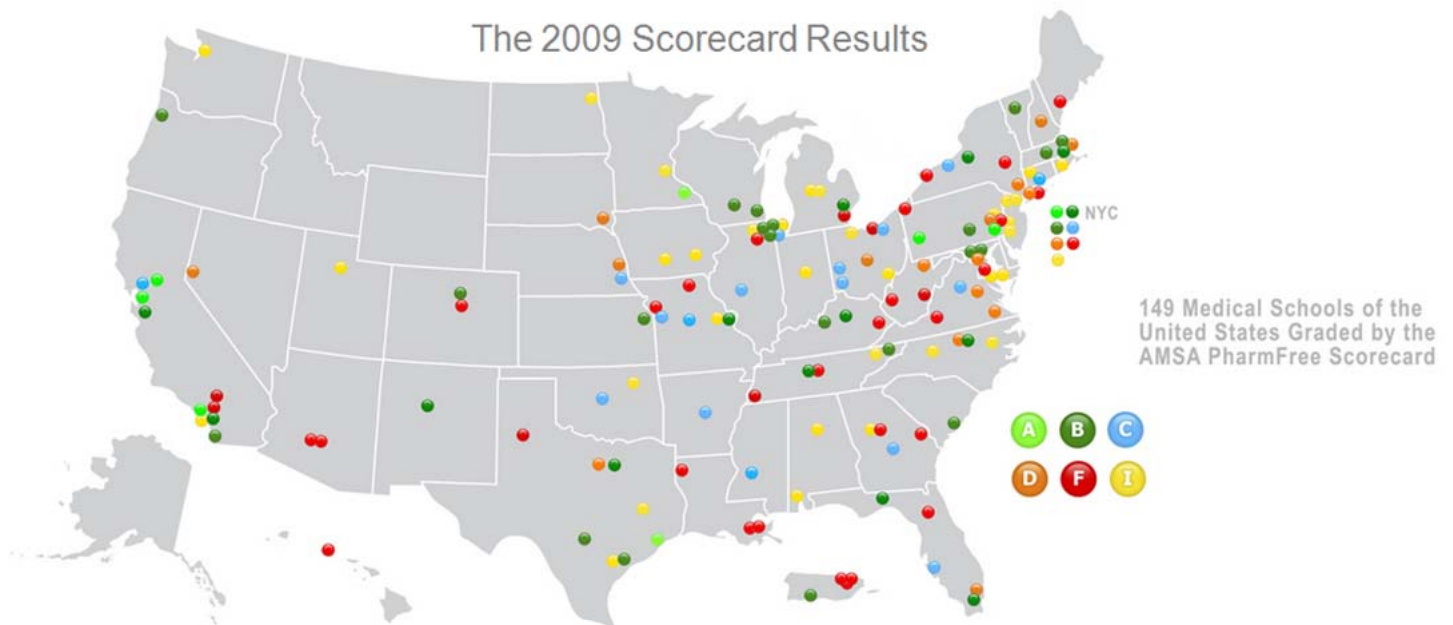


The 2010 **AMSA**® PHARMFREE Scorecard



November 15th, 2010: Where will **YOUR** school stand?

What is the AMSA PharmFree Scorecard?

The American Medical Student Association released the first "PharmFree Scorecard" in 2007. This initial Scorecard graded medical schools on the presence or absence of a policy regulating the interactions between their students and faculty and the pharmaceutical and device industries. In 2008, AMSA worked with The Pew Prescription Project to develop an updated Scorecard, which used a rigorous and transparent methodology to assess the content of policies at medical schools throughout the country. This successful framework is continued in the 2009 and forthcoming 2010 AMSA PharmFree Scorecards.

The Scorecard evaluates conflict-of-interest policies at 149 colleges of allopathic and osteopathic medicine in the United States, with a focus on interaction between students or faculty and the pharmaceutical industry. Using letter grades to assess schools' performance in eleven potential areas of conflict, the Scorecard offers a comprehensive look at the current and changing landscape of conflict-of-interest policies across American medical education, as well as more in-depth assessment of individual policies that govern industry interaction.

What is evaluated in the Scorecard?

The Scorecard assesses policies related to: acceptance of gifts and meals from industry; consulting relationships; speaking relationships; disclosure of financial conflicts; pharmaceutical samples; individuals with financial conflicts participating in university purchasing decisions; financial support for educational events (on- and off-campus); industry support for scholarships and trainee funds; access of industry sales personnel to medical school or hospital personnel; and inclusion of education about conflict of interest within the academic curriculum

The 2010 AMSA PharmFree Scorecard will be released November 15th

How can you get involved?

Step 1: Know your school's score: Go to <http://www.amsascorecard.org> and find your score

- **Did your school get an A or B?** Congratulations, your institution is a leader! Still there is more to be done. Does your school teach students about conflict of interest? Does your faculty disclose conflicts and funding sources in lectures? Check AMSA's 3 Easy Changes Flyers for ideas on how to make your school even better.
- **Did your school get a C or D?** No worries, your school is in the perfect situation for student driven change. Medical schools need to hear that these issues are important to their students. Embark on a PharmFree campaign to advocate for policy change at your school. Change can happen quickly Maryland, Johns Hopkins, Dartmouth, Loyola, Ohio State and Harvard all improved from a D or worse in 2008 to a B or better in 2009.
- **Did your school get an F?** Don't despair! The most common reason schools receive a grade of F is they declined to participate in the Scorecard, fortunately over 88% of schools participate every year. As we strongly believe transparency is an important part of patient safety and public trust these schools received F grades. The greatest impact students can make is encouraging their administration to embrace transparency and participate in the Scorecard.

Step 2: Educate your peers and faculty

- Send a press release to students, faculty and your administration congratulating them on their score or encouraging improvements in the future. Press release templates will be sent in the week before the launch of the Scorecard.
- Hold a lunch talk to educate students about conflict of interest and how your school currently stacks up.

Step 3: Advocate for Change

- Check www.pharmfree.org for educational and advocacy materials
- Set up a meeting with your deans to talk about ways to improve school policies. We've made a step by step guide to help you out: <http://www.pharmfree.org/change?id=0003>

Need help or want to report your success? Contact: scorecard@amsascorecard.org

Need Ideas? Check www.pharmfree.org **for educational and advocacy materials**