

Jessica Veale, PA-C

Platform Statement for 2025 Board of Directors

Candidate For: **Director-at-Large**

It is with immense excitement that I submit my name for consideration for NCAPA's director-at-large position. For the past four years, I have proudly served on numerous NCAPA committees including the government affairs, conference management planning (CMP), and the political action committee (PAC). Currently, I serve as the co-chair of the diversity equity and inclusion (DE&I) committee. Participating in these committees has provided me invaluable insight into the inner workings of NCAPA and I believe now is the time I further expound upon these experiences and join the board of directors.

The mission of NCAPA is to "Strengthen the PA profession in North Carolina through advocacy, education, and support to improve healthcare for all patients," which is a mission that I embody. My commitment to advocacy has been demonstrated in multiple ways. As a current member of the political action committee, I have reviewed NC congressional candidates' stances on the PA profession and helped determine which candidates the PAC should support. I have also prioritized personally participating in NCAPA's PA Day at the legislature for the last two years, as it is important to advocate for the PA profession to our state senators and representatives.

My dedication to education is evident in my recent transition into academia, as I am now a full-time faculty member of the ECU PA Program. PA educators are the gatekeepers to the PA profession, and I strive to do my part to shape the next generation of PAs. Furthermore, we know that our education does not stop at graduation, as PAs are lifelong learners. It is vital we continue to have access to quality CME, which is why I was elated when the NCAPA board approved the DEI committee's recommendation to require 75% of the CME presented at NCAPA conferences include at least one instructional objective that addresses social determinants of health or highlights a health disparity. Incorporating this requirement into CME talks has strengthened the quality of the CME being provided by NCAPA and I am proud that I played a role in moving the needle further as the DEI-co chair.

As an NCAPA committee chair, I am accustomed to attending the NCAPA board meetings for the last two years. Although my role at these meetings historically has been observational, I have witnessed the parliamentary procedures of the board meetings and believe this will aid in a smooth transition as a voting board member. I am confident that my previous professional endeavors have equipped me with the tools necessary to be a meaningful addition to the NCAPA board of directors. I want to thank the nominating committee for recommending me for the director-at-large position and the NCAPA members for your consideration.

*Kind regards,
Jessica Veale*