

Letter of Intent

My name is Ronny Munoz-Acuna, and I am interested in applying to the SCCM state representative position for Massachusetts. I have several reasons for this: Massachusetts is the state that has welcomed my family and me since 2016 and is currently the place I call home. Secondly, it is one of the leading states in terms of healthcare and academia in the country. By getting involved in a leadership position, I want to continue promoting and supporting the policies already established while improving the current state of Critical Care Medicine in these challenging times. Also, being involved with the SCCM will provide me with professional and personal growth experiences, which otherwise would be impossible to acquire.

In 2010, I began my training in Internal Medicine in Costa Rica. Four years went by as I familiarized myself with the diagnosis, treatment, and prevention of significant chronic conditions and their exacerbations. Early on, I realized I felt passionate about the physiology and management of patients in acute settings. After my first rotation in the ICU as a second-year resident, it became evident to me that I wanted to pursue further training in Critical Care. I have always been interested in academia, and, in the ICU, teaching was much more accessible. It was the ideal place to learn and question the current state of knowledge while teaching medical students and junior residents.

In 2016, I completed a fellowship in Critical Care Medicine in Costa Rica. I had rotations in infectious diseases, echocardiography, nutrition, ultrasound-guided procedures, ECMO, Respiratory Therapy, and the respective medical, surgical, neurological, and trauma critical care units. During the last year of my fellowship, I realized I wanted to learn how the practice of critical care was outside of my country.

I decided to pursue further medical training in the US to familiarize myself with the intra- and post-operative care of solid organ transplantation and cardiac surgery patients, extracorporeal support, transesophageal echo, and improve my research skills. All of this led me to pursue a residency in Anesthesia and then fellowships in Critical Care Medicine and Cardiothoracic Anesthesia. I did my internship at MetroWest Medical Center in Framingham, Massachusetts, and my residency at the Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center in Boston, Massachusetts, where I am currently an ICU fellow.

Besides my clinical duties, I enjoy researching several medicine areas, such as outcomes research and physiological and pharmacological studies. My most current project involves the effects of ketamine in ICU patients, which is in the process of being submitted. I currently teach interns and residents about fundamental principles in the ICU. I am also developing a curriculum for the prevention of nosocomial infections in several ICUs of my home country with the help of experts from BIDMC.

I am a highly motivated individual, passionate about medicine, and particularly about Critical Care Medicine. It is an honor to apply to this position, and I consider it a privilege to serve this organization if the opportunity arises.



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