

Date Position Begins:	March 2027
Appointment Term:	Two years; potential for reappointment for a second, 2-year term conditional on continued membership on the COT or RCOT
Membership Requirement:	Membership in Central or Regional Committee on Trauma
Participation Structure:	The Rural Program Area partners with the Trauma Quality and Education Programs
Reporting Structure:	Position reports to the Trauma Quality Program Medical Director, liaises with the Trauma Education Medical Director, and may oversee workgroups
Effort Requirement:	Approximately 8-10 hours per month; Participation in COT Annual Meeting, TQIP, and COT Trauma Meetings during Congress
Experience/Skills Desired:	Demonstrated leadership experience within trauma systems, rural trauma care, trauma education and/or related healthcare organizations

Rural Program Area Overview

The Rural Program Area advances the American College of Surgeons Committee on Trauma's mission to improve the care of injured patients in rural and underserved communities. The program promotes the development and integration of rural trauma systems, supports the unique needs of rural surgeons and trauma care teams, and fosters collaboration among rural facilities, regional trauma centers, emergency medical services, and system partners. Through education, advocacy, stakeholder engagement, and strategic initiatives, the Rural Program Area works to strengthen access to high-quality trauma care, enhance system preparedness, and ensure that rural perspectives are represented throughout the Committee on Trauma's programs, policies, and leadership activities.

Rural Program Area Chair General Responsibilities

This position functions as a program area chair; please refer to the general expectations/requirements for the program area chair position.

Rural Program Area Chair Specific Responsibilities

- Provide subject matter expertise and strategic leadership for the Rural Program Area
- Collaborate with the medical directors, staff, and surgeon leaders on the continued development and promulgation of the Rural Trauma Program
- Champion the interests and perspectives of rural surgeons, trauma professionals, and facilities across the COT
- Promote increased engagement and participation from surgeons and trauma providers practicing outside large academic and urban institutions.
- Participate in the development and implementation of deliverables related to the Rural Trauma Program including rural trauma symposia and communities of practice
- Identify and address unique practice, educational, and training needs of rural trauma providers and facilities
- Support initiatives that strengthen the role of rural trauma systems, including participation in regional trauma system development and Regional Medical Operations Center (RMOCC) activities.
- Present committee updates, strategic initiatives, and progress reports during meetings as requested
- Communicate program area priorities, accomplishments, and emerging issues to COT leadership and stakeholders

[Apply here!](#)

