



2025-26
**ANNUAL
REPORT**

A Message From Our President: Dr. Najjia N. Mahmoud,

Dear ASCRS Members,

It is with deep gratitude that I thank the membership of the American Society of Colon and Rectal Surgeons for the extraordinary privilege and honor of serving as your President this past year. I am honored to share our remarkable achievements over the course of the year in our 2025-2026 Annual Report.

This year, we have made significant progress across multiple domains that are central to our mission and extended the efforts of prior years. We strengthened the foundation of our Society through the launch of a redesigned website, a new membership app, and an automated new member welcome campaign. We also saw remarkable success in our elevation campaign, with 201 Candidates advancing to full membership this year. In the realm of continuing education, we expanded our digital and curricular offerings through ASCRS Ustream, the development of a new Fundamentals of Rectal Cancer Curriculum, colon cancer-focused educational content, and the consolidation and establishment of the Cancer Committee. We saw continued success of the Career Course under the management of ASCRS as well.

We also made meaningful strides advancing our 125th Anniversary Campaign and identifying new opportunities for sustainable revenue generation to support the Society's long-term goals.

Our Affiliate Relationships expanded globally, with South Korea joining as a new Global Membership partner alongside Brazil, India and Singapore. We strengthened international collaboration through a fellow exchange program with the Japan Society of Coloproctology and convened discussions with leaders from many international colorectal societies to explore future partnerships.

Additional key accomplishments include the development of the 2026-2028 Strategic Plan, the selection of a new editor for Diseases of the Colon & Rectum, the launch of the preliminary phase of the Early Onset Colorectal Cancer Initiative, and collaboration with the American College of Surgeons on a colorectal surgery-specific workplace standard. You will hear much more about these efforts in the near future as we continue to work on plans to improve our lives as colorectal surgeons within the broader surgical community. In that spirit, I welcome Dr. Kirsten Wilkins as the next President and I am confident that her vision and dedication to the ongoing work and mission of our Society is steadfast and clear.

Of course, none of these achievements would have been possible without the extraordinary leadership and guidance of the Executive Council, the unwavering dedication of the ASCRS staff, and, most importantly, the continued support, engagement, and passion of our members. It is your commitment to excellence that drives this Society forward.

Thank you again for the honor of serving as your President.



Introduction

Our Vision

To be the premier and most inclusive colorectal society improving patient care through education, professional development, and innovation.

Our Mission

The American Society of Colon and Rectal Surgeons (ASCRS) is dedicated to advancing patient care for diverse populations through the understanding, prevention, and treatment of disorders of the colon, rectum, and anus.

Our Commitment

This report showcases how ASCRS has adapted and thrived by focusing on emerging technologies, fostering collaboration across disciplines, and addressing the increasing importance of early screening and patient-centered care. We are not just advancing—our work today is setting the pace for the future.



Executive Council

2025-26

Officers



President
Najjia N. Mahmoud, MD



Past President
Sonia Ramamoorthy, MD, MBA



President-Elect
Kirsten Wilkins, MD



Vice President
Charles M. Friel, MD



Secretary
Elizabeth C. Wick, MD



Treasurer
Scott Steele, MD, MBA



President, Research Foundation
Larissa K F Temple, MD

Members-at-Large



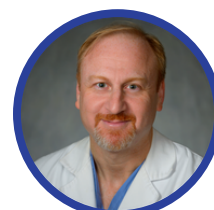
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Joshua Bleier, MD



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George J. Chang, MD, MS,
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Staff

Leadership



David Westman
Chief Executive Officer



Erica Flynn
Chief Learning and
Engagement Officer



Jason Keith
Chief Development and
Operations Officer



Krista Baran
Director, Research Foundation
and Governance



Julie Webb
Director, Operations and
Administration



Penny Siwula
Specialist, Governance



Jennifer Healy
Specialist, Administration



Jill Renwick
Director, Member
Engagement

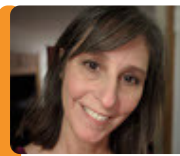


Steffanye Hawbaker Mack
Specialist, Member
Engagement

Governance & Administration

Member Engagement

Education & Meetings



Elaina McCalmont
Director, Education



Kristi AR Conley
Sr. Manager, Education and
Meetings



Niccole Reichel
Sr. Manager,
Meetings



Elizabeth Moran
Editorial Manager,
Education



Eric Rosenwach
Specialist, Meetings



Jason Sandlin
Specialist, Education



Julia Davis
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Communications



Lauren Sunderland
Sr. Manager, Corporate
Development



Olivia Clark
Manager, Creative Services



Arianna Nickerson
Manager, Marketing and
Communications



Lauren Rucker
Manager, Individual and
Institutional Development



Maggie Phoenik
Specialist, Revenue
Development

Revenue Development | Marketing & Communications

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Membership



5,028

Record number of total ASCRS members at the end of 2025.

In 2025, ASCRS saw 201 Candidates advance to Members and 94 Members elevate to Fellows. ASCRS reports a renewal rate of 93%, reflecting the ongoing engagement and dedication of our members.

Key Accomplishments



Membership Experience Transformation

Significant strides were made to modernize and streamline the member experience through the launch of a newly redesigned website and the development of a dedicated membership app. These enhancements improve accessibility, usability, and engagement across all member touchpoints, creating a more seamless digital ecosystem.

Strengthening Member Growth & Advancement

A highly successful elevation campaign drove meaningful membership progression, with 201 Candidates advancing to full Member status in 2025 year-to-date. In parallel, improvements to the membership join page clarified pathways to entry and advancement, making it easier for prospective and current members to engage with the Society.

Enhanced Member Communications

An automated new member welcome campaign was launched, ensuring timely, consistent onboarding communications. This initiative strengthens early engagement and helps new members quickly realize the value of their membership.

Advancing the Profession

In collaboration with the American College of Surgeons (ACS), progress was made toward establishing a colorectal surgery-specific workplace standard, reinforcing the Society's commitment to supporting surgeons and advancing the field.

Key Accomplishments



Advancements in Continuing Education

Expanded educational offerings included the launch of [ASCRS Ustream](#) and the development of new fellowship and colon cancer-focused curricula. The Committee on Cancer is working to further strengthen content alignment and strategic focus. The ASCRS Surgical Leadership Institute continues to refine and support professional development across career stages with the Resident Career Course and other curriculum.

Revenue Growth & Sustainability

New revenue-generating opportunities were identified and implemented, strengthening the Society's financial foundation. The 125th Anniversary Campaign continues to drive philanthropic support and long-term impact.

Research Foundation Progress

The Research Foundation advanced its mission through a focused individual giving campaign, alongside the adoption of new bylaws and updated articles of incorporation to ensure strong governance and future growth.

Expanding Global Partnerships

International engagement expanded significantly, with new global memberships established in South Korea, Brazil, and Singapore, joining India (ACRSI) as part of the ASCRS global membership network. A "Best Paper" exchange program with Japan (JSCP) was introduced along with the continuation of exchanges with ESCP and ACPGBI, and meetings with leaders from 10 international colorectal societies at ESCP fostered new opportunities for global collaboration.

Key Accomplishments



Strategic & Organizational Advancement

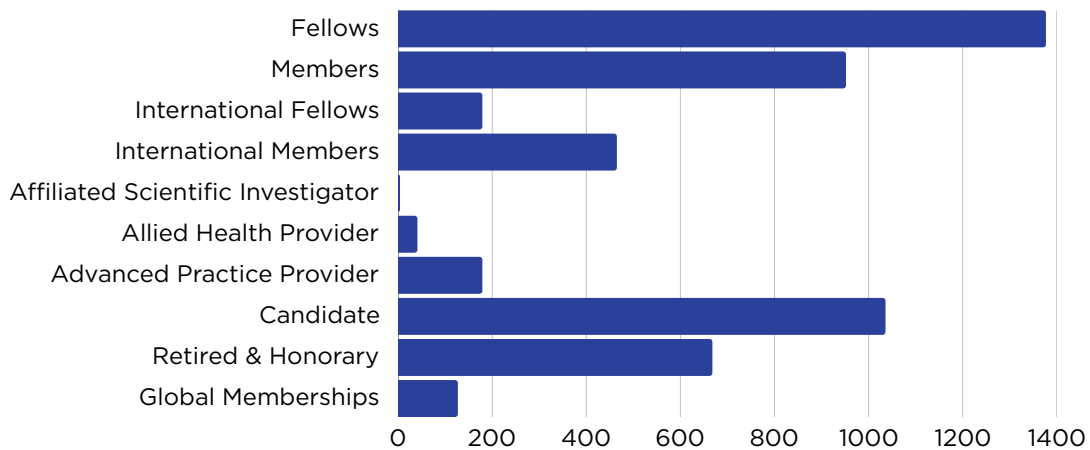
The Society developed its 2026–2028 Strategic Plan, setting a clear vision for the future. Additional milestones included the selection of a new Diseases of the Colon & Rectum (DCR) Editor and the launch of the preliminary phase of the Early Onset Colorectal Cancer Initiative, which works to raise awareness and lead the way in educating primary care providers and patients of the warning signs of early onset colorectal cancer.

Elevating the Annual Scientific Meeting

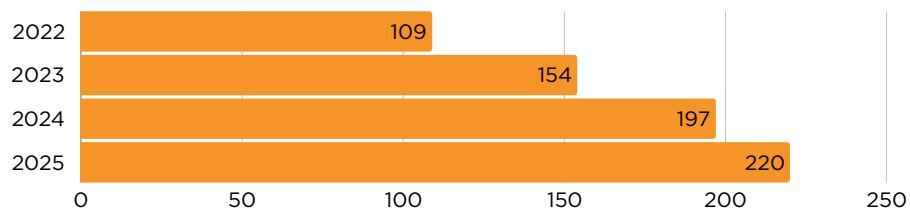
The Annual Scientific Meeting further advanced its commitment to Evidence-Based Excellence, reinforcing the importance of data-informed clinical practice and positioning the meeting as a leading forum for high-quality scientific exchange.

Membership Levels

In 2025, Fellows comprised the largest share of our membership, with Candidates and Members rounding out the top three membership categories.

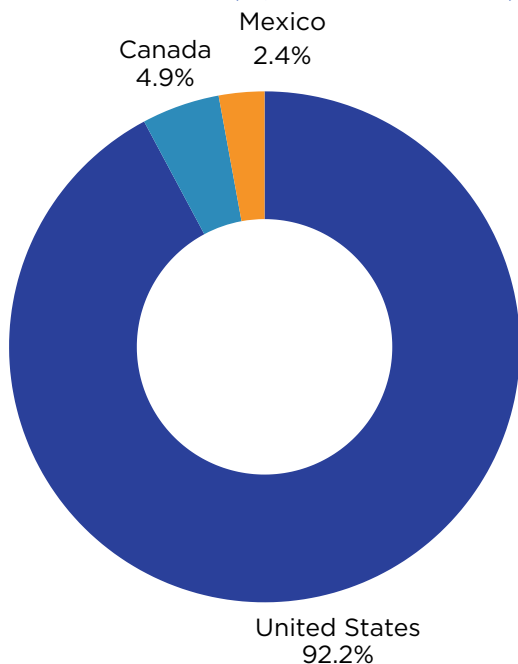


APP and AHP Membership Growth

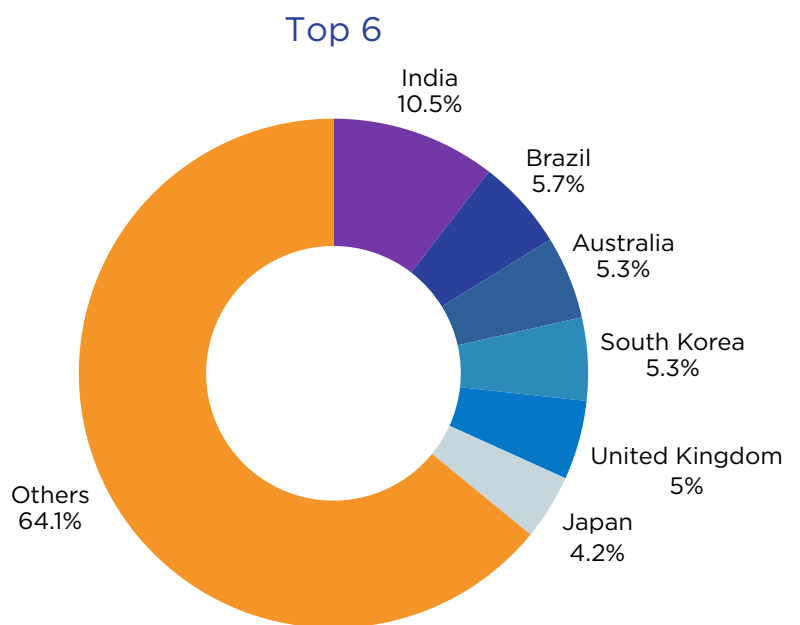


Members by Country

North America (4,095 members)

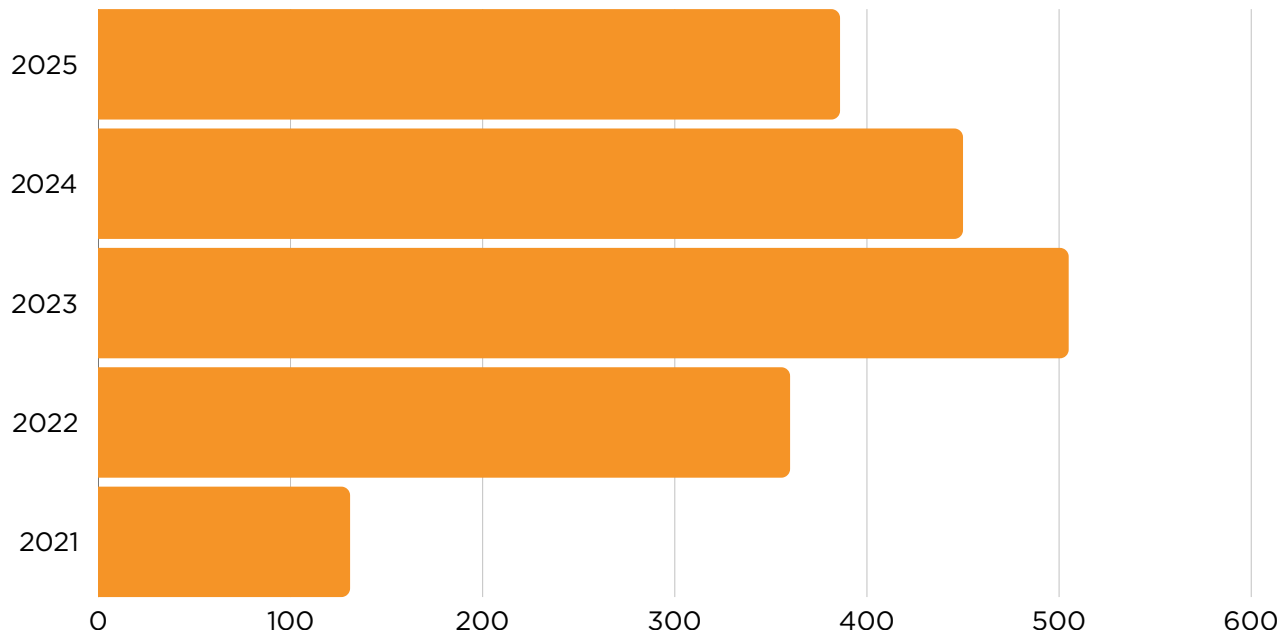


Other Countries (1,253 members)



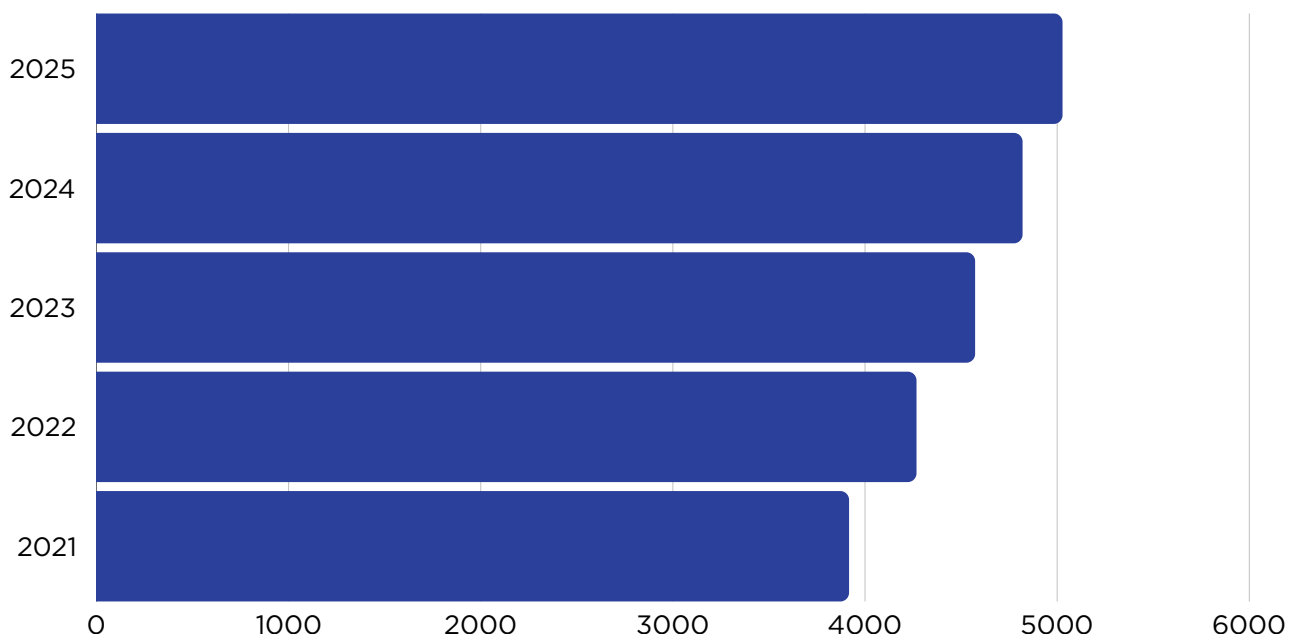
New Members

We welcomed 386 new members in 2025.



Total Members

As of December 31, 2025, total membership reached a record high of 5,028 members.



Podcast & Social Media



ASCRS has a presence on LinkedIn, Instagram, Facebook, X, & Bluesky.

38,301

Followers across 5
social media channels

4,333

Followers gained in
2025

Total Podcast Downloads

11,333

Total downloads



Most Popular Episode
(1,611 downloads)

**“The Health and Wellness of a
Colorectal Surgeon”**

Advocacy

ASCRS remains steadfast in championing colorectal healthcare professionals and their patients through impactful advocacy efforts. Throughout 2024 and into 2025, the Society actively supported national policies and funding initiatives that align with our mission of advancing the science and practice of colorectal surgery. Below is a summary of the advocacy letters ASCRS signed onto or supported during this period:

2025 Initiatives:

January 2025: Submitted a National Proclamation Request to the White House, seeking formal recognition of Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month and expanding public visibility of preventive screening.

February 2025: Signed onto the HR 879 Coalition Letter, backing the Medicare Patient Access and Practice Stabilization Act to protect patient access and support sustainable practice environments for colorectal surgeons.

March 2025: Supported efforts to secure continued federal funding for colorectal cancer research through the CDMRP Colorectal Cancer Research Program Community.

May 2025: Joined a coalition of 40+ medical organizations in urging Congress to reject proposed Medicaid changes that would limit coverage, increase state costs, and jeopardize patient care.

May 2025: Supported a physician-led Medicaid policy letter advocating for payment stability, expanded telehealth access, and stronger investment in preventive care.

May 2025: Signed onto a Senate appropriations letter requesting \$10 million in funding to address neglected surgical conditions and strengthen global surgical systems in underserved regions.

May 2025: Joined a coalition letter to Secretary Kennedy calling for urgent federal action to address early-age onset colorectal cancer, expand screening access, and sustain investment in public health programs.

June 2025: Signed onto a Senate reconciliation letter advocating for policy improvements to protect surgical training pipelines, address Medicare payment cuts, and preserve Medicaid access.

June 2025: Opposed H.R. 1 through a physician coalition letter, raising concerns about threats to Medicaid coverage, medical education, and meaningful Medicare payment reform.

July 2025: Joined 28 national organizations in a joint statement supporting the U.S. Supreme Court's decision in *Kennedy v. Braidwood Management*, preserving the constitutionality of the USPSTF and protecting no-cost colorectal cancer screening under the Affordable Care Act.

2025 Initiatives Continued:

July 2025: Signed onto a surgical coalition letter to the FDA advocating for clearer, standardized point-of-care labeling for hernia mesh products to improve device transparency, enhance patient safety, and reduce surgical error.

July 2025: Partnered with 22 surgical societies in urging CMS to withdraw the proposed WISeR Model, citing concerns over increased prior authorization requirements, administrative burden, and potential restrictions on patient access to care.

August 2025: Joined national advocacy partners in urging HHS Secretary Robert F. Kennedy Jr. to preserve the independence and evidence-based process of the U.S. Preventive Services Task Force and maintain no-cost coverage for preventive services.

August 2025: Signed onto a colorectal cancer coalition letter reinforcing the importance of the USPSTF's independent, evidence-based recommendations and advocating for continued access to no-cost colorectal cancer screening to reduce early-age onset mortality.

November 2025: Joined more than 30 national medical and surgical organizations in urging Congress to halt CMS's finalized efficiency adjustment policy, warning that reductions to work RVUs and intra-service time would decrease reimbursement, destabilize physician compensation, and threaten patient access to care.

November 2025: Supported a coalition of national physician organizations in commending the House Appropriations Committee for unanimously adopting an amendment to block FY 2026 funding for the WISeR Model, emphasizing the need for continued collaboration to address concerns around prior authorization, administrative burden, and patient access.

December 2025: Partnered with national surgical societies in urging CMS to strengthen transparency, oversight, and provider education ahead of the WISeR Model implementation, advocating for clearer standards and a phased rollout to minimize disruptions to care and reduce administrative burden.

2026 Initiatives:

January 2026: Collaborated with patient advocacy and medical organizations in urging the Administration to formally recognize Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month and illuminate the White House in blue, raising awareness of rising colorectal cancer rates—particularly among younger adults—and reinforcing the importance of screening, prevention, and early detection.

ASCRS is committed to keeping members informed and engaged with advocacy efforts that reflect the needs and priorities of the colorectal surgery community. These actions reflect just one aspect of the Society's broader dedication to shaping policies that protect our specialty and the patients we serve.

2025 Annual Scientific Meeting



**ASCRS ANNUAL
SCIENTIFIC MEETING**
San Diego, CA • May 10-13, 2025



The 2025 Annual Scientific Meeting was a landmark event, bringing together the latest advancements in technology, research, surgical techniques, and patient care in colorectal surgery. Held in San Diego, CA, the meeting welcomed strong attendance, highlighting continued engagement and the ongoing impact of our Society.

Economic Impact at a Glance:

\$7.7 Million

Abstracts

1,097

Submitted

1,008

Accepted

13

Abstract Sessions

Presenters

134

Oral Abstract
Presentations

770

ePoster
Presenters

304

Speakers/
Moderators

We extend our sincere appreciation to President Dr. Sonia Ramammorthy, Program Chair Drs. Sam Eisenstein, and Vice Program Chairs Drs. Angela Kuhnen, Sarah Stringfield and Avery Walker for their leadership in delivering a highly successful and memorable meeting.

2026 Annual Scientific Meeting



The 2026 ASCRS Annual Scientific Meeting will be held May 9–12 in Tampa, FL, bringing together leading experts, innovative research, and premier educational opportunities in colorectal surgery. The program will feature a robust lineup of scientific sessions, symposia, and abstract presentations highlighting the latest advances across the specialty—from colorectal cancer and inflammatory bowel disease to emerging surgical techniques and technologies shaping the future of patient care.

The Program Committee has developed a dynamic and engaging agenda that blends new and evolving topics with the return of highly anticipated sessions and signature events.

By the numbers

1,985

Registration both in-person & virtually (*& counting*)

\$1,145,582

Corporate support (*& counting*)

741

ePoster presentations

920

Abstracts accepted

265

Speakers/moderators (not including ePoster moderators)

101

Abstract presentations

We extend our deepest appreciation to Program Chair Dr. Thomas Curran and Vice Program Chairs Drs. Julia Berian, Husein Moloo and Gabriela Poles for their leadership in shaping an exceptional and forward-thinking meeting.

Continuing Education & Resources



ASCRS Ustream - was introduced as a go-to destination for quick-hit colorectal surgery videos, streaming in an intuitive, "Netflix-style" platform. Members can access ASCRS Annual Scientific Meeting clips broken into snippets highlighting surgical techniques, key pearls, and practice-changing insights.

Pelvic Floor Disorders Consortium - Continues collaboration with global partners. In 2025, the Consortium worked with The International Urogynecological Association (IUGA) and The International Continence Society (ICS) on workshops and refine research priorities for strategic planning.

Mentorship Programs - ASCRS offers multiple mentoring initiatives, including the 1:1 Program, Resident Program, Speed Mentoring at the Annual Meeting, and the Student Pathway Program, supporting early-career and aspiring colorectal surgeons.

CARSEP® XII - The latest edition of the Colon and Rectal Surgery Educational Program (CARSEP® XII) features updated, evidence-based content to help surgeons stay current with advancements in colorectal surgery. It serves as a key resource for board certification preparation and continued professional development.

Fundamentals of Rectal Cancer Surgery - An updated edition of the Fundamentals of Rectal Cancer Surgery course (FRCS) was introduced in 2025, incorporating the latest techniques and guidelines in rectal cancer treatment. This updated resource enhances education for surgeons committed to improving patient outcomes.



ASCRS U

36K

New users

7.9K

Returning users

Webinar Series – In its eighth year, ASCRS hosted six CME webinars, free for members (\$50 for nonmembers), with all sessions available on demand.

Enhanced Educational Opportunities for APPs – Launched 4 new APP-focused webinars, expanding professional development resources tailored to the evolving needs of advanced practice providers.

Webinars: Pageviews

5,739

Web views

2,360

Mobile views

Video Mentorship Series (VMS) – Now in its sixth year, ASCRS produced six Video Mentorship Series recordings, free for members (\$50 for nonmembers), and accessible in ASCRS U.

Video Mentorship Series: Pageviews

2,812

Web views

1,644

Mobile views

DC&R Journal



Honoring a Decade of Excellence

We extend our deepest and most sincere thanks to Dr. Susan Galandiuk who will have served 10 years as the *Diseases of the Colon & Rectum* (DC&R) Editor-in-Chief when she turns over the reins. Under her exceptional leadership, the journal reached new heights in academic rigor, editorial quality, and global visibility.

Scott Regenbogen, MD was chosen as the next Editor-in-Chief

Beginning January 1, 2027, Dr. Regenbogen will continue to guide DC&R into an all-digital future while upholding the journal's legacy of scientific excellence. "I am incredibly honored by the opportunity to help shape the future of DC&R, and immensely grateful to the six Editors-in-Chief who preceded me," said Dr. Regenbogen. "Their insights, creativity, expertise, and commitment have made DC&R the journal of record in colon and rectal surgery for decades. In collaboration with all of you, we will work to ensure it remains the scholarly focal point for our specialty long into the future."

Strengthening International Engagement

DC & R journal language forums include Latin American, European/Iberic, Japanese and Korean. Digital content from the DC&R YouTube channel is viewed across 83 countries.

Revenue Development



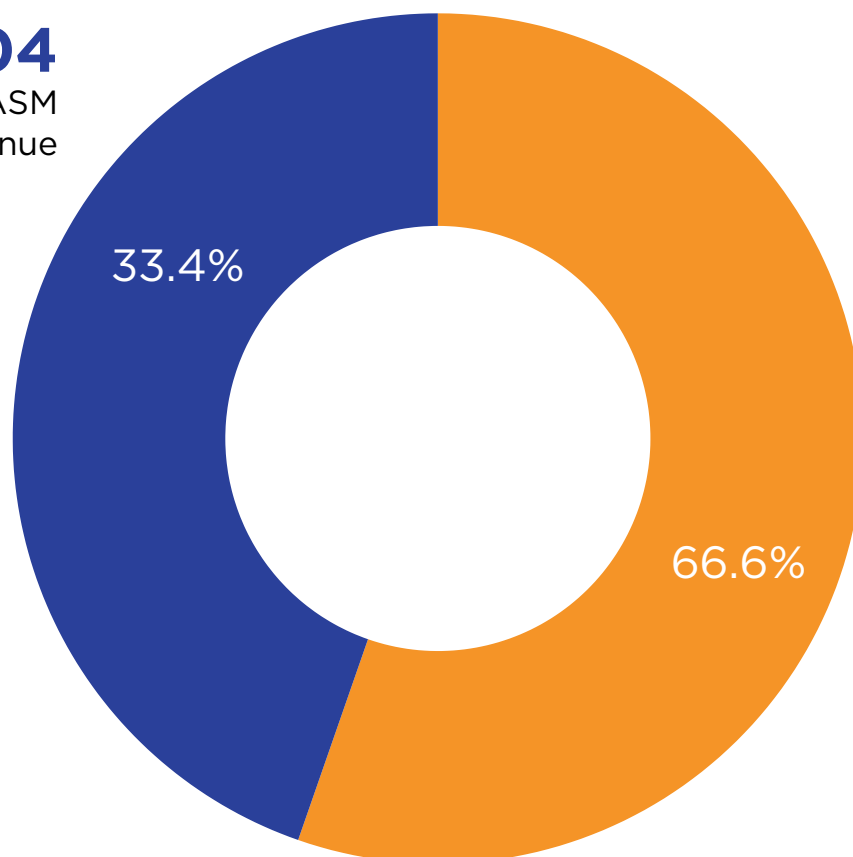
As the premier professional society dedicated to advancing colorectal surgery, ASCRS recognizes the vital role of industry collaboration in driving innovation and excellence in patient care. By fostering strategic partnerships, we enhance our ability to develop and implement best practices for the diagnosis, treatment, and management of diseases and disorders affecting the colon, rectum, and anus. These relationships ensure that ASCRS remains at the forefront of surgical advancements, continuously improving outcomes for patients worldwide.

Revenue Development

Total industry revenue secured in 2025 was \$1,799,689 with \$1.1 million of that coming from the 2025 Annual Scientific Meeting.

\$1,799,689 Total Industry Revenue Secured

\$803,904
Total non-ASM
Revenue



\$995,785
Annual Scientific
Meeting Revenue



The Research Foundation of the American Society of Colon and Rectal Surgeons advances colorectal surgery by raising and awarding funds to support innovative research and educational programs. Through investment in scientific discovery and professional development, the Foundation improves patient care, strengthens surgical best practices, and cultivates the next generation of leaders in the treatment of colon and rectal diseases.

\$33,535.64

Philanthropic support raised in
2025

19

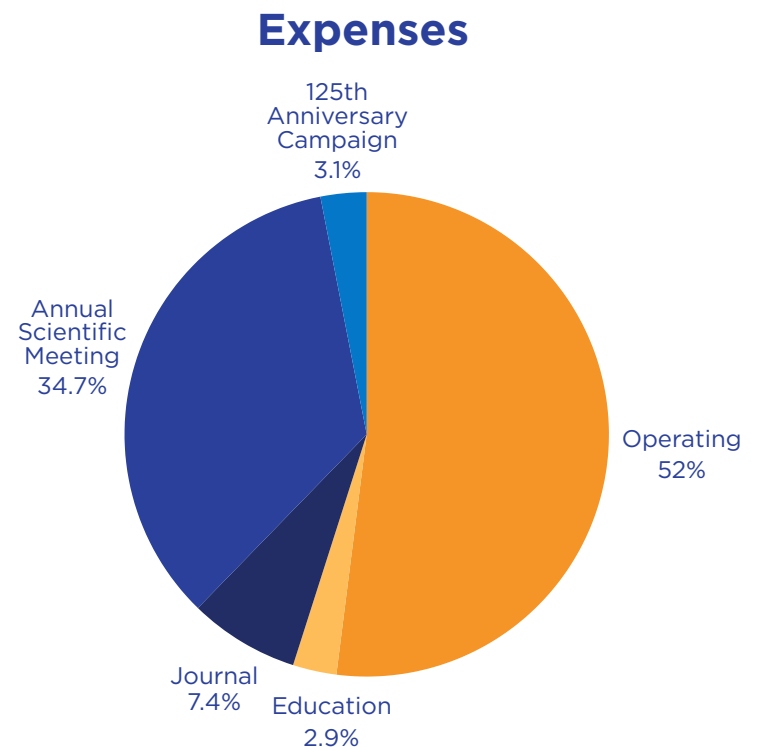
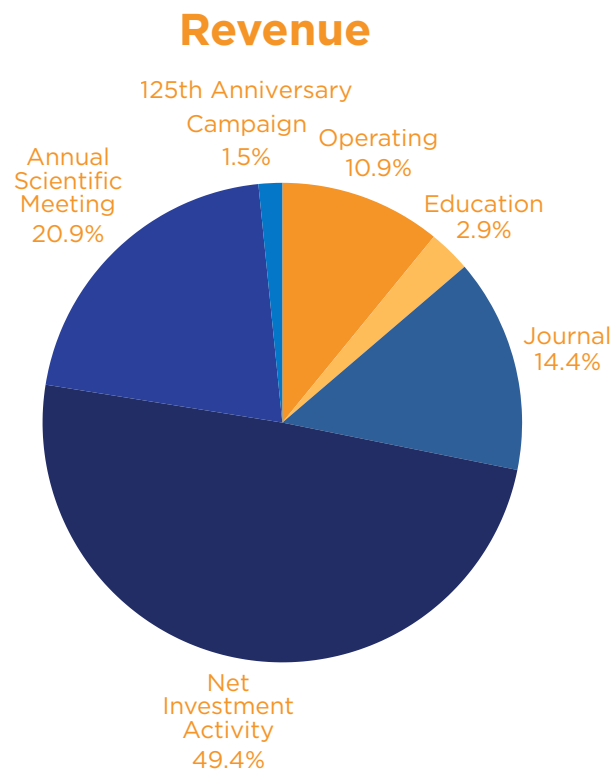
Grants awarded in
2025



Financials

ASCRS is a financially strong organization, backed by a substantial reserve fund. This fund enables ASCRS to offer additional benefits to members, including:

- ▶ Proactively addressing potential revenue gaps to **safeguard the continuity of ASCRS** programs and services
- ▶ Continuing to provide **complimentary access to the ASCRS U** education portal –setting ASCRS apart from peer societies that charge for similar resources
- ▶ Sustaining **registration rates** for the Annual Scientific Meeting that remain **below the national median**
- ▶ Keeping annual **membership dues competitively priced**, below the median of comparable medical societies



2026-28 Strategic Plan

Key Goals:

1. Membership

Healthcare professionals with an interest in the field of colorectal surgery view ASCRS membership as essential.

- Membership Growth
- Inclusive Membership
- Advocacy for Profession

2. Education & Engagement

ASCRS is the leading source of up-to-date and high-quality educational content.

- Annual Meeting Enhancements
- Expanded Digital Content
- Career Development Resources
- Leveraging AI
- Early Onset Colorectal Cancer Awareness

3. Organizational Relationships

High-priority organizational partners regard ASCRS as a key ally and collaborator.

- Domestic
- International
- Industry

4. Operational Excellence

ASCRS operates as a high-performing and sustainable organization.

- Headquarters Excellence
- Financial Stability
- Digital Communications

The 2023-25 Strategic Plan achieved significant accomplishments, with a total of 161 milestones completed across key focus areas including membership, engagement, education and operational excellence. This progress reflects a sustained and coordinated effort to advance the organization's priorities and deliver meaningful value to our members.

Save the Date!

The 2027 Tripartite Colorectal Meeting hosted by ASCRS will take place from May 22-25 in New Orleans, LA.



TRIPARTITE COLORECTAL MEETING

NEW ORLEANS, LA | MAY 22-25, 2027

HOSTED BY



Visit fascrs.org for more information.

Acknowledgements



Thank you to all who dedicated their time and effort to advancing these initiatives. Your unwavering commitment and hard work have been instrumental in the Society.

2025-2026 ASCRS President Dr. Najjia Mahmoud

2024-2025 ASCRS President Dr. Sonia Ramamoorthy

2024-2025 Executive Council

2025-2026 Executive Council

2025 Program Committee, chaired by Dr. Samuel Eisenstein & Vice Program Chairs: Drs. Angela Kuhnen, Sarah Stringfield, & Avery Walker

2026 Program Committee, chaired by Dr. Thomas Curran & Vice Program Chairs: Drs. Julia Berian, Husein Moloo, & Gabriela Poles.

2024-2026 Research Foundation President Dr. Larissa Temple

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