

American College of Physicians Assistants



CONSTITUTION

ARTICLE I

NAME

SECTION 1. The name of this organization is the AMERICAN COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS ASSISTANTS, hereafter referred to as "THE COLLEGE."

ARTICLE II

PURPOSE

- SECTION 1. THE COLLEGE is formed as a non-profit organization to encourage and guide schools which will develop the skills and knowledge needed to perform the tasks prescribed by the physician and/or institution utilizing the services of physician's assistants.
- SECTION 2. To develop criteria leading to certification of schools for physician's assistants. To improve the educational standards of schools or institutions having programs or study courses leading to the development of certified physician's assistants.
- SECTION 3. To develop criteria leading to the certification of all physician's assistants.
- SECTION 4. To study, discuss, and exchange knowledge, experience, and ideas beneficial to the improvement of physician's assistants.
- SECTION 5. To establish and maintain high professional and ethical standards.
- SECTION 6. To unify all qualified organizations of physician's assistants into THE COLLEGE regardless of specialty, school of training, or regional restrictions.

ARTICLE III

OFFICES

- SECTION 1. The principal office of THE COLLEGE shall be located in the City of Cincinnati, State of Ohio.
- SECTION 2. The establishment of regional offices and boundaries shall be by the authority of the National Executive Committee.

- SECTION 3. The National Executive Committee may grant and revoke the charter of such subordinate Chapters as are provided for in the By-Laws of THE COLLEGE.

ARTICLE IV

DURATION

- SECTION 1. The death, removal, or resignation of any member shall not result in the dissolution of THE COLLEGE.
- SECTION 2. In the event of dissolution of THE COLLEGE, all liabilities shall be paid and the remaining assets shall be donated to a charitable organization.

ARTICLE V

MEMBERSHIP

- SECTION 1. The membership of THE COLLEGE shall consist of Founding Fellows, Fellows, and Provisional, Student, and Honorary Members.

ARTICLE VI

OFFICERS

- SECTION 1. The National Officers shall be the President, Executive Vice Presidents, Secretary, Treasurer, Parliamentarian and Sergeant at Arms. They shall conduct the business of THE COLLEGE according to Robert's Rules of Order - (Revised) unless in conflict with these Articles.
- SECTION 2. The President, Secretary, Treasurer, Parliamentarian and Sergeant at Arms are elected for two year terms at the National Convention. The Executive Vice Presidents are appointed from the Chapter Presidents to two year terms by the National Executive Committee. The President shall appoint the Chairmen of all committees.
- SECTION 3. The National Officers and the Chairmen of the Standing Committees shall be members of the National Executive Committee and are authorized to conduct such business as deemed necessary for the professional growth, progress, and maintenance of THE COLLEGE during the interim between National Conventions.
- SECTION 4. The National Executive Committee shall act as the nominating committee for candidates to national offices and shall establish the place, date, and arrangements for all National Conventions as described in the By-Laws and as recommended by the Convention Committee.
- SECTION 5. The resignation of any National Officer shall be presented to the Secretary in writing by registered mail. The President shall appoint the officer pro tem with the approval of the National Executive Committee.

SECTION 6. The impeachment of any National Officer shall be by two thirds vote of the National Executive Committee. The President shall appoint the officer pro tem with the approval of two thirds of the National Executive Committee.

ARTICLE VII

CANDIDATES FOR NATIONAL OFFICE

SECTION 1. All candidates for national office must be Founding Fellows or Fellows in good standing in THE COLLEGE for at least two years prior to their being nominated.

ARTICLE VIII

NATIONAL CONVENTION

SECTION 1. A National Convention shall be held every two years in July beginning July, 1974.

SECTION 2. Each Chapter shall elect to the National Convention two delegates, each with one vote in all deliberations before the National Convention.

SECTION 3. Each Chapter shall elect also one alternate who will attend the National Convention as a substitute for either delegate from his Chapter in the event of that delegate's absence for any reason. The alternate will be subject to all the rules and regulations as applies to the delegate.

SECTION 4. Delegates and alternates must be Founding Fellows or Fellows in good standing.

ARTICLE IX

COMMITTEES

SECTION 1. The National Executive Committee shall be composed of all elected and appointed officers of THE COLLEGE and shall appoint and remove such operating officers as deemed necessary for the effective functioning of THE COLLEGE.

SECTION 2. The Standing Committees of THE COLLEGE shall consist of the Membership Committee, the Financial Committee, the Research Committee and the Legal and Ethics Committee.

SECTION 3. Ad Hoc Committees shall be commissioned as needed by the National Executive Committee.

ARTICLE X

GENERAL POWERS OF THE COLLEGE

- SECTION 1. THE COLLEGE shall have the power to own, accept, acquire, mortgage, and dispose of real and personal properties and to obtain, invest, and retain funds in advancing the purposes stated in Article II. Any contractual agreement entered into by THE COLLEGE must be signed by two of the following National Officers: the President, the Treasurer, and/or the Secretary and must be approved in advance by the National Executive Committee.
- SECTION 2. THE COLLEGE shall have the power to do any lawful act or any thing reasonably necessary or desirable for carrying out the purposes of THE COLLEGE and for protecting the lawful rights and interests of its members in connection therewith.
- SECTION 3. THE COLLEGE, through the National Executive Committee, maintains the right to internal controls in matters concerning professional ethics, membership, continuing education, and the structure of its Chapters.

ARTICLE XI

RESPONSIBILITIES OF CHAPTERS

- SECTION 1. All Chapters shall be responsible for upholding within their memberships the Constitution and By-Laws of THE COLLEGE, unless in conflict with existing State or Federal Statutes.

ARTICLE XII

AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION

- SECTION 1. All proposed amendments by the Chapter to the Constitution of THE COLLEGE must be presented in writing by registered mail to the National Executive Committee.
- SECTION 2. Within three months of receipt of a proposed amendment, the National Executive Committee must announce its approval or disapproval of the proposed amendment.
- SECTION 3. Within two weeks of approval, the National Executive Committee must notify each Chapter of the proposed amendment. The committee appointed must send to all Founding Fellows and Fellows in good standing a dated ballot and notification of the date for the official counting of the returned ballots.
- SECTION 4. Results of the voting will be notarized and submitted to the National Executive Committee for publication.

ARTICLE XIII

ADDITION, SUSPENSION, AND ALTERATION OF THE BY-LAWS

- SECTION 1. All proposed additions or alterations of the By-Laws of THE COLLEGE must be presented by the Chapter or a member of the National Executive Committee in writing by registered mail to the National Executive Committee for placement on the agenda of the next National Convention.
- SECTION 2. The National Executive Committee may temporarily suspend the enforcement of a By-Law by a two thirds vote of its members. To effect permanent alteration of the By-Laws of THE COLLEGE the procedure stated in ARTICLE XIII, SECTION I must be used.

ARTICLE XIV

ACCEPTANCE

- SECTION 1. These Articles shall become binding and effective when approved and signed by six originators.

Richard Gilbert
W. W. Jones
W. H. Johnson
Larry Wilson
J. James Norton
James R. Schickel