
Fifteen Years

**NATIONAL
ACADEMY
OF SOCIAL
INSURANCE**

Our Achievements

Our Future

Our Challenges

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The National Academy of Social Insurance is a nonpartisan policy research and education center on Social Security, Medicare, workers' compensation, unemployment insurance, and related programs.

Our Record of Achievements

As the National Academy of Social Insurance (NASI) celebrates its fifteenth anniversary, it is proud of its record of accomplishments, its reputation for being a reliable source of objective information and its analyses of complex issues related to social insurance. NASI's role in helping shape public policy has been, and continues to be, a significant one.

Highlights include:

- When the Committee on Ways and Means of the U.S. House of Representatives sought a comprehensive review of Social Security disability programs and their relationship to rehabilitation and work, it turned to the **National Academy of Social Insurance**. Its study panel's findings and recommendations became the blueprint for new legislation.
- When scholars, labor unions, employers, insurers, and state officials needed an objective source of national data on workers' compensation costs and benefits, they turned to the **National Academy of Social Insurance**, which now produces the data each year.
- When the emerging democracies of Eastern Europe were implementing social insurance programs, they turned to experts and training from the **National Academy of Social Insurance**.
- When Congress and the Administration consider proposals to restructure Medicare for the 21st century, they turn to analyses by the **National Academy of Social Insurance**.

The Academy is known for its ability to bring together experts with differing philosophies to identify common ground in pursuit of improved public policies.

Moving into the Future

As NASI moves into the future, we at the Academy see both opportunities and challenges ahead.

Among them are:

- Americans' lack of adequate information about social insurance programs that are vital to their future well being;
- Proposals to make significant changes to social insurance programs that require further research and evaluation;
- Increasing requests for expert advice and analysis of social insurance issues;
- Rapidly changing technology allowing for wider, more efficient dissemination; and
- A growing demand for assistance to developing nations in implementing social insurance programs.

NASI is prepared to meet these opportunities and challenges. To do so, however, we require additional funds. NASI's mission is now supported through grants from foundations, contracts with government agencies, contributions from corporations, labor unions and individuals, and dues from its members. We seek to further diversify our sources of funds and to increase contributions to NASI's endowment.

Our Endowment, Enabling Us To Meet Challenges

In 1989, NASI recognized the importance of building financial security and established an endowment. Today, that endowment totals nearly \$1 million dollars.

Contributions to the endowment will enable NASI to meet existing challenges and strategically respond to potential opportunities. Increasing the endowment will allow NASI to:

- Pursue new research and education initiatives important to social insurance;
- Convene more study panels of high caliber experts with diverse perspectives to tackle complex problems in social insurance and health care financing policy;
- Target educational activities to the varied needs of our audiences through electronic and print media;
- Enhance its reputation and visibility in the field of social insurance with various constituent groups;
- Increase opportunities for young people to enter the field of social insurance; and,
- Engage the membership as faculty for conferences and seminars, trainers in the international program, participants on study panels, and as contributors to publications.

Critical Areas for Financial Support

Conferences

NASI's annual conference brings together social insurance experts, policy makers, journalists, representatives of business and labor, and students of social insurance. Conference proceedings are published and widely disseminated.

“NASI conferences support a continuing dialogue that is critical to developing a sound policy and programmatic initiative. I haven't missed one in five years.”
—*Conference Participant*

Technology

Technology will play an increasing role in better educating the general public about social insurance matters. Increased funds would allow NASI to offer conferences and seminars on-line and convene study panels and committees through teleconferencing.

“The first place I go for objective information on social insurance is the NASI website...”
—*Health Policy Reporter*

Internships

NASI promotes leadership development through its student internships and dissertation competition programs. These encourage talented young people to consider careers in the field of social insurance.

“Thanks for sending us another great student. Academy interns have always been highly qualified and have excelled here at the Association. The Academy's screening process seems to be the key reason why NASI interns fare better.”
—*Alzheimer's Association*

International Exchanges

NASI is being called upon more and more to help other countries implement social insurance programs for their citizens. This program engages NASI members as faculty to share information with foreign officials both here and abroad.

“The Ljubljana seminar filled the important niche of bringing leaders of pension agencies together to share and learn from experience, and was a key example of how the Academy’s work can be expanded to other parts of the world.”

—*Bureau of International Labor Affairs*

Research

NASI is known for offering nonpartisan, factual, and thorough research via study panels formed to explore policy questions. NASI members with knowledge in specific areas volunteer their time and expertise.

“Detailed research findings and factual information on Medicare and Social Security are available from the National Academy of Social Insurance, a nonpartisan research and education organization that does not lobby or take positions on policy issues.”

—*Des Moines Register*

Publications

NASI disseminates information to policy makers, the media, and the general public through reports and a series of briefs that distill key findings for policy makers, journalists and scholars.

“Each semester, I include NASI briefs and reports in my course syllabus. They bring the most current policy making issues to the surface and stimulate dynamic discussion.”

—*University Professor*

New Initiatives

Flexibility to pursue new initiatives enables NASI to respond to rapidly changing national and world events while fulfilling its mission of promoting informed policy making for social insurance.

2001 Endowment Fund Donors

as of 11/1/01

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For more information about the endowment, bequests or planned giving, please contact Pamela Larson, Executive Vice President of National Academy of Social Insurance at 202-452-8097.

Social insurance encompasses broad-based public systems for insuring workers and their families against economic insecurity caused by loss of income from work and the cost of health care. Within the Academy's scope are such social insurance programs as Social Security, Medicare, workers' compensation and unemployment insurance, and related social assistance and private employee benefits.

The Academy's membership includes nearly 600 of the nation's experts on social policy who have made distinctive contributions to the field of social insurance.

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