

SIG chairs quarterly—Winter 2019

Welcome to winter! Seems like most areas that enjoy the snow have plenty to enjoy.

1. With the new calendar year, comes the APA's new fiscal year. Due to all your hard work spending your SIG funds in creative ways your request for increased SIG funding was approved for 2019. **Each SIG has \$500 in 2019**, up from \$300 in years prior. Please remember that the funds must be spent before December 31, 2019, or they will be lost. You can spend them on PAS 2019, or pre-pay expenses for PAS 2020. Please consult the [SIG chair handbook](#) for further guidance on SIG finances.
2. Please be aware of SIG chair terms that end at PAS 2019. For those SIGs where it is possible, it is preferable if a new co-chair can be named before PAS so he/she can be invited to the orientation and lunch. I also realize many of you use the in-person gathering to solicit interest in serving as a new SIG chair. If you choose one before Monday at lunch, please be sure to invite the new chair to the SIG orientation at 11 and the lunch at 11:30 on Monday. Laura Turner (laurat@academicpeds.org) keeps a roster of term lengths, if you have any questions.
3. If you have not done so already, please use [the link](#) to update your APA webpage. Most SIGs feature their upcoming PAS programming, but all updates are welcome.
4. We continue to invite feedback on the SIG program submission process. Email Laura Turner at laurat@academicpeds.org with any feedback from this past year.
5. APA SIGs do such great things, that I presented at the PAS Operating committee about them. Other societies that attend PAS have started to emulate you, and now have an increasing number of SIGs.
6. The downside is that the increasing number of SIGs from all the societies means we are in competition for space. For 2020 planning, there will be a stronger request to look into combined programming—especially for those SIGs that are running standalone programs in 2019. As we meet in the same time/space as workshops, more SIG programs mean fewer accepted workshops. We will discuss approaches to this at the SIG chairs luncheon.

As always, please feel free to reply to our listserv, or reach out to me individually with any concerns.

Sincerely,
Alison Volpe Holmes, MD, MPH
APA Chair of Regions and SIGs
Vice-chair for Education, Department of Pediatrics
Associate Professor of Pediatrics and of The Dartmouth Institute
Geisel School of Medicine at Dartmouth
Children's Hospital at Dartmouth-Hitchcock