STUDENT FEES POLICY

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Policy Preamble:

The Student Medical Society of Saskatchewan (SMSS) is committed to fostering a vibrant, inclusive, and supportive community for all medical students. Our society thrives on our members' active participation and engagement, which is made possible through the contributions and support of all students who pay their membership fees. These fees are essential for funding diverse events, activities, and resources that benefit the entire medical student body.

In recognition of the importance of financial contributions to the sustainability and quality of our offerings and to ensure fairness and equity among our members, it is imperative to establish guidelines regarding the participation of members in society-organized events and activities. This policy outlines the restrictions on the involvement of those who have not fulfilled their membership fee obligations, thereby ensuring that the privileges and benefits of SMSS membership are reserved for those who contribute to its upkeep.

Policy on Membership Fee Obligations and Event Participation

I: Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to define the guidelines and restrictions regarding the participation of members in events and activities organized and hosted by the Student Medical Society of Saskatchewan (SMSS) who have not paid their membership fees.

II: Scope

This policy applies to all current and prospective members of the SMSS.

III: Policy Statement

3.1 Membership Fee Requirement

3.1.1 All members of the SMSS must pay their membership fees in full to enjoy the privileges and benefits of membership, including participation in society-organized events and activities.

3.2 Use of Membership Fees

3.2.1 The use of Membership fees will be used in accordance with the SMSS Constitution and Package Policy Documents

3.2.2 The SMSS Executive will use the Membership fees to pay registration fees for the Canadian Federation of Medical Students (CFMS) and the Medical Student Association of the West (MSAW) on behalf of its members, using a one-time payment per student for the entirety of their SMSS Membership period.

3.2.2.1 SMSS Members will be responsible for registering themselves with the CFMS and MSAW following the payment of their SMSS Membership Fees.

3.2.2.2 CFMS and MSAW membership fees will be documented by the VP of Finance and included in the financial reports.

3.3. Restriction on Participation

3.3.1 Members who have not paid their membership fees in full will be restricted from participating in any events and activities organized and hosted by the SMSS. This includes but is not limited to, workshops, seminars, social events, and any other society-sponsored activities.

3.3. Verification of Payment

3.3.1 Verification of membership fee payment will be conducted prior to allowing members to register for or attend any SMSS events and activities. Members may be required to present proof of payment.

3.4. Communication

3.4.1 Members will be notified of their fee status and any restrictions on their participation in a timely manner. The SMSS will provide clear communication regarding the deadlines and methods for fee payment.

3.5. Exceptions and Appeals

3.4.2 In exceptional circumstances, members may apply for a temporary exemption from this policy due to financial hardship or other valid reasons. Such applications will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis by the SMSS Executive Committee.

3.4.3 Members who wish to appeal a decision related to their participation restrictions may do so by submitting a written appeal to the SMSS Executive Committee. The committee will review the appeal and provide a decision within a reasonable timeframe.

IV: Responsibilities

4.1. Members

3.1.1 Ensure timely payment of membership fees.

3.2.1 Present proof of payment when required.

3.3.1 Submit applications for exemptions or appeals if necessary.

4.2. SMSS Executive Committee

4.2.1 Maintain accurate records of membership fee payments.

4.2.2 Conduct verification of payment status.

4.2.3 Communicate with members regarding their fee status and participation eligibility.

4.2.4 Review and decide on exemption applications and appeals.

V: Enforcement

This policy will be enforced by the SMSS Executive Committee. Members found to be in violation of this policy will be denied access to society-organized events and activities until their membership fees are paid in full.

5.1. Professionalism Concerns

5.1.1 In the event that a student continues or attempts to participate in SMSS events and activities despite receiving fair notice of restrictions due to unpaid membership fees, the SMSS Executive Committee reserves the right to submit a Professionalism Concern Form to the Undergraduate Medical Education (UGME) office.

5.1.2 This policy will be enforced by the SMSS Executive Committee. Members found to be in violation of this policy will be denied access to society-organized events and activities until their membership fees are paid in full.

VI: Review

The SMSS Executive Committee will review this policy annually to ensure its effectiveness and relevance annually and as needed.