

April 14, 2022

Over the past year the New York State Society of PAs (NYSSPA) has worked with government agencies, the legislative body, and the general public to educate and improve awareness of the role and importance of PAs in providing healthcare to New York State. NYSSPA has also promoted the role of PAs as essential members of healthcare teams while striving to remove existing barriers to patient care. PAs working with the healthcare team offer opportunities to fill healthcare workforce shortages and expand access to quality health care delivery in New York State.

Some of NYSSPA's key activities and concentration areas over the past year:

- Reinstated our in-person Fall CME Conference in Saratoga Springs. With additional webinar programming throughout the year, we offered over 50 hours of category 1 CME to members.
- Provided annual scholarships to 3 PA students based on merit and need. Provided a new Kenneth Whitney Memorial scholarship for a robotic surgery training program.
- Held virtual Lobby Days with legislators across the State discussing topics such as PA integration, workforce issues, legislative and regulatory barriers of the practice of PAs.
- Provided oral and written testimony to the Senators and Assembly members at the Joint Legislative Hearing on the 2022 Executive Budget Proposal New York State Legislature at the Joint Legislative Budget Hearing addressing the reasons to include PAs in the Governor's 2022 budget.
- Provided oral and written testimony at a joint public hearing of the Assembly Committee on Health, Assembly Committee on Higher Education, and Assembly Committee on Labor addressing topics such as PA practice, qualifications, and the lack of identification of PAs as Primary Care Providers in Medicaid contracts.
- PAs attended county medical society meetings to ensure an ongoing dialogue about issues affecting physicians and PAs at the county level. Representation is currently ongoing in Suffolk, Nassau, Queens, Brooklyn, Westchester and Dutchess Counties. If any county medical society would like a PA to attend their regional leadership meetings, please e-mail legislative@nysspa.org.

NYSSPA looks forward to furthering our communication and teamwork with MSSNY to benefit our working relationship and to provide opportunities to improve quality and access to care across all sectors of our health care system.

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