

PA Week Proclamation Toolkit For Constituent Organizations (COs)

This toolkit was developed to encourage COs to engage with their local and state governments to secure proclamations recognizing PA Week (October 6-12) and to elevate awareness of the PA profession. For assistance with customizing this template and seeking publication, please contact advocacy@aapa.org.

Step 1: Prepare Your Request

Suggested Timeline:

- **8 weeks out:** Identify appropriate contact (e.g., governor's office, mayor, town council).
- **6 weeks out:** Submit proclamation request with sample language.
- **3–4 weeks out:** Follow up by phone/email.
- **1 week out:** Promote signed proclamation on social media and within your membership.

Step 2: Sample Proclamation Language

*Complete the **bold** phrases to finalize a proclamation. Follow guidelines from the official's office to request the proclamation.*

WHEREAS, quality, cost-effective, and patient-centered healthcare is essential to the well-being and quality of life of all individuals in **[employer / city / state name]**; and

WHEREAS, physician associates/assistants (PAs) are nationally certified and state-licensed medical professionals who diagnose illnesses, develop and manage treatment plans, prescribe medications, and often serve as a patient's principal healthcare provider; and

WHEREAS, PAs are trusted providers and vital members of the healthcare team, enhancing access to high-quality care in primary care settings, hospitals, rural communities, and underserved areas; and

WHEREAS, PAs deliver compassionate, expert care, often serving as the first point of contact for patients and empowering individuals and families to be active participants in their own health; and

WHEREAS, PAs provide critical care across a broad range of medical specialties, including **addressing the growing demand for behavioral and mental health services**—offering compassionate, evidence-based care to individuals and families in need; and

WHEREAS, PAs are committed to addressing health disparities, expanding access, and providing team-based, person-centered care across every medical specialty and setting; and

WHEREAS, PAs have earned the respect of patients and colleagues alike for their clinical excellence, adaptability, and deep dedication to the communities they serve;

NOW, THEREFORE, I [your name title], do hereby proclaim **October 6–12, [insert year]** as **National PA Week** throughout [facility / city / state name], and I encourage all residents to recognize and celebrate the important role that PAs play in improving health, advancing equity, and delivering high-quality care across the healthcare system.

Step 3: Template Request Letter or Email

Dear [Governor/Mayor/Council Member],

On behalf of [Your CO Name], we respectfully request that your office issue a proclamation recognizing **PA Week**, October 6–12, 2025, to honor the contributions of Physician Associates to the health and well-being of our community.

PAs in [State/City] work in hospitals, clinics, schools, and public health systems, providing high-quality care to patients of all backgrounds. This proclamation will help raise awareness of the vital role we play and highlight the need for continued support for our profession.

We've attached sample language to make the process as seamless as possible. Please let us know if you need any additional information.

Thank you for your leadership and partnership in recognizing healthcare professionals across our state.

Sincerely,

[Your Name]
[Title], [CO Name]
[Email / Phone]

Step 4: Amplify & Celebrate

Once your proclamation is secured:

- Take a **photo with the official document** (and any leaders who sign it)
- Share it on **social media** using #PAweek and tag @aapa
- Email AAPA to be included in national recognition
- Highlight the proclamation in your newsletter or website
- Distribute a press release (sample below)

PA's Go Beyond

Complete the **bold** phrases to finalize a press release. Follow guidelines from your local newspaper to submit the release.

Contact: **[Spokesperson Name, Email, Phone]**

[City/State/University] Declares October 6-12 National PA Week

[CITY], [STATE] (Month Day, Year)—Today, **[City/State/University]** officially declared October 6-12 National PA Week through a proclamation put forward by **[Organization]**.

PA's, or physician associates/assistants, are medical professionals who diagnose illness, develop and manage treatment plans, prescribe medications, and often serve as a patient's principal healthcare provider. With thousands of hours of medical training, PA's practice in every state and in every medical setting and specialty, improving healthcare access and quality.

There are currently **[Number of PA's]** practicing in **[State]** and approximately 190,000 board-certified PA's nationwide.

[Insert quote from official at your organization OR state/city official OR supportive physician]

*Example: "PA's enhance the delivery of high-quality healthcare and are a valuable asset to any medical team. PA's are committed to team-based care and dedicated to delivering effective and efficient healthcare for patients in **[State]**."*

*Throughout the week, PA's and PA students will participate in PA Week on social media, hold events in their communities, and work to raise awareness of the profession. **[Organization]**, the membership organization representing PA's in **[State]**, plans to **[Insert PA Week plans, if applicable]**.*

PA Week, celebrated every year from October 6-12 by the American Academy of Physician Associates, recognizes the PA profession and its contributions to healthcare. The starting date, October 6, honors the anniversary of the first graduating class of PA's from the Duke University PA program in 1987.

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About [Organization]

Insert more information about the chapter. 2-4 sentences

Questions? Need Help?

Contact your AAPA Contact or Advocacy TeamMember or email advocacy@aapa.org for guidance or examples from other states.

Let's celebrate and elevate the PA profession together during PA Week 2025!