



The Obesity Society Fact Sheet

- ★ The Obesity Society is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) scientific and educational organization dedicated to expanding research, prevention, and treatment of obesity and reduction in stigma and discrimination affecting persons with obesity. See www.obesity.org/about/ for more information.
- ★ The society has approximately 2,500 members. About 40% are PhDs, 30% MDs and 7% RDs. Physician specialties include endocrinology, internal medicine, psychology, psychiatry, pediatrics bariatric surgery and family practice. Members work in universities, hospitals, individual or group practice, medical school, government, and other fields.
- ★ The society publishes the preeminent peer-reviewed journal, *Obesity*. The journal is published and marketed by Nature Publishing Group. Editorial is managed through our in-house Managing Editor's office under the guidance of the Editor in Chief and the Publications Board. The 2008 impact factor for the journal was 2.762.
- ★ The society conducts the most comprehensive annual scientific meeting on obesity in North America, attracting over 2,000 registrants each year. The meeting follows a track-based format, including: Molecular Mechanisms of Obesity, Neuroscience and Integrative Biology of Obesity, Clinical Studies, Population Studies, and Clinical/Professional Practice. Members participate in several sections including: Clinical Management, Bariatric Surgery, Pediatrics, Prader-Willi Syndrome, Epidemiology, Health Services Research, Latin American Affairs, Diversity and Obesity & Cancer.
- ★ The society conducts several educational programs for general use as well as CME credit for the annual scientific meeting. Other meetings include those offered by a subgroup of The Obesity Society, the Centers for Obesity Research and Education (CORE). In addition, educational offerings can be found through the Live Learning Center (LLC) which hosts recorded sessions from our annual meetings online.
- ★ The society also engages in advocacy efforts to promote greater research on obesity, to reduce discrimination against persons with obesity and to support reimbursement for treatment of obesity. In October of 2009, the Advocacy Task Force held a public forum designed to build awareness of the need for a sound obesity policy for successful health reform.
- ★ The society's Awards program recognizes significant achievements in the obesity field each year. The society also established a successful New Investigator Research Grant program, providing recipients, in a competitive process, with grants of twenty-five thousand dollars each. Another program also provides travel grants to abstract submitters on a competitive basis each year.