Iowa Physician Associate Society (IPAS)
2027 Legislative Priorities

Advancing Healthcare Through Advocacy, Collaboration, and Partnership

Our Legislative Commitment

The Iowa Physician Associate Society (IPAS) is committed to advancing policies that strengthen Iowa's healthcare system, support healthcare professionals, and improve access to quality medical care for all Iowans.

While IPAS maintains legislative priorities specific to the PA profession, the association also seeks to be an active and valued partner in broader healthcare policy discussions. By supporting initiatives that benefit Iowa's healthcare workforce and patients, IPAS reinforces its commitment to advancing healthcare throughout the state.

1. Strengthen and Modernize PA Practice in Iowa

IPAS supports legislation that recognizes the education, training, and clinical expertise of Physician Associates and promotes their effective utilization throughout Iowa's healthcare system.

- Modernize PA practice laws and reduce unnecessary administrative and regulatory barriers.
- Prioritize completion and implementation of Physician Associate title change legislation. The rulemaking process is not yet complete, and IPAS will work with its lobbyists to actively monitor proposed rules and relevant board and commission meetings, represent the association's interests, and advocate for consistent recognition of the updated title across state departments, licensing boards, administrative rules, regulatory documents, and other applicable legislation. IPAS will provide input and respond as needed throughout the rulemaking and implementation process.
- Promote policies allowing PAs to practice efficiently within their education, training, and experience.
- Support PA participation in interstate licensure initiatives, including the PA Licensure Compact.
- Advance fair reimbursement and recognition of PA-provided medical services.

2. Expand Clinical Education and Preceptor Opportunities

Clinical preceptors are essential to preparing Iowa's future healthcare workforce. IPAS supports incentives for qualified professionals who provide uncompensated clinical instruction, especially in rural and underserved communities.

- Partner with Iowa nurse practitioner organizations to advance preceptor tax credit legislation.
- Advocate for inclusion of PAs supervising PA students in qualifying preceptorships.
- Encourage equitable treatment of eligible healthcare professions and expand clinical placement opportunities.

Legislative opportunities from the 2025–2026 session (subject to review of final bill language):

- SF 391: Proposed a refundable $1,000 credit per qualifying preceptorship involving at least 100 clinical hours, capped at $2,000 annually.
- HF 111: Proposed a nonrefundable $500 credit per qualifying preceptorship involving at least 100 clinical hours, capped at $2,000 annually, with no carryforward.

Both proposals were described as applying to ARNPs providing uncompensated clinical instruction and supervision to nursing students. IPAS supports their underlying objective and seeks inclusive legislation recognizing PA preceptors as well.

3. Support Healthcare Workforce Development and Retention

- Strengthen recruitment and retention of healthcare professionals, especially in rural communities.
- Expand educational pathways, clinical training, loan repayment, and workforce incentives.
- Support collaborative strategies to address workforce shortages and future care needs.

4. Improve Access to Healthcare for All Iowans

- Reduce barriers to timely medical services and support sustainable rural healthcare facilities and clinics.
- Strengthen team-based care and effective utilization of healthcare professionals.
- Support innovative delivery models that improve patient outcomes in underserved areas.

5. Strengthen Healthcare Partnerships and Collaborative Advocacy

IPAS seeks to be an active, trusted participant in healthcare policy development, including proposals initiated by other healthcare associations.

- Build relationships with physician, nursing, hospital, rural health, and other healthcare organizations.
- Provide the PA perspective on proposed healthcare legislation and its effects on patients and the workforce.
- Collaborate on shared objectives while protecting the integrity of the PA profession.

Our Role in Iowa Healthcare Advocacy

IPAS believes its advocacy role extends beyond PA-specific bills. Through partnerships with legislators and healthcare organizations, IPAS will contribute to broader policy decisions that strengthen Iowa's healthcare system.

Our objective is to ensure the PA profession is not only represented when PA-specific legislation is considered, but recognized as a knowledgeable, collaborative, and valued voice in broader healthcare policy decisions.