

# By-Laws

**ARTICLE 1: Name**

The name of this organization shall be called the South Dakota Academy of Physician Assistants, herein referred to as SDAPA.

This constituent chapter is a part of the parent organization known as the American Academy of Physician Assistants, herein referred to as AAPA. This constituent chapter and members must adhere to the philosophy of AAPA. If they are unable to abide by this philosophy, they must work with the parent organization to alter the organization's constitution and bylaws.

**ARTICLE 2: Purpose and Mission**

The purposes of SDAPA:

To promote loyal and honest service to the public through individual and professional relationships in the delivery of physician directed care to the public, to develop and provide continuing educational programs for physician assistants, and to promote the physician assistant profession through the education of other professionals and the public.

Mission of SDAPA:

South Dakota Academy of Physician Assistants, as a professional organization, serves to advance South Dakota physician assistants individually and professionally in partnership with physicians to promote optimal health care for South Dakota citizens.

**ARTICLE 3: Procedures**

Sturgis standard code of Parliamentary procedure shall be the official parliamentary rule of SDAPA.

**ARTICLE 4: Membership**

Section 1:

Membership in this organization shall provide the general membership of SDAPA with a forum for informal assembly regarding issues that relate to the physician assistants of South Dakota.

Section 2: Membership Categories

A. Fellow members shall be Fellow members of the American Academy Physician Assistants whose dues are current, and whose application for SDAPA membership has been approved. Fellow members shall have access to the floor, voting privileges, and may serve as an officer or director of SDAPA.

B. Affiliate members shall be other Physician Assistants who are not Fellow members of the American Academy of Physician Assistants, and whose application for SDAPA membership has been approved. Affiliate members shall have access to the floor and voting privileges on state issues but no issues concerning AAPA. Affiliate members may serve as a director but may not hold an office.

C. Associate members shall be other individuals, Nurse Practitioners, Physicians, and other health professionals interested in the SDAPA whose dues are current and application for SDAPA associate membership has been approved. Associate members shall have access to the floor but may not vote or serve as an officer or director.

D. Student members shall be students enrolled in a CAAHEP - accredited program, and whose application for SDAPA Student membership has been approved. Student members shall have the privilege of the floor, voting privileges on state issues but not issues concerning the American Academy of Physician Assistants, unless they are also members of SAAAPA. A student member may not hold office but may serve as a student representative to the Board of Directors with voting privileges. Student members will be elected by their peers.

E. Honorary members are individuals of distinction who have rendered outstanding service to SDAPA. The Board of Directors grants honorary membership from nominations by SDAPA members. Honorary members shall be entitled to the privilege of the floor but shall not be entitled to vote.

Section 3: Membership Approval All membership applications shall be made in writing with an application form provided by SDAPA. The Board of Directors must approve the applications. Membership applications rejected by the SDAPA Board of Directors may be appealed to the general membership.

SDAPA may not deny membership to a Fellow member of the AAPA unless such chapter membership has been revoked for reason of ethical or judicial nature.

No individual can be denied membership because of race, color, or religious beliefs. Any SDAPA/AAPA member who belongs to more than one constituent chapter may only vote on AAPA issues in one constituent chapter.

## **ARTICLE 5: Judicial Affairs**

### Section 1:

The Board of Directors shall serve as the judicial body of the SDAPA.

### Section 2:

The Board of Directors will create a policy for defining and implementing infractions to the Code of Ethics.

### Section 3:

Code of Ethics adopted by the American Academy of Physicians shall serve as Code of Ethics for SDAPA.

*This is not a typographical error. Apparently, when the SDAPA by-laws were adopted the AAPA did not have a Code of Ethics, so the American Academy of Physicians' Code of Ethics was adopted. The AAPA since has developed a Code of Ethics, so this change is recommended to reflect that.*

**Change American Academy of Physicians to American Academy of Physician Assistants**

#### Section 4:

Any Fellow member may in good faith prefer charges against another SDAPA member believed to have violated the Code of Ethics.

#### Section 5:

Any officer or director of SDAPA may be suspended or removed from office for cause by the affirmative vote of 2/3 of the members of the Board of Directors. Violation of the Code of Ethics or violation of SDAPA By-Laws or State Statutes, including gross dereliction of duties or malfeasance, may be considered.

#### **ARTICLE 6: Powers of the Board of Directors**

The Board of Directors shall consist of the President, Vice President/President-Elect, Past President, Secretary, Treasurer, Three Directors at Large, and two Student Representatives.

#### Section 1:

A. Each officer of SDAPA will be a Fellow member in good standing of the AAPA for the duration of his or her term.

B. The Board of Directors shall control and manage the affairs of the organization. They shall determine who shall be authorized to sign, on the behalf of the organization, bills, receipts, endorsements, checks, releases, contracts, and documents.

C. The Board of Directors shall set charges, dues, and/or assessments as deemed advisable for purposes of furthering the objectives of SDAPA.

D. The Board of Directors, at any meeting, may appoint additional officers with such title, authority, and duties as is deemed advisable and to fill vacancies occurring in their number between elections.

#### **ARTICLE 7: Meeting Of Membership Section**

#### Section 1:

The South Dakota Academy of Physician Assistants shall conduct biannual general membership meetings to be held in conjunction with the Spring and Fall CME's.

#### Section 2:

Membership meetings will be announced not less than sixty days prior to the date of the meetings. Reports on the affairs of the organization, business conducted by various committees, and issues of vital importance to the general membership will be presented by the officers of SDAPA at each membership meeting.

#### Section 3:

Special meetings of SDAPA may be called by the President or by order of the Board of Directors.

#### Section 4:

Those eligible-voting members present at a duly announced membership meeting shall constitute a quorum.

#### **ARTICLE 8: Elections**

#### Section 1: Balloting

The election of SDAPA Officers and Board of Directors shall be held using a ballot mailed to eligible voting members prior to the ~~February~~ membership meeting. Members with voting privileges may present their ballot to the election officer by mail prior to the meeting or in person at the meeting to the election committee designee. Results of elections shall be announced at the General Membership meeting.

*Change February in the above paragraph to Winter/Spring. Reasoning: The CME meetings in a previous paragraph were referred to as Spring and Fall CMEs. The meetings are not always held in February, sometimes they are held in March. In order to make everything clear it is recommended that the September (Sioux Falls) meeting be referred to as the Summer/Fall CME and the February/March (Rapid City) meeting be referred to as the Winter/Spring meeting.*

A mistake in voting for a candidate for one office does not invalidate votes for other offices and issues on the same ballot. Technical errors, such as misspelling, do not invalidate, if the intent of the vote is clear. Votes for ineligible candidates are counted as legal ballots. Blank ballots are counted as illegal ballots. If several nominees for the same office are present on the ballot, all ballots containing less than the number of slots to be filled will be counted as valid. Ballots with more votes cast than for the number of slots to be filled will be counted as invalid ballots.

#### Section 2: Candidacy

Candidates must make their intentions known to the Election Committee 45 days prior to the membership meeting. The Election Committee, after confirming candidates are eligible, shall mail ballots to the voting membership 30 days prior to the meeting.

#### Section 3: Term of Office

All officers and directors shall serve a two- year term of office beginning July 1 following their election. The Vice President/President-Elect serves two years as Vice President/President-Elect and subsequently serves two years as President and one year as Past President.

#### Section 4: Student Members

Student members of the Board of Directors will be elected by the Physician Assistant Student Association and approved by the SDAPA Board of Directors. Student board members will serve one year. There will be one student member from the first year class and one member from the second year class.

#### Section 5: Timing of Elections

Election of the Secretary and two Directors at Large shall be conducted in odd numbered years. Election of the Vice President/President-Elect, Treasurer and one Director at Large shall be conducted in even numbered years.

#### Section 6: Election of Delegates to the AAPA House of Delegates

Delegates will be elected on an annual basis by the SDAPA at the Winter/Spring Conference to attend the following years' conference. The AAPA apportions the number of delegates that each state chapter is eligible for. Elections for delegates will be based on that number (currently three) with one additional candidate chosen. Amongst the candidates chosen they will decide who will service as Chief Delegate, Delegate(s) and alternate delegate.

#### Section 7: Filling Vacancies on the Board of Directors

In the event of a vacancy on the Board, the Board shall appoint a member to complete the unexpired term.

### **ARTICLE 9: Board of Directors**

### Section 1:

The Board of Directors shall hold meetings at such time and place as may be designated by the President but at least twice annually in conjunction with the General Membership meetings. A simple majority of the membership of the Board shall constitute a quorum for purposes of transacting business.

### Section 2:

Special meetings may be called by the Secretary at the request of the President or, upon written request to the President, by at least ten members of the organization or at the request of a board member. The purpose of special meetings shall be stated in the request for the meeting, and no other business shall be transacted at that meeting. ~~Notice of special meetings shall be transmitted by mail no less than fourteen days prior to the meeting.~~

*Change should be made to reflect the actual practice. Change last sentence to:* Notice of special meetings shall be transmitted by e-mail no less than 7 days prior to the meeting.

### Section 3:

Board of Directors will conduct two meetings per year between membership meetings to address other needs of SDAPA. Meetings may be conducted by teleconference or in person at the direction of the President of SDAPA.

## **ARTICLE 10: Duties of the Officers**

### Section 1:

The President shall preside at all business meetings of SDAPA. He/she shall make a full report of activities at the biannual meetings of SDAPA. He/she shall appoint all standing committees and shall designate the chairman thereof, subject to the approval of the Board of Directors.

### Section 2:

The Vice President/President-Elect shall assume the duties of the President in his/her absence. The Vice President/President-Elect will organize and conduct, with the assistance of the Election Committee, all elections.

### Section 3:

The Vice President/President-Elect must be present at three-quarters of all officially designated meetings or forfeit the position. The position of Vice President/President-Elect may be filled by appointment by the Board of Directors with confirmation of a majority of the members through a special ballot. The Vice President/President-Elect succeeds to the Presidency July 1 at the conclusion of the President's second year.

*The SDAPA Board recommends that all elected Board members must be present at three-quarters of all officially designated meetings or forfeit the position, not just the Vice President/President-Elect.*

### Section 4:

The Secretary shall record and maintain minutes of all meeting of SDAPA, be responsible for all organization communications, and notify all members of meetings.

### Section 5:

The Treasurer shall maintain accurate records of the financial status of the organization. Annual dues and all moneys received by the organization shall be recorded and deposited into the appropriate accounts. At the direction of the President and Board of Directors, the Treasurer shall pay all bills of the organization and record all receipts of those payments.

#### **ARTICLE 11: Standing Committees**

Standing Committees shall consist of Continuing Medical Education, Elections, Ethics, Governmental Affairs, Membership, Minority Affairs, Public Relations, and Physician Assistants Advisory.

##### Section 1:

Standing committees may be designated by the Board of Directors or established by the President with the consent of the Board of Directors.

##### Section 2:

Each standing committee shall be responsible for the performance of the duties and functions delegated to it by the Board of Directors or President.

##### Section 3:

Standing committees shall hold regular meetings and shall present biannual written reports to the Board of Directors.

#### **ARTICLE 12: Amendments**

These By-Laws may be amended at any regular or special meeting of the membership by a majority of all voting members.

#### **ARTICLE 13: Resolutions**

##### Section 1:

Resolutions are defined as expression of Philosophy or Policy governing the SDAPA.

Resolutions which propose change to the Constitution and/or By-laws may be submitted by voting members, committee chairs, officers, or the Board of Directors.

Proposals to amend, repeal, or adopt new By-Laws or Constitutional Amendments shall be submitted to the Secretary ninety days before a duly scheduled membership meeting.

Proposals shall be published in the SDAPA Newsletter prior to the next General Membership meeting, at which time the proposal will be considered. If newsletter mailing is not available, a special mailing to voting members shall take place 30 days prior to said meeting.

##### Section 2:

Late resolutions shall be defined as those resolutions submitted less than thirty days prior to the scheduled membership meeting.

Sponsors of late resolutions shall notify the President of SDAPA of such resolutions prior to the beginning of the meeting.

Sponsors of the late resolution shall be responsible for supplying printed copies of said resolution to all voting members prior to the start of the meeting.

Late resolutions shall be dealt with as new business.

Section 3:

Emergency resolutions shall be defined as those resolutions, which are submitted after the start of the business meeting at which time they are to be considered.

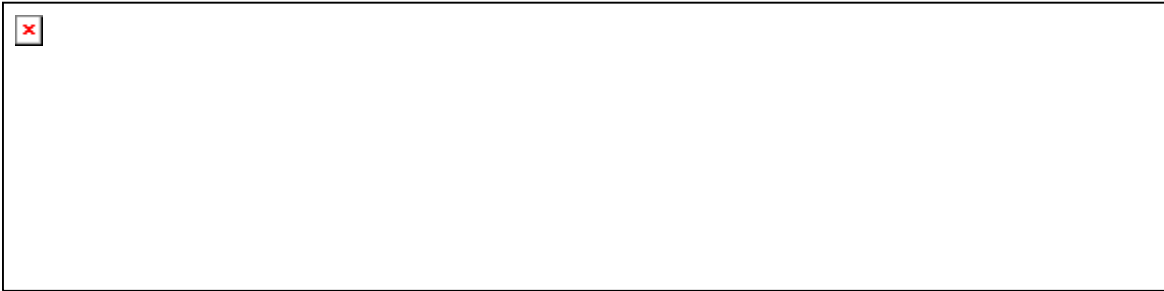
A 2/3 vote of the present voting membership shall be required to consider any emergency resolution.

Section 4:

All resolutions adopted by the membership shall become official policy.

Reviewed/Updated:

4-11-08 updated  
3-04-05 updated  
2-18-99 updated  
10-28-98 reviewed  
2-19-98  
1-15-95



## **POLICY AND PROCEDURES**

THE FOLLOWING ARE THE POLICIES AND PROCEDURES OF THE SOUTH DAKOTA ACADEMY OF PHYSICIAN ASSISTANTS, HEREINAFTER REFERRED TO AS THE SDAPA. SDAPA ENCOURAGES MEMBERSHIP IN THE PARENT ORGANIZATION, THE AMERICAN ACADEMY OF PHYSICIAN ASSISTANTS, HEREINAFTER REFERRED TO AS AAPA.

**REPRESENTATION:**

No individual, officer, chairperson, or committee member shall communicate as official representation of SDAPA without the approval of the President after appropriate consultation with the Board of Directors.

All correspondence on SDAPA stationery shall reflect current policy of SDAPA. Therefore, SDAPA stationery will be used only for official business.

Any legal advice provided to a member of SDAPA shall be provided at the expense of the individual, unless the cause is believed to have significant ramifications on the Physician Assistant profession. The evaluation of individual situations shall be decided by the President and the Board of Directors.

**SDAPA ADDRESS MAILING LISTS:**

Use of the SDAPA mailing list and/or membership list is available to paid members of the SDAPA. Use by nonmembers shall be permissible upon review and approval of the Board of Directors.

Any member of the SDAPA may have their name removed from the mailing list upon written request.

The mailing list shall not be available for the purpose of sales promotion, political activism, sale or use of tobacco, drugs or liquor, pornography, quackery, fundraising or telephone solicitation.

#### AFFILIATIONS:

SDAPA grants to affiliate organizations, caucuses, and the student academy the right to operate as a subsidiary unit of SDAPA after review by the Board of Directors and approval of the membership. In doing so, SDAPA reserves the right to monitor their adherence to SDAPA policies and procedures. Accordingly, each affiliate organization will submit a copy of its governing documents, and within twenty days, a copy of each revision of said documents to SDAPA Board of Directors for review.

#### SDAPA SCHOLARSHIP:

SDAPA shall establish and maintain adequate resources for the monetary assistance for Physician Assistant students.

The SDAPA Scholarship Committee shall consider applications from any South Dakota Physician Assistant student, who is likely to reside in South Dakota after graduation and provide medical services in a rural or federally designated manpower shortage area.

#### CERTIFICATION:

SDAPA endorses the National Commission on Certification of Physician Assistants (NCCPA) certification examination as the entrance for all Physician Assistants entering practice. SDAPA also encourages its membership to maintain current NCCPA certification.

Public accountability and continued competence is encouraged by the utilization of continuing medical education, self-assessment, and re-certification examination through NCCPA.

#### COMMITTEES:

SDAPA Committees:

Continuing Medical Education

Elections

Ethics

Legislative Policy and Professional Practice

Membership

Minority Affairs

Public Relations

Physician Assistant Advisory

All committees of SDAPA shall consist of a chairperson and committee members. Appointments will be announced by the President in July of each year with ongoing evaluation of the chair and committee members by the President and Board of Directors.

Each committee chair shall be responsible for the presentation of a report to each Board of Directors meeting. This report should detail all actions taken by the committee. Each committee report shall be presented in written format to the secretary, prior to the meeting or immediately after the report is presented.

#### COMMITTEE RESPONSIBILITIES:

##### Continuing Medical Education:

Continuing Medical Education shall be defined as educational activities which maintain, develop, or increase skills and professional performance or develop relationships that a Physician Assistant utilizes to provide service to patients and the public.

The Continuing Medical Education Committee shall be responsible for the development of a curriculum for each CME meeting which meets the defined criteria. The curriculum will be presented to the executive secretary six to nine months prior to the scheduled meeting to allow for adequate time to engage speakers and arrange for financial support.

The Pharmaceutical Liaison Sub-Committee shall have the responsibility of identifying those companies which are able to provide financial assistance and educational speakers for the Continuing Medical Education seminars held biannually.

The office shall maintain a current updated list of each company and the contact person, including address and phone number.

When possible, the Continuing Medical Education Committee will maintain a list of topics for which each company has available speakers.

##### Election Committee:

The Election Committee, in conjunction with the Executive Secretary, shall prepare and mail ballots in numbered sequence to all voting members of SDAPA thirty days prior to the election.

All ballots shall provide space for write in candidates.

All candidates shall be listed in alphabetic order on the ballot.

Ballots may be returned by mail or returned at the meeting prior to the election.

The Election Committee shall be responsible for informing all candidates of the qualifications required for the office for which the candidate is campaigning.

The Election Committee shall be responsible for the certification of eligibility of all self declared and write in candidates.

The Election Committee shall be responsible for all teller functions during the election process, including the counting of ballots and certifying all ballots are valid. They shall present the results of the vote to the Secretary of SDAPA.

The Nomination Sub-Committee shall be responsible for preparing a slate of candidates for each office open in the upcoming election. They shall be responsible for the certification of eligibility of each candidate for office.

The Nomination Sub-Committee will submit two names for each office open to election.

The slate of candidates shall be presented to the Election Committee no less than forty-five days prior to the election. This slate will also be presented in written form to the Executive Secretary of SDAPA.

Self-declaration may be made to either the Election Committee or to the Nomination Sub-Committee for inclusion on the ballot.

Ethics Committee:

The Ethics Committee shall be responsible for the monitoring of any infractions which may be in conflict with the SDAPA Code of Ethics. (See back cover of this attachment for Code of Ethics

The Impairment Sub-Committee shall have the responsibility of assisting the impaired practitioner who is identified and is unable to safely practice because of physical or mental illness, deterioration through the aging process, loss of motor skills from chronic illness, or through the use of drugs and/or alcohol. They shall serve as advocates for the restoration of the practitioner to patient care when applicable.

Legislative Policy and Professional Practice:

The Legislative Policy and Professional Practice Committee shall appoint 2 members to attend the South Dakota Board of Medical and Osteopathic Examiners meeting to express to the SDBMOE all concerns of SDAPA in reference to rules, regulations, and issues which pertain to the general membership of SDAPA. The appointed individuals will report back to the Legislative Policy and Professional Practice committee, the SDAPA Board of Directors, and general membership.

Legislative Sub-Committee:

The Legislative Sub-Committee shall be responsible for the monitoring of all issues of state and national importance, which may affect the practice of Physician Assistants in the state.

This sub-committee will be in contact with the lobbyist each legislative session to monitor all bills introduced which may affect the practice environment of Physician Assistants.

This sub-committee shall work with the Executive Secretary to set up the annual Legislative Reception each January in Pierre.

This sub-committee shall advise the President and Board of Directors of any legislative or statewide issues that are of concern to the general membership.

This sub-committee will communicate with SDAPA members in a timely fashion to remind them of pertinent issues in the upcoming legislative session that should be addressed personally to their individual legislators.

By-Laws Sub-Committee:

The By-Laws Sub-Committee shall be responsible for the continuous updating of the Constitution, By-Laws, and Policies and Procedures of the SDAPA in keeping with the recommendations of the parent organization, AAPA.

Reimbursement Sub-Committee:

The Reimbursement Sub-Committee shall be responsible for the ongoing monitoring of all issues related to reimbursement for Physician Assistant services in South Dakota. They will be responsible for attending any seminars and meetings which address these topics.

This sub-committee will be responsible for communication with the South Dakota Departments of Health and Social Services and HCFA about issues related to reimbursement.

This sub-committee shall be responsible for notifying PAs of issues which could affect their practice after consultation with the President and the Board of Directors.

#### Membership:

Membership Services provided to paid members shall include quarterly newsletter, reduced registration for SDAPA sponsored CME, membership card and pin, unified voice on legislative issues, networking, central phone and mailing address for SDAPA issues, scholarship program, and impaired practitioner services.

The Membership Committee shall be responsible for the recruitment and retention of members in SDAPA. They shall compile a membership book with current pictures and membership information which will be mailed to individual members annually.

They shall maintain a current list of all SDAPA members, addresses, and telephone numbers for mailing purposes.

This committee shall be responsible for the annual dues letter, which is mailed in December of each year, and for monitoring all renewed memberships for the following year.

#### Minority Affairs:

The Minority Affairs Committee shall consist of at least one individual who is a minority and any other members of the SDAPA who are interested in supporting the efforts and problems encountered which involve either minorities or ethnic bias.

#### Public Relations:

The Public Relations Committee shall be responsible for promotion of the Physician Assistant profession.

The Public Relations Committee shall be responsible for maintaining an annual scrapbook, which chronicles all ongoing activities of Physician Assistants in South Dakota.

This committee shall be responsible for the annual PA Day activities and distribution of news releases pertinent to the day, which recognizes PAs around the state.

#### HOUSE OF DELEGATES:

Any member of SDAPA who is representing the general membership at a funded meeting shall be responsible for attending all sessions of that meeting. They will be responsible for submitting a written report of the activities of that meeting to the Board of Directors next meeting and submit for the newsletter a summary of actions taken or considered that may or may not impact the members of SDAPA.

Delegates will be elected on an annual basis by the SDAPA at the Winter/Spring Conference to attend the following years' conference. The AAPA apportions the number of delegates that each state chapter is eligible for. Elections for delegates will be based on that number (currently three) with one additional candidate chosen. Amongst the candidates chosen they will decide who will service as Chief Delegate, Delegate(s) and alternate delegate.

#### CHIEF DELEGATE:

The Chief Delegate must be a fellow member of SDAPA and AAPA at the time of the election to the position.

The Chief Delegate will be responsible for coordination of all House activities, representation at various hearing and social functions, and for continual coverage of the House seat at all open sessions of the House of Delegates.

Chief Delegate will receive for his/her effort compensation, which pays for the registration for the House of Delegates, airfare to and from the AAPA meeting, and housing for the days which the House is in session. Meals will be reimbursed at a per diem rate as per the federal registry allowance.

When possible, arrange for airfare in advance of 21 days to allow for the lowest rates available. Meeting registration should be sent in advance to arrange for the lowest possible rate.

#### DELEGATE:

The Delegate must be a Fellow member of SDAPA and AAPA at the time of the election to the position.

The Delegate will be responsible for working with the Chief Delegate to see that all House activities, hearings and social functions, and coverage of the House seat at all open sessions of the House of Delegates are maintained.

The Delegate will receive for his/her effort compensation, which pays for the registration for the House of Delegates, airfare to and from the AAPA meeting, and housing for the days which the House is in session. Meals will be reimbursed at a per diem rate as per the federal registry allowance.

When possible, arrange for airfare in advance of 21 days to allow for the lowest rates available. Meeting registration should be sent in advance to arrange for the lowest possible rate.

#### ALTERNATE DELEGATE:

The Alternate should have a keen understanding of the issues being decided at the House of Delegates and be prepared to serve at the House in any capacity requested by the Chief Delegate.

The Alternates must be Fellow members of SDAPA and AAPA at the time of the election to the position.

The Alternates will be responsible for working with the Delegates to see that all House activities, hearings and social functions, and coverage of the House seat at all open sessions of the House of Delegates are maintained. The Alternates will be available to fill in on the House floor whenever the Delegate or Chief Delegate is required to be elsewhere.

SDAPA may send as many Alternates as it wishes to attend the AAPA House of Delegates, but will only fund two elected positions at a flat rate established by the Board.

#### REGIONAL MEETINGS:

As member of the parent organization, the AAPA sponsors regional meetings to address the problems encountered in each region. SDAPA is a member of the North Central Region and is expected to have representation at each of the meetings. SDAPA will send two Fellow members and one Student member to the regional meeting annually. When possible, the President of SDAPA will attend this meeting. If the President is unable to attend, he will make the appointments, with the direction of the Board of Directors.

Representatives to the North Central Regional meeting shall be funded by the Academy. Airfare or mileage and hotel expenses as well as reimbursement for meals at a per diem rate as per the federal registry allowance.

When possible, arrange for airfare in advance of 21 days to allow for the lowest rates available. Meeting registration should be sent in advance to arrange for the lowest possible rate.

#### CONSTITUENT ORGANIZATION RESOURCE EXCHANGE (CORE)

CORE is held each year with the mission to equip current and future AAPA constituent organization leaders with the specific tools and skills they need to lead, manage, and provide excellent service to their members.

SDAPA will send two representatives to the CORE meeting each year. When possible, the Vice President/President-Elect and one other officer, board member, or committee chairperson will be considered.

Funding for CORE will include airfare and housing. Meals will be reimbursed at a per diem rate as per federal registry.

When possible, arrange airfare in advance of 21 days to allow for the lowest rates available. Meeting registration should be sent in advance to arrange for the lowest possible rate.

*Reviewed/Updated:*

*3/11/09 updated*

*3-04-05 updated*

*2-18-99 updated*

*10/28/98*



## CONSTITUTION

### ARTICLE I: NAME

The name of the organization shall be South Dakota Academy of Physician Assistants, hereinafter referred to as the SDAPA.

### ARTICLE II: PURPOSE OF SOUTH DAKOTA ACADEMY OF PHYSICIAN ASSISTANTS

The purposes of SDAPA are to promote loyal and honest service through individual and professional relationships in the delivery of physician directed health care to the public, to develop and provide continuing educational programs for physician assistants, and to promote the physician assistant profession through the education of other professionals and the public.

### ARTICLE III: RELATIONSHIP TO THE AMERICAN ACADEMY OF PHYSICIAN ASSISTANTS

SDAPA is organized as a chartered constituent chapter of the American Academy of Physician Assistants.

#### **ARTICLE IV: DEFINITIONS**

A Physician Assistant is an individual who is a graduate of a CAHEA or (CAAHEP) accredited program, has been certified by the National Commission on Physician Assistants, or meets criteria for licensure by the South Dakota Board of Medical and Osteopathic Examiners.

#### **ARTICLE V: COMPOSITION OF SDAPA**

SDAPA shall consist of Fellow, Affiliate, Associate, Student, and Honorary members as provided in the By-Laws.

#### **ARTICLE VI: BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

The Board of Directors' duties are executive and judicial, shall have charge of all property and all financial affairs of SDAPA, and shall perform such other duties as are prescribed in the By-Laws. The Board of Directors shall consist of the President, Vice-President/President-Elect, Secretary, Treasurer, three Directors at Large, two Student Members, Student Advisor, and the Immediate Past President.

#### **ARTICLE VII: CONVENTIONS AND MEETINGS**

SDAPA shall conduct two continuing medical education conferences annually. The Board of Directors and the membership business meetings shall be held at these conferences.

#### **ARTICLE VIII: OFFICERS**

The officers of SDAPA shall be President, Vice-President/President-Elect, Secretary, and Treasurer.

#### **ARTICLE IX: AMENDMENTS**

This constitution may be amended by two-thirds of those Fellow members voting on the amendment.

Reviewed/Updated:  
3-04-05 Updated.  
2-18-99 updated  
10-28-98 reviewed.  
2-19-98