

WHAT I WISH I WOULD HAVE
KNOWN: SURVIVING THE
TRANSITION FROM PA-S TO PA-C

Presented By:

Hillary Bennett, MHS PA-C

Description:

PA school teaches us the science and medicine required to take care of patients. However, we are often not educated on the red tape we must cross in order to begin treating patients. This webinar will explore the strenuous process of hospital credentialing and the transition from PA school to real world medicine. Participants will receive a checklist and tips to ease the suffering through this process.

Objectives

- The “Why?”: AAPA Article, My story.
- Career Hunt: Barriers, Do’s & Do not’s
- Credentialing: Overview of this process, and its requirements
- The Interim: How to survive the ”sabbatical” between PA school and your medical career
- Resources
- Questions

[Home](#) / [News Central](#) / [What They Didn't Tell Me in PA School: Five Months to Start Working](#)

What They Didn't Tell Me in PA School: Five Months to Start Working

New Grad Shares Her Experience

September 9, 2019

By Hillary Bennett, PA-C



I was so excited to graduate from PA school at the University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. I'd made it through didactic year, I'd made it through rotations, and I'd made it past the PANCE. I was ecstatic to get my first job as a PA.

I knew I wanted to practice in acute/critical care, and I began my job search approximately one month before graduating from PA school. I applied to every job listing and followed every referral even remotely related to acute/critical care. Many applications disappeared into oblivion, with no employer responses. Some employers responded to say that the position was filled, or that they do not accept new graduates. I was only offered a few interviews. The interview process varied from position to position. Some employers required me to interview in front of a panel of stakeholders,



**HIRE ME. I'M
GOOD AT THINGS.**

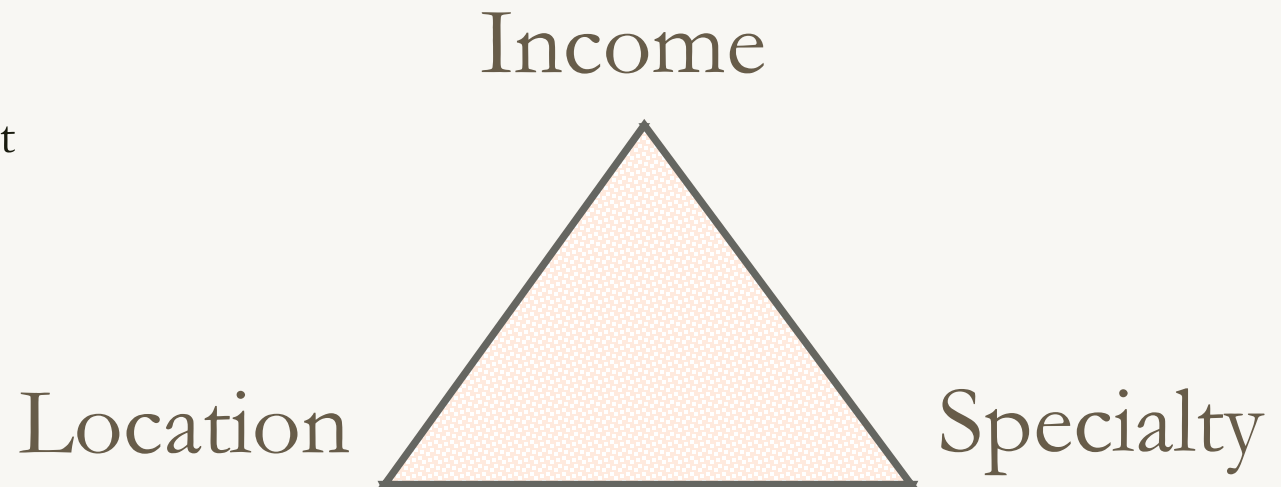
Career Hunt

Do

- Apply everywhere
- Apply Often
- Seek opportunity outside listed positions
- Include CV
- Include Cover Letter
- Negotiate Contracts
- Know your Worth
- Know your work environment
- Set Expectations

Do Not

- Settle for a position
- Settle for lower income
- Grow impatient
- Sign a Contract without review



Credentialing

***This will Always take longer than you expect*

Phase One: “Your Part”

- Organization is Key
- Prepare in Advance
 - *Complete State License*
 - *Establish Collaborating or Supervising Physician*
 - *Obtain DEA number, NPI number*
- PA Portfolio
- Create a hard binder portfolio

Phase Two: “Their Part”

- You will Need Help: Find A Proxy
 - *Peer reviews*
 - *Malpractice Insurance*
- Credentialing Office
 - *Magic!*
 - *i.e. background checks/ Drug testing, Verifying information*

Helpful information to have prepared for credentialing

- State License
- DEA Number
- NCCPA Certification
- Malpractice Insurance
- NPI Number
- CAQH number
- Forms of Identification
- Updated CV
- Patient Case Logs
- Procedure Logs
- Home Addresses (Last 7 Years)
- Education Information (Since High School)
- Immunizations
- Certifications (ACLS, PALS, BLS, ATLS, etc.)
- Professional and Academic Appointments
- Any CME Obtained
- Prior Employment
- Explanation of Time Gaps
- Hospital Affiliations

The Sabbatical

How do I save money?

- Cancel non-essential subscriptions
- Live with family or friends
- Create a budget
- Avoid excessive spending

How do I make money?

- Sell unused items
- Ask friends and family for odd-end jobs
- Fall back on a prior career
- Consider supplemental side jobs

The Sabbatical

Reading Topics

- Your field of medicine
- Finances
- Personality Traits
- Leadership skills
- Read for pleasure

Things to Do

- Take a trip
- Establish good habits
- Sleep!
- Visit Family
- Join AAPA, and the Early Career PA FB page.

Resources

[What They Didn't Tell Me in PA School: Five Months to Start Working](#)

[PA Portfolio - Online Storage and Sharing](#)

[AAPA's Career Central](#)

[PA JobSource](#)

[2019 AAPA Salary Report](#)

[Early Career PA Facebook Group](#)





THANK YOU!

Hillary Bennett, MHS, PA-C

Midwest Trauma Providers

Email: Hillary.Bennett1993@gmail.com

Cell: 405.933.5782

IG: @hbennpa_c