



AMERICAN
COLLEGE of
CARDIOLOGY®

Welcome to ACC

LEADERSHIP 2025

Your ACC leadership contribution is valued and more important than ever. Use this document as an overview and reference guide to help you navigate your role.

Inside you will find details around the ACC's strategy and governance structure, important links, contact information and more.



The American College of Cardiology (ACC) is the global leader in transforming cardiovascular care and improving heart health for all. As the preeminent source of professional medical education for the entire cardiovascular care team since 1949, ACC credentials cardiovascular professionals in over 140 countries who meet stringent qualifications and leads in the formation of health policy, standards and guidelines. Through its world-renowned family of JACC Journals, NCDR registries, ACC Accreditation Services, global network of Member Sections, CardioSmart patient resources and more, the College is committed to ensuring a world where science, knowledge and innovation optimize patient care and outcomes.

WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO BE AN ACC LEADER?

As leaders in the College, you play a principal role in making our shared Vision a reality. It starts with understanding the ACC Strategic Plan, then ensuring that priorities and goals for your committee align with the overall ACC Mission.



STRATEGIC PILLARS



MAJOR INITIATIVES (2024-2028)

- Health Equity
- Educational Assessment
- Continuous CV Clinical Competence
- Guidance at the Point of Care
- Care Transformation

More details are available on [ACC.org/StrategicPlan](https://www.acc.org/StrategicPlan)

UNDERSTANDING ACC GOVERNANCE

The ACC governance structure and processes are based on a set of 12 principles approved by the Board of Trustees (BOT) to ensure the College is nimble, strategic, accountable and inclusive of the diverse needs of the global cardiovascular community.

The College is governed by a small, centralized BOT that is strategically focused on the ACC's Mission to transform cardiovascular care and improve heart health for all. The BOT is supported by eight standing committees, with additional committees and councils reporting up to these standing committees and responsible for tactical and operational decision-making related to College programs, policies and products.

ACC/ACCF GOVERNANCE PRINCIPLES

I. GOVERNANCE FUNCTION

1. The Board is strategically oriented to support the Mission of the College.
2. The Board is the ultimate authority of the College.
3. Governance focus is on strategy and policy, and not on tactical, operational, implementation or management issues.
4. Governance shall operate on the principle of centralized authority and decentralized decision-making.
5. The Board must ensure it is aware of the needs and challenges of all of the members of the College as it relates to the Mission. It must have multiple mechanisms and avenues for membership voices to be heard at the Board level.

II. GOVERNANCE STRUCTURE

6. Board structure engenders and supports optimum governance function and efficiency. Therefore, Board size and other structural components shall be consistent with best practice evidence and thinking.
7. The Board establishes and maintains appropriate committees that have clearly defined roles, functions, authority and accountability, and the Board appoints the members of these committees, based on the recommendations from the Nominating Committee.
8. A majority of the members of the Board shall be members of the College.
9. The Board shall seek diversity in its membership including but not limited to: expertise; experience; gender; race; geographic location; practice type; and age.
10. There shall be a competency-based selection model for composition of the Board and all committees of the College. These competencies include subject matter expertise, leadership, technical and diversity competencies.
11. Board members shall not concurrently serve as chairs or members of non-standing committees of the College except as otherwise permitted in the Bylaws.
12. The Governance Committee shall facilitate an evaluation of Board performance and provide feedback regarding overall function and adherence to governance principles and practice.

NAVIGATING ACC: CENTRALIZED AUTHORITY AND DECENTRALIZED DECISION-MAKING

In order to effectively support and implement governance best practices under the ACC/ACCF Governance Principles, the College has developed an Authority Matrix to illustrate how centralized authority and decentralized decision-making is operationalized. The matrix describes and clarifies roles and participation expectations through the use of the RACI Model and illustrates the responsibilities of each body of the College, along with who should be empowered to make decisions, while ensuring there is proper oversight over the ACC.

While reviewing the matrix, please note that it is not intended to be a communications matrix. While there are widespread and bi-directional channels of communications for all member constituents, some columns remain empty because authoritative actions are not required. Although this Authority Matrix provides for decentralized decision-making, the BOT retains the ability to overturn or modify actions approved pursuant to the Authority Matrix as required to comply with applicable law, the mission and purposes of ACC, or where the BOT otherwise reasonably determines such action is necessary.

Scan the QR code to access the Authority Matrix.



ACC LEADERSHIP AND MEMBER-LED GROUPS EIGHT STANDING COMMITTEES:

- Audit and Compliance
- Executive
- Finance
- Governance
- Innovation
- Membership
- Nominating
- Philanthropic Fundraising

TWELVE MAJOR OPERATING COMMITTEES:

- Accreditation Oversight
- Assembly of International Governors
- Board of Governors
- Digital Transformation
- Diversity and Inclusion
- Health Affairs
- Health Equity
- Lifelong Learning Oversight
- NCDR Oversight
- Scientific Publications
- Science and Quality
- Section Leadership

ACC/ACCF DEFINITIONS

While reviewing the Authority Matrix as it currently stands, please note the following working definitions regarding columns within the matrix:

Approve: Initiate, review and either adopt, amend, disapprove or send back for further consideration

Recommend: May initiate action for consideration or a decision

Consult: Must be sought for advice or information before a decision; others might be sought for advice or information

Inform: Must be informed of action after a decision and before distribution

LEADERSHIP COMPETENCIES: SERVING AS AN ACC LEADER



23 Member Sections
48 Domestic Chapters,
including Puerto Rico
43 International Chapters
...and more!

Learn more at
[ACC.org/About-ACC/Leadership](https://acc.org/About-ACC/Leadership)

FIDUCIARY DUTIES AND CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Members owe fiduciary duties of care, loyalty and obedience to the College. Member volunteer leaders have an obligation to put the interests of the College ahead of their personal and/or professional interests when making decisions on behalf of the College.

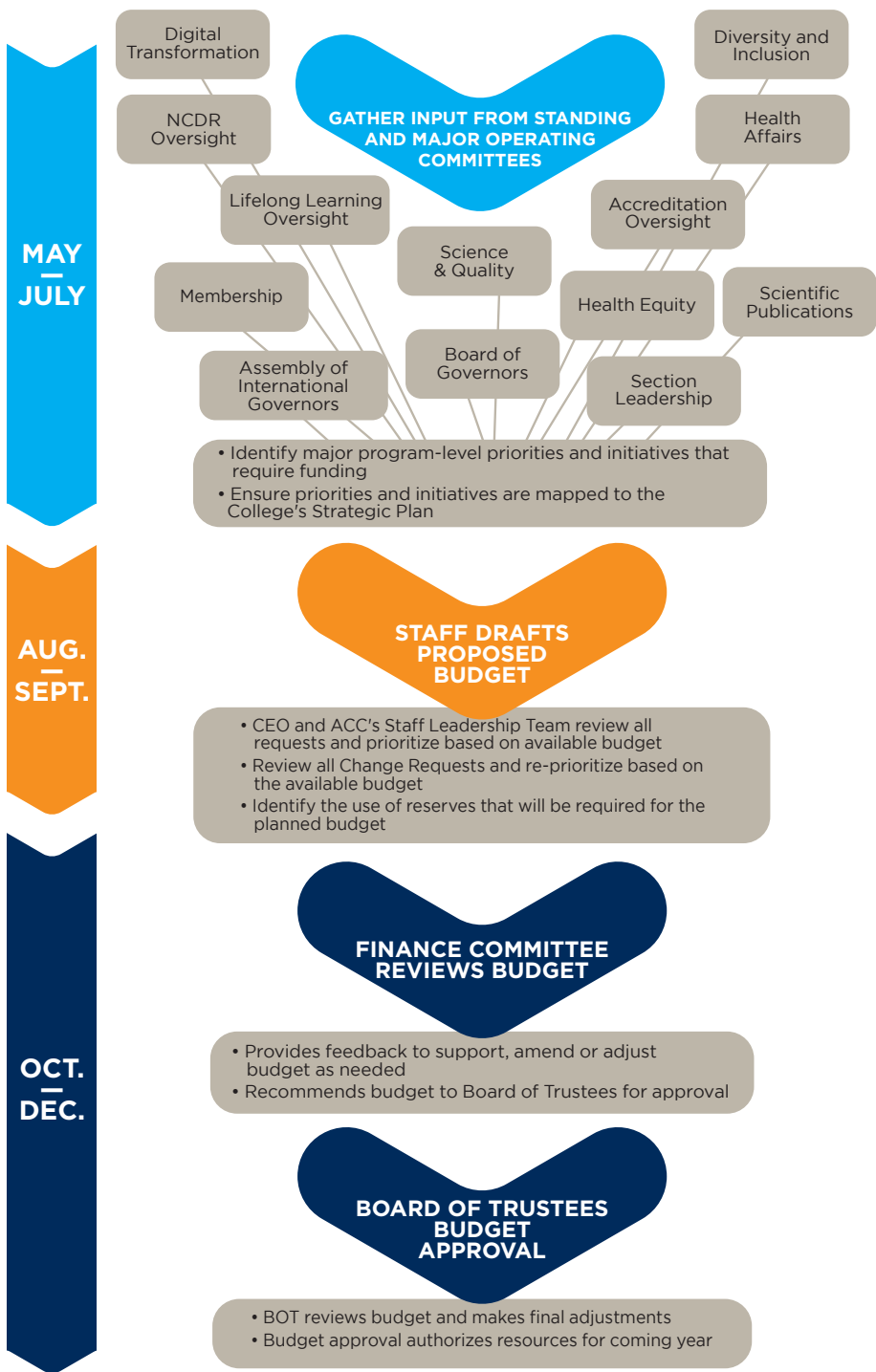
In order to fulfill this duty and comply with applicable law, volunteer leaders must disclose all financial, personal, volunteer and professional interests and relationships (including those of spouses, other immediate family members and/or business partners) on an annual basis and as such conflicts arise, in accordance with the College's Conflict of Interest Policy.

In the event that an existing interest or relationship of a volunteer leader will prevent that individual from acting impartially and in the best interests of the College, the individual should recuse him or herself from any deliberation or decision-making with respect to the matter with which the individual has a potential conflict, and the matter should be determined in good faith by vote of the disinterested volunteer leaders.



Scan the QR code to
access the Conflict of
Interest Policy.

THE ACC BUDGET PROCESS



ACC ANNUAL REPORT

Each year, the ACC Annual Report provides a snapshot of the College's revenue and expenses and highlights the many ways the ACC community is rising to the challenges of today, building community, empowering the next generation of leaders and harnessing innovation to transform the future of cardiovascular care. Download the current report at [ACC.org/AnnualReport](https://www.acc.org/AnnualReport).

HOW ARE ACC'S GOVERNING BODIES DEFINED?

COMMITTEES

Committees address the ongoing work of the College at the request of the BOT.

WORK GROUPS

Work groups report to committees or councils to work on focused projects initiated by that committee or council.

SECTION

A section is made up of members who actively align themselves around an area of clinical or professional interest. Each Section is represented by the overarching Section Leadership Council.

BOG/AIG

The Board of Governors (BOG) and Assembly of International Governors (AIG) are the leadership bodies for ACC's domestic and global Chapters. They serve as the eyes and ears in states and countries around the world.

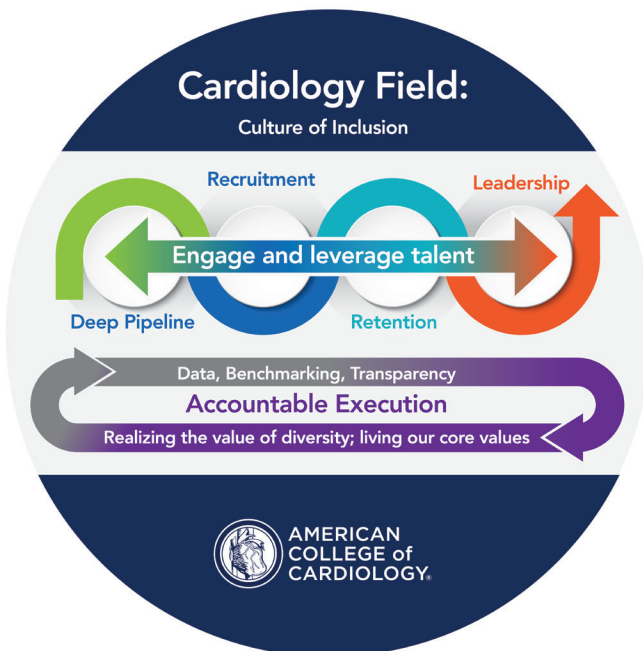
SECTION LEADERSHIP COUNCILS

Each member section is governed by a Section Leadership Council.

BOT TASK FORCES

Task Forces are established by the BOT to address time-specific needs of the College.

ACC'S COMMITMENT TO INCREASING DIVERSITY & INCLUSION IN THE CV WORKFORCE



RESOURCES FOR ACC LEADERS

The resources below will help you navigate your role. You will receive additional details and documents to assist with your specific leadership role and responsibilities. Please contact your staff liaison with any questions regarding your leadership position.

GENERAL QUESTIONS OR LOG-IN INFORMATION

ACC Member Care

Phone: 800-253-4636
or 202-375-6000

E-mail: membercare@acc.org

Fax: 202-375-6842

WHAT TOP ACC COMMUNICATIONS SHOULD I LOOK OUT FOR?

ACC.org: Provides clinical topic collections and member section pages to tailor news to your interests or specialty

ACC Update: Weekly Friday newsletter to all ACC members

ACC Advocate: Weekly Thursday email highlighting major advocacy news and updates

CV News Digest: Daily e-mail for members with research news, clinical updates, health policy and practice management news

Leadership Alert: Ad hoc email from the ACC Communications Team

Cardiology: The College's monthly member magazine that is mailed to all U.S. members and available online at ACC.org/Cardiology

Social Media: Follow official ACC accounts and access the ACC Hashtag Guide.



Disclosures: Disclosures.ACC.org

(Note: As a member leader, the completion of your timely and accurate disclosures is essential to maintaining ACC's commitment to balance, independence, objectivity, and scientific rigor for all activities.)

Manage Newsletter Preferences:

ACC.org/My-ACC/My-Privacy-and-Notifications

ACC QUICK LINKS:

Renew Your Membership:

ACC.org/Renew

Member Leadership Development Hub:

ACC.org/s/my-privacy-setting

BOG Portal:

ACC.org/BOGPortal

Bylaws and Other Governing Policies:

ACC.org/About-ACC/Our-Bylaws-and-Code-of-Ethics

About ACC: ACC.org/About

JACC Journals: JACC.org

ACC Clinical Guidelines and Guidance:

ACC.org/Guidelines

Diversity, Inclusion and Health Equity

Resources: ACC.org/Diversity

Clinician Well-Being Resources:

ACC.org/ClinicianWellBeing

Support the ACC Foundation:

ACC.org/Support

Chapters: ACC.org/Membership/Chapters

ACC Education (i.e. CMP, SAPs, CCKE, Live Programs): ACC.org/Education

ACC Advocacy: ACC.org/Advocacy

Apps and Mobile: ACC.org/Apps

CardioSmart: CardioSmart.org

NCDR and ACC Accreditation Services:

CVQuality.ACC.org

ACC Global Hub: ACC.org/GlobalHub