

Amended March 17, 2006
CONSTITUTION
Of The
Triangle Area Physician Assistants

ARTICLE I: TITLE

The name of the organization shall be "Triangle Area Physician Assistants" or the acronym, "TAPA."

ARTICLE II: PURPOSES

The purposes of TAPA shall be:

- A. Providing networking and information dealing with professional issues to those physician assistants in the Triangle area.
- B. Providing opportunities for continuing medical education to those members as above.
- C. Improving communication and fellowship among area physician assistants.
- D. Promote the PA profession in conjunction with other regional, national, and state organizations.

ARTICLE III: MEMBERSHIP

Membership will be granted to any physician assistant who has paid annual dues, and:

- A. Is a student in an accredited PA program
- B. Has received licensure from the NCMB (North Carolina Medical Board) and has completed an application for membership and has been approved by the Steering committee.
- C. Lives in one of the following counties: Person, Orange, Wake, Durham, Alamance, Chatham.

Membership shall not be denied or abridged because of sex, color, creed, race, religion or ethnic origin.

ARTICLE IV: ELECTIONS

Election of officers shall be by a simple majority of the written ballots of the current membership and shall be held within the first quarter of the year. A nominating committee may be formed at the discretion of the Steering Committee. Ballots may be mailed or delivered personally to the Steering Committee prior to the time of the election in order to be counted.

ARTICLE V: OFFICERS

The officers of the organization shall be: President, Secretary, Treasurer and Student Liaison.

The officers must be certified physician assistants who will serve for a term of one year and then may be re-elected. The four above officers will comprise the Steering Committee and will govern all functioning of TAPA.

An MD advisor may be invited to work with the organization under the approval of the Steering Committee. The purpose of the MD advisor shall be to assist and advise the officers on political and professional issues related to the PA profession.

As TAPA officers are required to be members of NCAPA, their NCAPA fellow membership dues shall be paid out of the operating budget, if the budget allows.

Membership dues of current and past officers shall be waived in appreciation of their service to TAPA.

OFFICER DUTIES:

PRESIDENT: The President will chair the steering Committee, help plan the calendar of events for their term of office, assist in the planning of CME events, and serve as the regional representative at NCAPA board meetings.

SECRETARY: The Secretary will maintain records of meetings, membership, attendance lists, CME crediting as well as application for CME and ensure that the mailing list is current for both email and home/work contact addresses.

TREASURER: The Treasurer will keep records of money received and disbursed, and will report annually to the general membership regarding all receipts and disbursements as well as account balances for the organization. Disbursements by the Treasurer may include: postage, meeting expenses, honorariums for speakers, mileage reimbursements to officers conducting business on behalf of the organization, and charitable contributions as directed by the Steering Committee and supported by the general membership. The treasurer may be bonded at the discretion of the Steering committee. The Treasurer is also responsible for the tax exemption/non-profit status of the organization and responsible to file any paperwork related to this status.

STUDENT LIAISON: The student liaison is responsible for recruitment of student members and newly graduated PAs to the organization. The student liaison should speak yearly at those PA programs within the region and provide the Secretary with a list of potential contacts for membership mailings.

All officers should share in the responsibility to write articles and report the organization's activities to the NCAPA newsletter.

Officers who vacate their office prior to the end of the term shall be replaced by the vote of the remaining members of TAPA. Replacement officers shall serve for the remainder of the term. Should the office of the President become vacant, the Secretary shall fill the office in the interim.

ARTICLE VI: COMMITTEES

Committees may be established, appointed or dissolved by the Steering Committee in order to carry out the activities of the organization.

ARTICLE VII: DUES AND ASSESSMENTS

Dues and assessments and the manner of payment shall be determined by the Steering Committee. Assessment fees for special events may be required for those who attend.

ARTICLE VIII: COOPERATION WITH NCAPA

TAPA Shall:

- A. Support membership efforts, public relations and employment efforts for PAs in cooperation with the NCAPA.
- B. Plan CME events such that they will not conflict with those of the NCAPA.
- C. Send a representative to the NCAPA Board meeting.
- D. Submit an annual report to the NCAPA Board of Directors within 60 days prior to the NCAPA Annual Conference.
- E. Ensure that required paperwork for maintaining a charter as an active regional chapter under NCAPA is completed annually.

ARTICLE IX: CONTINGENCIES

This Constitution may be amended by a resolution approved by two-thirds of the voting members of the organization. Notice of such resolution will be given to all members at least 30 days prior to the date of the vote. If a member is unable to attend the meeting at which the proposed amendment is considered, a written ballot may be mailed or delivered to the Steering Committee prior to the meeting. Votes shall be cast at the time of the meeting and the results shall be announced at that meeting.

An officer impeachment resolution shall be presented 30 days prior to balloting. Impeachment shall be by a simple majority of written secret ballots. If a member is unable to attend the meeting at which impeachment is considered, a written ballot may be mailed or delivered to the Steering Committee prior to the meeting.

In the event of the dissolution of TAPA, and provided all debts are paid, the remaining monies will be used for the continuing medical education of physician assistant members. The steering committee will make the final decision concerning such final disbursements.