



**American Medical Student
Association/Foundation**

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Dear medical student:

The American Medical Student Association (AMSA) encourages you to complete the **Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, & Transgender Medical Education Assessment (LGBT-MEA)**, a survey tool developed by the Stanford University School of Medicine's LGBT Medical Education Research Group. AMSA believes that this tool is an important way to analyze the current state of medical education on lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT)-related health topics in Canada and the United States.

Research shows that LGBT communities experience multiple health disparities, including increased rates of substance abuse, victimization, and certain types of cancer. AMSA believes future physicians must learn to recognize and appropriately meet the needs of LGBT people and communities so that we can begin to eliminate these health disparities. To achieve this end, there must be comprehensive education on LGBT health built into medical school curricula. However, at this time, it is largely unknown to what extent these topics are covered in American medical schools.

The LGBT-MEA will assess the breadth, depth, and efficacy of medical education with respect to caring for LGBT people. This research will foster development of practical tools that medical schools can use to evaluate and improve their curricula. It will also help realize the Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC) recommendation that all schools "ensure that students master the knowledge, skills, and attitudes necessary to provide excellent, comprehensive care for GLBT patients" (AAMC Recommendations for GLBT Students and Patients, 2007).

The American Medical Student Association fully supports this survey, and **we encourage all medical school students from medical schools in Canada and the United States to participate in this study on medical education.**

For more information about AMSA, please visit www.amsa.org.

Questions and comments about the LGBT-MEA can be directed to the Stanford University School of Medicine LGBT Medical Education Research Group at lgbt@med.stanford.edu. You may visit their website at <http://med.stanford.edu/lgbt>.

Thank you for your participation in this important study.

Sincerely,

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