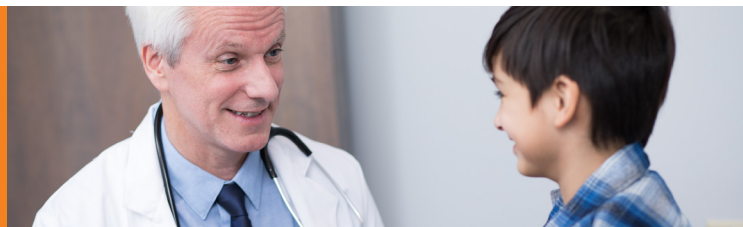
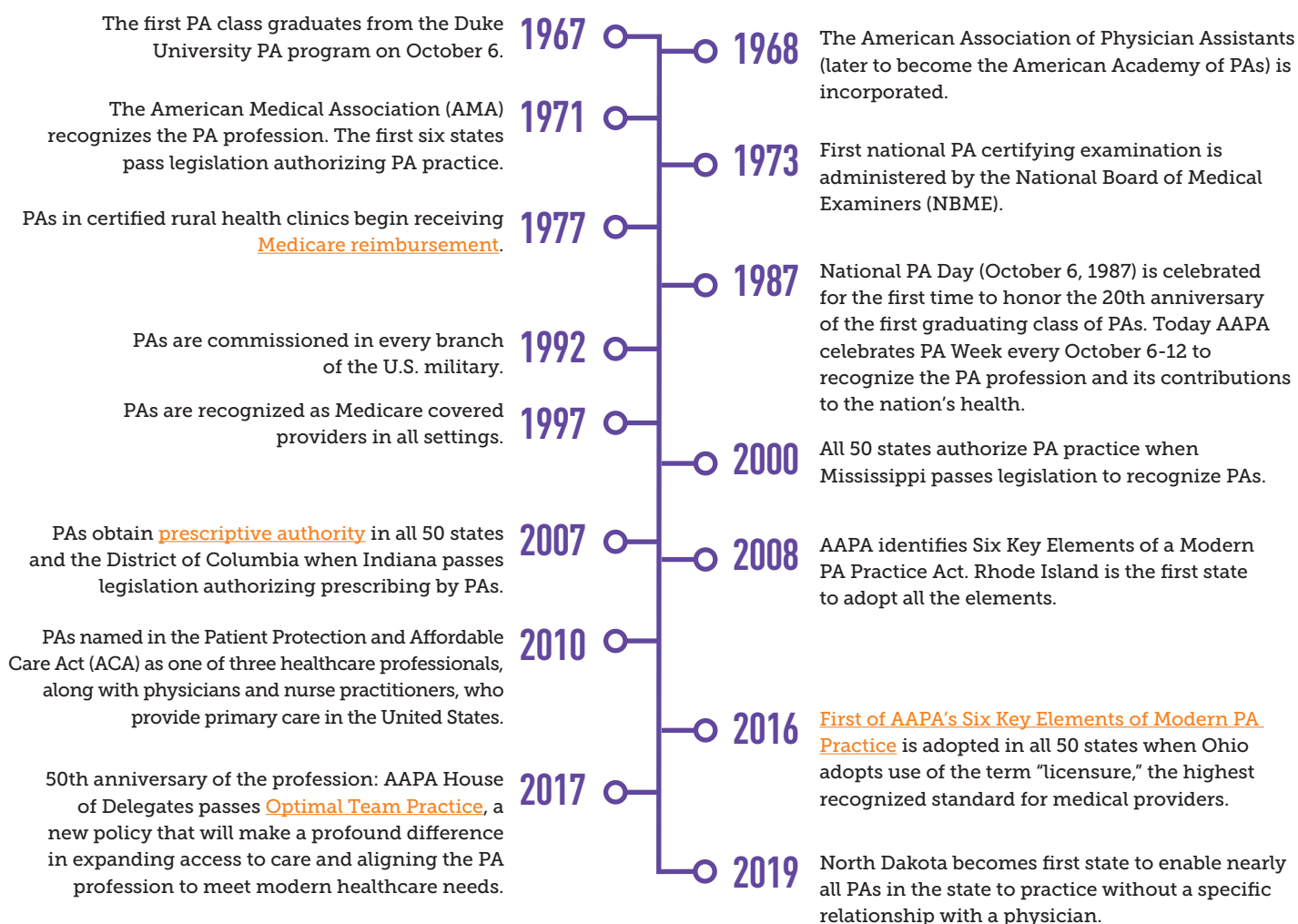


PA Profession Historical Milestones



The PA profession was created to improve and expand access to healthcare. In the mid-1960s, physicians and educators recognized there was a shortage of primary care physicians. To help remedy this, Eugene A. Stead Jr., MD, of the Duke University Medical Center, put together the first class of PAs in 1965. He selected four Navy Hospital Corpsmen who had received considerable medical training during their military service. Stead based the curriculum of the PA program on his knowledge of the fast-track training of doctors during World War II.

More than 50 years later, the profession continues to grow, while healthcare delivery continues to evolve. One thing that remains constant is the profession's commitment to improving and expanding healthcare.



Learn more and [watch a video](#) about the history of the PA profession.