



*The Council of Pediatric Subspecialties advances child health through communication and collaboration within its network of pediatric subspecialties and liaison organizations.*

**CoPS Activities**  
**2012-2013 Academic Year**

- In August 2012, CoPS published a paper in *Pediatrics* entitled Council of Pediatric Subspecialties (CoPS): The First Five Years. This article summarized CoPS' accomplishments over its first five years of existence and is available at <http://pediatrics.aappublications.org/content/130/2/335.full.pdf+html>
- CoPS has made significant progress in encouraging the pediatric subspecialties to utilize a match for fellow selection. In 2006, only 6 out of the original 20 subspecialties represented by CoPS used a match but now, 18 of these 20 currently do so. This has greatly simplified the application process and improved the manner in which trainees are selected. CoPS' efforts are now focused on the timing of the match and the coordination of dates. CoPS highly supports a single match date in the fall for all pediatric subspecialties and is working toward that goal.
- CoPS actively participated in the American Board of Pediatrics (ABP) Subspecialty Clinical Training and Certification (SCTC) Initiative by disseminating the ABP Task Force recommendations using several modalities, including presentations at the AAP NCE, APPD Fall Meeting and PAS. CoPS also obtained feedback about the proposal, summarized the information and presented it to the Task Force. CoPS will be circulating the final recommendations once they are reviewed by the ABP Board of Directors.
- In conjunction with the Academic Pediatric Association (APA), Association of Pediatric Program Directors (APPD) and Council on Medical Student Education in Pediatrics (COMSEP), CoPS is a co-sponsor of the Pediatric Educational Excellence Across the Continuum (PEEAC) conference to be held October 4 and 5, 2013 in Arlington, VA. Members of CoPS have been busy serving on various planning committees for this meeting. For more information visit [www.peeac.org](http://www.peeac.org).
- CoPS cosigned three important letters this past year. One was to Vice-President Biden in response to the Newtown, CT shooting that outlined steps to curtail gun violence. The others letters were sent to the Office of Management and Budget advocating for funding the Pediatric Subspecialty Loan Repayment Program and to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations urging continued support of the Children's Hospitals Graduate Medical Education program.
- The ACGME recently issued proposed changes to the Common Program Requirements specifying the composition and responsibilities of the Clinical Competency and Program Evaluation Committees. CoPS disseminated this information to all Fellowship Program

Directors to make sure they were aware of the proposal and solicited feedback. CoPS then submitted an organizational response to the ACGME (available at [http://www.pedsubs.org/issues/pdfs/CoPSresponse\\_to\\_Common\\_Program\\_Requirements\\_5\\_14\\_13.pdf](http://www.pedsubs.org/issues/pdfs/CoPSresponse_to_Common_Program_Requirements_5_14_13.pdf)).

- A new CoPS initiative is to examine how residents can be better prepared as they transition to fellowship. This issue arose because many Fellowship Program Directors have concerns about the readiness of resident trainees entering pediatric subspecialty training programs. In addition, changes to the ACGME requirements allow the resident curriculum to be tailored to the career plans of the trainee. In collaboration with APPD, this Action Team is surveying recent graduates, fellows and fellowship and residency program directors and has received over 1300 responses. This “needs assessment” will be used to suggest a curriculum that residency program directors may wish to utilize.
- The ABP Foundation supported a meeting in March 2013 to begin the process of developing the Entrustable Professional Activities (EPAs) for the subspecialties. CoPS worked with the ABP to identify key individuals from each subspecialty for this invitational conference.
- This past year, CoPS began monitoring activity of the Subspecialty Descriptions section of its website. From August 1, 2011 through July 31, 2012, there were nearly 34,000 page views, averaging 93 views per day. At the CoPS annual meeting in October, subspecialties were provided page view data about their individual description.
- CoPS is an active participant of the Federation of Pediatric Organizations (FOPO) Pediatric Training Along the Continuum Workgroup. This group is examining the future needs of Pediatric training along the continuum from medical school through graduate medical education and professional development after graduation.
- CoPS presented posters at both the 2013 APPD/COMSEP meeting in Nashville and the 2013 Pediatric Academic Societies meeting in Washington, DC describing the opinions and management strategies of pediatric residency and fellowship directors about the fellowship start date.
- CoPS was an invited participant at the Joint Chief Executive Officer – Pediatric Chair Session at the 2013 Pediatric Academic Societies meeting. The session was entitled “The Pediatric Subspecialty Workforce: How Many Subspecialists Do We Have, How Many Do We Need, And How Will We Match the Supply to the Demand.” The CoPS presentation focused on “Issues of Training Pediatric Subspecialists for the Future Workforce.”
- Attendance at the CoPS fall and spring meetings continues to be excellent. The spring meeting concentrated on educating the CoPS representatives about EPAs.



**Planned Activities**  
**2013-2014 Academic Year**

- Continue to encourage the Pediatric Subspecialties to move their match date to a common date in the fall.
- Disseminate information from the ABP Subspecialty Clinical Training and Certification (SCTC) Initiative as it becomes available.
- Make medical students and residents more aware of the CoPS Subspecialty Descriptions as they consider a pediatric subspecialty career.
- Continue to work with the ABP to provide information about subspecialty EPAs as they are developed and assist in their implementation. As a first step, CoPS will post information about EPAs on its website.
- Disseminate information about changes to the ACGME Pediatric Subspecialty Program Requirements when they become available.
- Continue efforts to update the CoPS website.
- Analyze the data collected regarding fellowship readiness and propose a potential curriculum for residents pursuing subspecialty training.
- Lead sessions in the Pediatric Educational Excellence Across the Continuum (PEEAC) conference to be held October 4 and 5, 2013.
- Develop a strategy for adjusting the start date of fellowship training as trainees transition from residency to fellowship.
- The CoPS Annual Fall meeting will be held on October 17-18, 2013 in Chicago.