



ERIC SPRING 2019 POLICY CONFERENCE

Wednesday, April 3, 2019
11:30 am – 5:30 pm
Association of American Medical Colleges
655 K Street, NW
Washington, DC 20001

11:30 am **Registration Begins**

12:00 pm – 12:30 pm **Lunch**

12:30 pm – 12:45 pm **Welcome**

12:45 pm – 1:30 pm **Keynote Speaker: Dr. Martin Makary, M.D., M.P.H.**, Surgeon, The Johns Hopkins Hospital, Professor of Health Policy, Author *The Price We Pay: What Broke American Health Care and How to Fix It*

1:30 pm – 1:45 pm **Break**

1:45 pm – 2:45 pm **Paid Leave: What Will Happen in 2019?**

What should Congress and the States do about paid leave, where are the greatest risks and opportunities, and how can employers manage these plans? The panel will examine strategies and options for federal paid leave laws and the myriad proposals considered at the state and local levels.

2:45 pm – 3:00 pm **Break**

3:00 pm – 4:00 pm **Breakout Session**

Breakout A: State Proposals Impacting Health Care

With gridlock being the norm at the federal level, states have been taking their role as incubators of public policy to new heights. In health care this includes market stabilization efforts through § 1332 Waivers, individual mandates, single-payer and other financing models to integrate social services and health care. This panel will discuss the how states are grappling with these issues and how their legislative efforts jeopardize employer plans.

Breakout B: The Latest on Employer Support for Employee Education Including Student Loan Relief

Whether it's employer educational assistance, help paying off student loans, or providing retirement savings to employees repaying their student loan debt, there is broad interest in public policies to support employees with education costs. This panel will discuss the larger public policy challenges of financing education as well as specific legislative and regulatory changes needed for employers to help employees get ahead and stay ahead.

ERIC is the only national association that advocates exclusively for large employers on health, retirement, and compensation public policies at the federal, state, and local levels.

4:00 pm – 4:15 pm **Break**

4:15 pm – 5:15 pm **Emerging Employee Benefits Options**

Employee benefits are critical to recruitment and retention of employees. New benefits are being developed and offered in specific industries or economy-wide, such as genetic testing and egg freezing. What public policies need to change to keep up?

5:30 pm – 7:30 pm **Rooftop Reception**

Thursday, April 4, 2019
7:00 am – 2:30 pm

- 7:00 am – 8:00 am **Breakfast**
- 8:00 am – 8:15 am **Welcome**
- 8:15 am – 9:15 am **Latest Legal Challenges and Opportunities**
ERIC has led the way for large employers fighting to protect ERISA preemption against state policies that impose mandates on employers offering health and retirement plans. Learn about the newest threats and opportunities and how Congress, the federal agencies, and the courts can protect large employer plan sponsors.
- 9:15 am – 9:30 am **Break**
- 9:30 am – 10:30 am **Potential Solutions to High Drug Costs in the New Congress**
One of the premier health care issues poised to be addressed by a divided Congress and the Trump White House is the cost of prescription drugs, including biologics. This panel will feature policy leaders and experts discussing the likely fault lines, areas of bipartisan agreement, and prospects for successful reforms.
- 10:30 am – 11:15 am **Keynote Speaker: Chip Kahn**, President & Chief Executive Officer, Federation of American Hospitals
- 11:15 am – 11:45 am **U.S. Representative Donna Shalala** (D-FL), Member House Committee on Education and Labor and Former Secretary, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
- 11:45 am – 12:15 pm **Lunch**
- 12:15 pm – 1:15 pm **Modernizing Retirement Plans**
As fewer employers offer defined benefit plans, what policies should change to support defined contribution plans as the sole employer retirement vehicle? From emergency savings to electronic disclosure to reforming nondiscrimination testing, many changes could improve DC plans for employers and employees. Whether defined benefit pension plans are overfunded, underfunded, or right on target they can use a shot in the arm with public policies that support greater flexibility for large plan sponsors. This panel will examine legislative and regulatory policies that could modernize DC plans and strengthen DB plans.
- 1:15 pm – 2:15 pm **Financial Wellness & the Employers' Role**
It's one of the hottest phrases in benefits and biggest challenges for employers and their workforce. This panel will take a deep dive into what it really means to plan for lifetime of financial security, the role of health savings accounts, how employers are developing strategies to manage retirement timing, and what Congress and the federal agencies can do to support employer efforts or thwart them.
- 2:15 pm – 2:30 pm **Raffle & Conclusion**