

The AACAP Clinical Practice and Government Affairs Departments have been advocating for relief from the stimulant shortage crisis that began in 2023, and have engaged in the following activities:

- Clinical Practice staff spoke with numerous members early in 2023 about the impact of the stimulant shortage and collected illustrative stories about the difficulties experienced by kids, their families, and AACAP members themselves to bolster advocacy activities.
- Clinical Practice drafted letters to both the [Food and Drug Administration \(FDA\)](#) and the [Drug Enforcement Administration \(DEA\)](#) explaining the hardships and difficulties resulting from the shortages and requested a meeting. APA asked to join in these efforts.
- Staff met with officials from the FDA to discuss the issue. As a result, the FDA was able to share steps they were taking to free up available raw ingredients and redistribute them in order to increase manufacturing.
- FDA and DEA issued a [joint letter](#) to the public outlining this strategy in August 2023.
- AACAP [responded to a Congressional Request for Information](#) on drug shortages in July 2023.
- AACAP provided [comments](#) on a notice concerning quotas of Schedule I and II drugs for 2024. The letter applauded their transparency and communication around the issue, in addition to their commitment to establish and maintain reserve stocks going forward.
- Clinical Practice and Government Affairs staff met with Jackie Weinrich in Rep. Matsui's office to discuss AACAP advocacy around stimulant shortages and what could be done to prevent and mitigate future shortages.
- AACAP led a [joint letter](#) with the American Academy of Pediatrics and the Children's Hospital Association to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services and the Drug Enforcement Administration, asking them to convene a meeting of all stakeholders affected by and involved in the stimulant medication shortage issue to help identify actionable steps to mitigate it.