

practice and warrant seat belt exemptions. However, for the PAs practicing in Maine, the ability to offer this when it is indicated is essential to our ongoing care of Mainers.

We urge you to vote “ought to pass as amended” on LD 2072, to allow PAs to offer the same breadth of care options offered by our physician colleagues. Thank you, I’m happy to answer any questions you may have.

Sources:

(2023). *Maine PA Practice Profile* [Photograph]. AAPA.org.
<https://www.aapa.org/download/61399/>



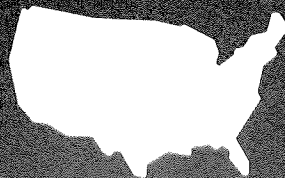
What is a PA?

PAs (physician associates/physician assistants) are licensed clinicians who practice medicine in every specialty and setting. Trusted, rigorously educated and trained healthcare professionals, PAs are dedicated to expanding access to care and transforming health and wellness through patient-centered, team-based medical practice.

AT A GLANCE

PA profession
established in

1967



More than
168,300

PAs in the U.S.

NCCPA, 2023.

PAs have more than

500
MILLION



patient interactions
per year

NCCPA, 2022.
All data based on clinically practicing PAs in the U.S.

EDUCATION BY THE NUMBERS



303 PA Programs in the U.S.

The Accreditation Review Commission on Education for
the Physician Assistant (ARC-PA), 2023



Programs are **27 months or 3
academic years** (bachelor's degree
is required for acceptance)



2,000 hours of
clinical rotations



Educated at

**MASTER'S
DEGREE** level

To obtain a license, PAs must:



Graduate from an
accredited PA program



Pass a **certification exam**

To maintain their certification, PAs must complete:



100 hours of continuing
medical education (CME
after every two years)

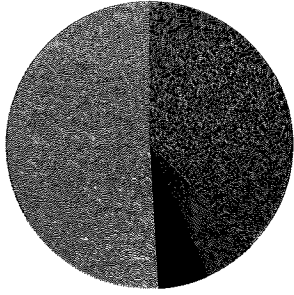


A **recertification exam**
every 10 years

CERTIFICATION & LICENSING



PAAs practice in every work setting



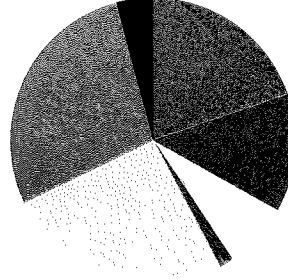
- 50.9% – Outpatient Office or Clinic
- 37.5% – Hospital
- 5.9% – Urgent Care Center
- 13.33% – Other

2022 AAPA Salary Survey,
All data based on clinically practicing PAs in the U.S.

*Other refers to a variety of work settings including but not limited to schools/universities, rehabilitation facilities, nursing homes and correctional facilities.



PAAs practice medicine in all specialties

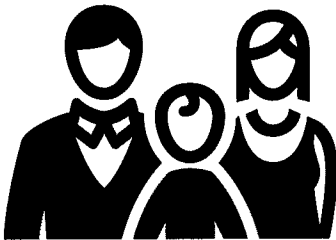


- 28.05% – Surgical Subspecialties
- 25.65% – Other*
- 19.83% – Primary Care
- 13.33% – Internal Medicine Subspecialties
- 7.45% – Emergency Medicine
- 4.04% – No Specialty
- 1.65% – Pediatric Subspecialties

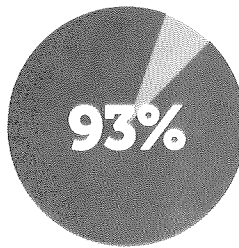
2022 AAPA Salary Survey,
All data based on clinically practicing PAs in the U.S.

*Other refers to a variety of healthcare settings including but not limited to psychiatry, hospice and palliative care, obstetrics and gynecology, addiction medicine, pain management, public health and dermatology.

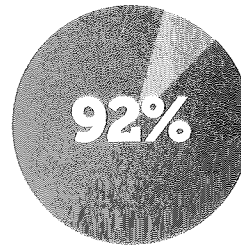
What Patients Say About PAs



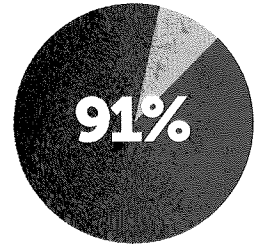
2014 Harris Poll*



PAs are trusted healthcare providers



Having a PA makes it easier to get medical appointments



PAs improve the quality of healthcare

PA Profession in the News

#4

Best 100 Jobs List

U.S. News & World Report 2023

#2

Best Healthcare Jobs List

U.S. News & World Report 2023

#4

Best STEM Jobs List

U.S. News & World Report 2023



American Academy of
Physician Associates

| aapa.org

*"Attitudes Toward PAs: A 2014 Survey by the American Academy of PAs." The Harris online survey was conducted September 15–22, 2014 among 1,544 adults age 18 and older living in the US, including an oversample of 680 adults who have seen a PA and/or have accompanied a loved one to see a PA in the past 12 months. For full methodology visit aapa.org/media.



MEAPA

MAINE ASSOCIATION OF PHYSICIAN ASSISTANTS

- ❖ The Maine Association of Physician Assistants (MEAPA) was incorporated as a nonprofit organization in 1977.
- ❖ MEAPA is a constituent organization of the American Academy of Physician Associates (AAPA), meaning we adhere to all provisions of AAPA's bylaws, policies, and upholds the principles, purposes, and philosophy for which AAPA was founded.
- ❖ MEAPA represents Physician Assistants (PAs) employed within the state of Maine.

MEAPA's Mission

- ✓ To establish and maintain a program of continuing education for PAs.
- ✓ To educate the public and other health care workers regarding the role of the PA.
- ✓ To propose and further legislation which affects the evolution of the PA as a health care provider.
- ✓ To provide a forum where PAs can meet and share experiences, concerns, and plan for the future.

Contact Us

Meapa4me@gmail.com

Maine Association of Physician Assistants
PO Box 1103, Westbrook, ME 04098

MainePA.com

MEAPA's Board of Directors are:

- ❖ Clinically practicing PAs from across Maine
- ❖ Active members of AAPA
- ❖ Invested in the future of the PA profession as educators of future PAs and through leadership roles in their healthcare systems
- ❖ Practice in a variety of settings including primary care, urgent/emergency departments, and inpatient medical and surgical environments

Follow Us!



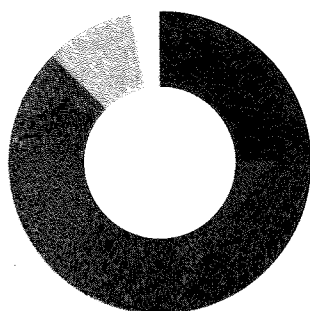
MAINE PA PRACTICE PROFILE

Number of PAs in Maine:
900+

Number of PAs in the U.S.:
159,000

Source: NCCPA

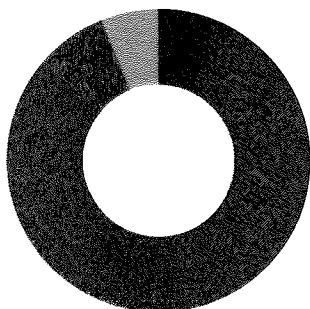
Percent of PAs by Specialty in Maine



- 24.2% Family Medicine
- 21.2% Surgical Subspecialties
- 16.7% Emergency Medicine
- 12.1% All Other Specialties
- 10.6% Urgent Care
- 9.1% Internal Medicine Subspecialties
- 3% General Peds, General Internal Med

27.3% of PAs specialize in Primary Care

Percent of PAs by Setting in Maine



- 45.5% Hospital Settings
- 40.9% Physician Office or Clinic
- 7.6% Urgent Care Center
- 6.1% Other Settings

24.2% of PAs are employed by a Physician Group or Solo Practice

In Maine

- ☐ 35.5% of PAs serve in rural areas
- ☐ A typical PA completes 51 patient visits per week
- ☐ A typical PA is on call 48 hours per month