

Emily Epling, PA-C

Platform Statement for the 2025 Board of Directors

Candidate For: **Vice President**

I have been honored to serve in the role of NCAPA Vice President since March 2024 and am seeking your support to continue serving in this capacity.

I began my career as a PA working for Forsyth County in the Internal Medicine clinic, caring for some of our community's most vulnerable patients. It was there I learned the value of access to quality healthcare, addressing health disparities and personalizing care. In my current clinical role as a malignant hematology PA and in my administrative role, advocating for patients and removing barriers to clinical practice remains central to sustainable healthcare solutions. I believe in building meaningful relationships with local and state leaders and ensuring they are fully informed of the daily challenges of practicing medicine. By raising the voices of practicing PAs, we can help shape health policy that will result in less administrative burden and better outcomes for patients.

As physician assistants, each of us are leaders. Whether or not we are in a formal leader role, as PAs we lead in our clinics, our facilities, on our healthcare teams and influence patients and families toward healthier lives. Having been a PA for nearly thirty years, embracing and elevating our profession is something I am committed to investing in. Over the last two years, I served on the AAPA HOD B-05 Task Force to develop core leadership skills and competencies for our profession. Investing in professional development for PAs will ensure current and future PAs will be well positioned to deliver quality healthcare to the citizens of North Carolina. Equipping the next generation of PA leaders was my desire to participate in the development of the AAPA Competencies for PAs in Healthcare Administration.

Additionally, I served on the NCAPA Conference Education Committee Professional Development Review Panel (PDRP) in the past and currently have the privilege of serving on the NCAPA Board as Vice President. In the few months I have served as Vice President, I reviewed the current onboarding materials for volunteers and Board members as well as drafted a new Board Assessment aimed at ensuring clarity of the Board's role and performance in carrying out our duties. In addition, I serve as the Executive Committee liaison for the NCAPA Endowment which oversees the Endowment and administers scholarship funds to deserving PA students. If elected to continue serving, I will continue to advocate for our profession, support the growth and development of PAs, seek ways to connect across the state, raise your voice, engage students and members and give back to the PA profession that has granted me so many amazing opportunities.

***With gratitude,
Emily Epling***