

YOUR HYPAC QUESTIONS ANSWERED:

Q. What is HYPAC?

A. The Hygienists' Political Action Committee (HYPAC) is a group of dental hygienists and citizens that contribute to the campaigns of candidates for state legislative offices that support the oral health care of the patients that dental hygienists serve.

Q. How does HYPAC benefit me?

A. HYPAC is the **only** state political action committee that represents the interests of the profession of dental hygiene, ensuring that candidates are aware of the role of the dental hygienist on the dental team and the impact the profession has on the delivery of care.

Q. Who oversees HYPAC?

A. The committee is comprised of a representative from each FDHA district who volunteers their time to participate, manage HYPAC's fundraising, and communication activities.

Q. How does the HYPAC committee determine which candidates receive contributions?

A. The HYPAC committee, with advice from the FDHA lobbyist, looks at a number of criteria when considering candidates for state office: policy positions, demonstrated leadership on issues of importance to FDHA, committee placement and dedication to improving access to oral health care. The committee is open to suggestions from FDHA members about candidates HYPAC may be interested in supporting.

Q. Does HYPAC support both Democrats and Republicans?

A. HYPAC is a bipartisan program, therefore does not favor one political party over another.

Q. What legislative actions have been influenced by HYPAC?

A. In 2011, the Access to Care legislation passed, which provides direct access to the preventive oral health services in health access settings by a registered dental hygienist without the supervision or pre-authorization of a dentist. In 2012, we were successful in passing the Local Anesthesia legislation that authorizes Florida dental hygienists to provide local anesthesia for our patients.

Donations to HYPAC are essential to fund the contributions to candidates supporting our goals. Every contribution, no matter the amount, counts in a big way! If each Registered Dental Hygienist in the state would give \$10 or more, this would make a huge impact. The citizens of Florida thank you for your support and commitment to increasing access to oral health care for everyone!