foundation or ACOG position. Resources are available to all Directors or those seeking nomination to confirm relevant policy when needed.

While it is not the intention of ACOG Foundation to impede the freedom of opinion or speech by its Directors, in those circumstances where the Director’s or nominee’s personal opinion differs from ACOG Foundation or ACOG policy and the Director or nominee is not comfortable advocating for or speaking about ACOG Foundation’s or ACOG’s policy, the individual can refer those asking for information to another ACOG Foundation Director or representative of ACOG Foundation. Further, in no case should a Director or nominee whose personal view conflicts with ACOG Foundation or ACOG guidance, policy, or position undermine ACOG Foundation or ACOG’s position publicly or provide conflicting information.

Directors and nominees should use their reasonable efforts in complying with the spirit of this policy. If a Director or nominee has questions about whether certain public statements or conduct would be prohibited by this policy, they are encouraged to seek advice and counsel from ACOG Foundation’s Board of Directors.

I, (print name) acknowledge and agree to this policy, which is effective immediately and continues through the duration of my Director position(s)

Signature:

Date:

Approved by the ACOG Foundation Board of Directors: April 2023