

Amended February 9, 2017

# **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: PURPOSE**

The Purpose of TAPA shall be:

- A. Providing networking and information dealing with professional issues to those physicians 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 an actively enrolled 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, or Chatham.

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

## **ARTICLE IV: ELECTIONS**

Elections of officers shall be by a simple majority of the written or secure online 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, emailed, or personally delivered to the Steering Committee prior to the time of the election in order to

be counted. If there is no opposition to the current officers then the decision can be made by voice vote.

## **ARTICLE V: OFFICERS**

The officers of the organization shall be

- President
- Secretary
- Treasurer
- Student Liaison

The officers must be certified physician assistants who will serve for a term of one (1) year and then must be re-elected. The four above officers will comprise the Steering Committee and will govern all functioning/functions 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.

TAPA officers are required to be members of the NCAPA, their NCAPA fellowship dues will be paid out from the operating budget, if the budget allows.

Membership dues of current and former TAPA 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 his/her 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 Category 1 CME approval, and ensure that the mailing list is current for both email and home/work addresses.

Treasurer: The Treasurer will keep the records of money received and distributed and will report annually to the general membership regarding all of the 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/nonprofit 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 to those PA programs within the region and provide the Secretary with the list of potential contacts for membership mailings.

All officers should share in the responsibility to write articles and report the organizations 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 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 of 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 chapter 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 proposed amendment is considered, a hand 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 providing all debts are paid in full, the remaining monies will be used for the continuing education of physician assistant members. The Steering Committee will make the final decision concerning such final distribution.