PAs and AMA PA Profiles

AAPA knows it's imperative for newly graduated PAs to secure their hospital credentials and privileges as soon as possible. To help streamline the credentials verification process for any PA seeking hospital privileges, AAPA serves as the primary source for the PA profession in the American Medical Association's credentials profiling service. AMA is accepted by The Joint Commission (TJC) as primary-source equivalent and named in the standards. As such, the AMA PA Profile is used by many US hospitals to verify credentials.

Additionally, AMA Profiles are used by licensing boards, group practices, managed care organizations, recruiters, and third-party credentialing vendors.

It is in the best interest of individual PAs to not opt out of AAPA's data sharing so that their data may be used to create the industry-recognized AMA PA Profiles.

AAPA receives a minor administrative fee to cover the costs of serving as the primary source.

Graduation data used in credentialing

AAPA collects graduation data directly from PA programs to meet the Joint Commission "primary source" requirements. To ensure privacy, AAPA requests only the following information from the programs: f*irst name, middle name, last name, date of birth, graduation date and the degree awarded.* Once collected, this confidential data is shared with AMA and used only for AMA PA Profiles.

Hospitals cannot accept graduation verification directly from PAs because accreditation standards require verification from the source. For this same reason, AMA cannot accept graduation verification directly from PAs.

PA programs can help their graduates avoid delays in the credentialing process by submitting graduation rosters to AAPA in a timely manner.