

# 2026



**MICHIGAN COLLEGE OF  
EMERGENCY PHYSICIANS**



# LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

This program, developed by the Michigan College of Emergency Physicians, will combine elements of mentoring, networking, organizational education, advocacy skills training, and professional experiences.

Participants will be carefully selected for the 2026 program year. The Leadership Development Task Force will review each application received by the November 15, 2025 deadline.

Enclosed is a program overview and an application form to be completed by the applicant. We are looking for individuals who have demonstrated a commitment to emergency medicine and who wish to explore their leadership potential.

**Michigan College of Emergency Physicians (MCEP)  
2026 Leadership Development Program**

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**OVERVIEW**

The purpose of the Leadership Development Program (LDP) is to develop future leaders in Emergency Medicine.

**PROGRAM DIRECTORS**

Luke Saski, MD, FACEP

Larisa Traill, MD, FACEP

**PROGRAM FACULTY**

Sara Chakel, MD, FACEP

Michael Gratson, MD, MHSA, FACEP

Robert Malinowski, MD, FACEP

Emily Mills, MD, FACEP

Brad Uren, MD, FACEP

**PROGRAM GOALS**

- a) Identify individuals with the potential to become leaders in Emergency Medicine;
- b) Provide opportunities for foundational leadership skill development;
- c) Promote Emergency Medicine advocacy at the state and national level; and
- d) Support program graduates' growth to leadership positions both locally and nationally.

**ELIGIBILITY GUIDELINES**

- a) Candidates must be a current member in good standing of MCEP;
- b) Candidates must have a minimum of three years membership in ACEP or EMRA;
- c) Candidates must agree to participate in **ALL** LDP activities as noted in the program brochure (i.e., attend all designated events, etc.); and
- d) Candidates must agree to cover travel costs. Some LDP expenses will be shared by MCEP (see "Cost Sharing" information below).
- e) Program participants are expected to donate to NEMPAC and the Emergency Medicine Foundation (EMF).

**PARTICIPANT SELECTION**

- a) The LDP directors will review all applications submitted by November 15, 2025.
- b) Selected participants will be notified by Monday, December 1<sup>st</sup>.
- c) Nominees not selected for the 2026 class may re-apply but will automatically be considered for the next class.

**PROGRAM OUTLINE (Dates and Speakers Tentative)**

*The 2026 Leadership Development Program participants will attend the following sessions:*

***Attendance policy:*** Attendance at ALL activities, except optional sessions one and twelve, are mandatory unless prior approval obtained from the program directors. Any participant missing more than 2 sessions, or missing either ACEP LAC or the ACEP Council Meeting, without prior approval will be asked to defer program participation to the following year.

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**Session One:** January 29 – February 1, 2026 (optional/recommended) Luke Saski, MD, FACEP  
**Midwest Winter Symposium** Larisa Traill, MD, FACEP  
Mountain Grand Lodge, Boyne Falls, MI

**Leadership Principle:                      Getting Involved**

Participation in the MCEP Midwest Winter Symposium educational activities and exhibits as well as the MCEP Board of Directors Meeting.

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**Session Two:** March 4, 2026  
**MCEP Committee & Board Meetings**  
MCEP Headquarters, Lansing, MI

Welcome Robert Malinowski, MD, FACEP  
Luke Saski, MD, FACEP

Orientation/Introductions Luke Saski, MD, FACEP  
Tour of MCEP Headquarters Larisa Traill, MD, FACEP  
History of MCEP Robert T. Malinowski, MD, FACEP  
Past Chair, MCEP LDP

**Leadership Principle:                      Preparation**

Participate in MCEP Board of Directors and Committee Meetings. Luke Saski, MD, FACEP  
Larisa Traill, MD, FACEP

**Leadership Principle:                      Team Building**

A briefing on several key health care organizations Brad Uren, MD, FACEP  
Michigan State Medical Society MSMS Staff TBD  
Participate in MCEP Board of Directors Meeting

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**Session Three:** March TBD, 2026 Sara Chakel, MD, FACEP  
**Virtual Legislative Meeting Call** Luke Saski, MD, FACEP  
Virtual Zoom Meeting Larisa Traill, MD, FACEP  
Brad Uren, MD, FACEP

**Leadership Principle:                      Introduction to Advocacy**

Preparation for the ACEP Leadership and Advocacy Conference (LAC).  
Preparation for meeting with national legislators, including leading discussions and following-up

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**Session Four:** April 26 – 28, 2026 Luke Saski, MD, FACEP  
**ACEP Leadership & Advocacy Conference** Larisa Traill, MD, FACEP  
Washington, DC Brad Uren, MD, FACEP  
Sara Chakel, MD, FACEP

**Leadership Principle:                      National Advocacy**

Participation in ACEP LAC educational programming and meeting with legislators.  
Attend NEMPAC reception.

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**Session Five:** May 6, 2026  
**MCEP Committee & Board Meetings**  
MCEP Headquarters, Lansing, MI

Luke Saski, MD, FACEP  
Larisa Traill, MD, FACEP

**Leadership Principle:                      Participation**

Participate in MCEP Board of Directors and Committee Meetings.

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**Session Six:** May TBD, 2026  
**Legislative Day at the Capitol**  
Lansing, MI

Sara Chakel, MD, FACEP  
Luke Saski, MD, FACEP  
Larisa Traill, MD, FACEP  
Brad Uren, MD, FACEP

**Leadership Principle:                      Local Advocacy**

Tour the State Capitol and observe legislative hearings.  
Lunch with briefing on the state legislative process  
and meet with state legislators.

Bret Marr, MCEP Lobbyist  
Muchmore, Harrington,  
Smalley & Associates

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**Session Seven:** July 26 – 29, 2026  
**MCEP Scientific Assembly**  
Grand Hotel, Mackinac Island, MI

Luke Saski, MD, FACEP  
Larisa Traill, MD, FACEP

**Leadership Principle:                      Local Networking**

Participation in MCEP Scientific Assembly educational programming and exhibits  
Attend MCEP Annual Membership Meeting, including Board of Directors elections  
Attend the Board of Directors Meeting, including officer elections  
Attend the President's Awards Banquet, where participants will be recognized.

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**Session Eight:** September 2, 2026  
**MCEP Committee & Board Meetings**  
MCEP Headquarters, Lansing, MI

Luke Saski, MD, FACEP  
Larisa Traill, MD, FACEP

**Leadership Principle:                      Participation**

Participate in MCEP Board of Directors and Committee Meetings.

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**Session Nine:** September TBD, 2026  
**MCEP Councillor Meeting**  
MCEP Headquarters, Lansing, MI

Luke Saski, MD, FACEP  
Larisa Traill, MD, FACEP

**Leadership Principle:                      Preparation**

Prepare for the ACEP Council meeting and review all of the resolutions.

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**Session Ten:** October 3 – 4, 2026  
**ACEP Council Meeting**  
Chicago, IL

Emily Mills, MD, FACEP  
Luke Saski, MD, FACEP  
Larisa Traill, MD, FACEP

**Leadership Principle:                      National Networking**

Attend the MCEP Councillor Pre-Council Preparation Meeting (September TBD, 2026 - Lansing)  
Attend ACEP New Councillor Orientation (Chicago)

Participate as an MCEP Alternate Councillor at the ACEP Council Meeting  
Attend NEMPAC and EMF Receptions  
Optional participation in ACEP Committee Meetings

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**Session Eleven:** December 2, 2026

**MCEP Committee & Board Meetings & ABEM Site Visit**  
East Lansing, MI

Luke Saski, MD, FACEP  
Larisa Trull, MD, FACEP

**Leadership Principle:** **Professionalism & Staying Involved**

Introduction & History of ABEM with ABEM Headquarters Tour

Melissa Barton, MD, FACEP  
Executive Director,  
Professional and Clinical Affairs

Following the ABEM Site Visit you will proceed to MCEP Headquarters for a Committee Meeting, Lunch and Board of Directors Meeting.

### **Program Graduation and Evaluation**

Provide program feedback.  
Formal recognition of Leadership Development Program participants.

Program graduates are encouraged to continue participation on either an MCEP or ACEP Committee.  
Program graduates are also encouraged to run for the MCEP Board of Directors.

Program directors will assist participants with MCEP and ACEP Committee appointments, as well as guidance throughout the MCEP election process.

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**Session Twelve:** December TBD, 2026 (optional)

**MCEP Straight Talk Conference**  
Virtual Meeting

Michael Gratson, MD, MPH, FACEP

**Leadership Principle:** **Reimbursement**

Participate in the MCEP "Straight Talk" Conference which reviews annual updates on coding, documentation, and reimbursement

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### **COST SHARING**

#### ***Attendee is responsible for:***

Travel to/from all meetings, including Washington, DC and Chicago; hotel and all fees associated with attendance at the ACEP Leadership & Advocacy Conference (April 2026) and ACEP Council Meeting/Scientific Assembly (October 2026).

#### ***MCEP is responsible for:***

Registration fees for MCEP Winter Symposium, MCEP Scientific Assembly, MCEP Straight Talk Conference, Legislative Day at the Capitol; speakers and program materials; social events (i.e. receptions and selected dinners).

***Cost estimates are available on request.***

**Michigan College of Emergency Physicians  
LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM  
NOMINATION FORM**

Instructions: Please print legibly or type the information requested. Attach additional sheet(s) if necessary.

**Nominee Profile**

Name of Nominee: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Hospital/Physician Group Affiliation: \_\_\_\_\_

**Description of Practice:**

Number of years as a member of ACEP/EMRA \_\_\_\_\_

**Please list the state or national activities in which you have participated (leadership positions, committees, etc.):**

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Please list any past or present leadership positions in organized medicine:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Please list your membership in other medical associations:**

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**Please describe your interest in the Leadership Development Program, including why you should be selected to participate:**

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**Please describe how your participation in the Leadership Development Program might benefit your employer, hospital, or academic program, and/or the specialty at the state or national level:**

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If selected, I agree to participate in **all** designated elements of the Leadership Development Program. I understand that **more than two unapproved** absences from required activities may result in dismissal from the program.

**Signature of Nominee** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date** \_\_\_\_\_

Please include your CV and any supplementary material you would like the Task Force to review concerning this nomination.

*Please return completed nomination form by November 15, 2025, to:*

**Email: [mcep@mcep.org](mailto:mcep@mcep.org)**  
**Attn: Christy K. Snitgen**  
**Executive Director**  
**Michigan College of Emergency Physicians**  
**6647 West St. Joseph Highway**  
**Lansing, Michigan 48917**