SANDS is a service of the American Society for Dermatologic Surgery Association (ASDSA) as a forum for members to exchange information, best practices, resources, and strategies for the purpose of advancing public policy which benefits dermatologic surgeons and their patients.

ASDSA was created in 2007 to promote the educational and professional interests of dermatologic surgeons; provide a vehicle for advocacy and public education efforts on behalf of dermatologic surgeons and their patients; and address socio-economic issues that impact the practice of dermatologic surgery as a specialty. State organizations that elect to become members of SANDS join a grassroots advocacy network to share information and influence legislation on behalf of issues relating to patient safety, scope of practice, cosmetic medical taxes, and more.

Resident SANDS is a program created in 2014 by the Residents’ Grassroots Advocacy Work Group. The Work Group seeks to recruit two Resident SANDS’ members from each state to work with the existing SANDS Representative in the state. These Resident SANDS members should be a first-year resident and a third-year resident.

Resident SANDS members have access to:

- Model legislation and regulation on policy issues important to dermatologic surgeons and their patients
- Online Legislative Action Center Resources
- Toolkits on best practices for affective advocacy
- Listserv question and response threads
- ASDSA Advocacy Handbook
- PowerPoints for use at legislative presentations
- Articles, surveys, and infographics surveys to make your case

Resident SANDS member responsibilities:

State representatives in the SANDS network agree to:

- Be active members of the American Society for Dermatologic Surgery
- Respond in a timely manner to inquiries regarding policy and positions in your state
- Share information with other SANDS members utilizing the secure webpage
- Actively communicate with ASDSA about your legislative goals and priorities
- Respond to urgent action calls regarding public policy in your state or at the federal level which affects dermatologic surgeons as needed by:
  - Assisting with the dissemination of information to your state society and other dermatologic surgery advocates to respond to specific pieces of legislation or regulatory proposals
  - Assisting with the recruitment of a dermatologic surgeon to testify at state legislative or regulatory hearings if necessary
- Calling your state legislator or regulatory official regarding specific pieces of legislation or regulatory proposals as needed
- Striving to develop relationships with your elected and regulatory officials

*Please note: Resident SANDS Members are not authorized to:*

- Serve as media spokespersons for the ASDSA
- Negotiate on legislation/regulation
- Testify on behalf of ASDSA without express permission
- Meet with elected or regulatory officials on behalf of ASDSA without express permission

For more information, contact State and Grassroots Advocacy Director Lisle Thielbar at lthielbar@asds.net or (847) 956-9126.
Resident State Advocacy Network for Dermatologic Surgery (SANDS) Application

Name: _______________________________________________________________

Institution/Organization:_________________________________________________

Address:______________________________________________________________

City:_________________________________ State:____________ Zip:____________

Email:________________________________ Cell:____________________________

☐ I will be a first-year resident as of January 1, 2015.

☐ I will be a third-year resident as of January 1, 2015.

Resident SANDS members are expected to do the following (described in full in the Residents’ SANDS job description):

- Act as an ambassador to the ASDSA
- Stay in communication with ASDSA staff & their state dermatology society about federal and state issues impacting dermatologic surgery
- Work in collaboration with their state’s (non-resident) SANDS Representative
- Respond to urgent action calls regarding public policy in your state or at the federal level which affects dermatologic surgeons as needed
- Strive to develop relationships with their elected officials

☐ I agree to fulfill the responsibilities outlined in the Residents’ SANDS job description for the term of one year. If I am a first-year resident, I am eligible to continue my service through my third year of residency.

Why are you interested in serving as your state’s Resident SANDS Representative?
What political issue do you find to be most relevant to dermatology residents?

What experience do you have in politics and/or advocacy?

Do you currently have any personal relationships with elected or regulatory officials (not required)? If so, with whom?

Sign: ____________________________________________ Date: ______________

Print name: ______________________________________________

Please return via email to Director of State and Grassroots Advocacy Lisle Thielbar at lthielbar@asds.net or via fax to (847) 956-0999.