**Distinguished Fellow of AAPA News Release**

**Instructions for Using This News Release**

Your Distinguished Fellow recognition is an accomplishment of which to be proud and worth sharing with your community or professional organization. Your local newspaper likely has a section where they list recent achievements by people in the community, and they might be interested in an announcement about your Distinguish Fellow recognition.

Be sure to add specific information where noted to individualize the announcement. Here are some suggestions for where to submit the release:

* Your employer’s newsletter and hospital newsletter. If you work for a PA program or large institution, contact your public relations office for advice and share the release with the staff.
* Local newspapers: Submit it to the health reporter, career writer, and features editor at the daily papers; submit it to the editor of weekly newspapers. Include the web editor or online contact person on the distribution list. If you need assistance confirming email addresses for your local media contacts, please contact media@aapa.org.
* Radio stations: Submit the release to the public service director. The public service director is responsible for public information shows or community health programs and might consider you a source for future interviews.
* Local organizations: Public affairs directors of civic, business, professional, religious, and health organizations that you belong to.
* Your PA constituent organization.
* Your Alma Mater’s alumni publication office.

If you need assistance, contact AAPA’s Communications Department via email at *communications@aapa.org**.*

**SAMPLE NEWS RELEASE**

**For Immediate Release**

[DATE]

**Contact:** Jenni Roberson, jroberson@aapa.org, 703-380-2764

**Local PA Receives Honor From National Healthcare Provider Organization**

(Alexandria, VA) – [NAME OF RECIPIENT] from [STATE/COMMUNITY] has been recognized as a Distinguished Fellow of the American Academy of PAs (AAPA). [PA LAST NAME] [PRACTICES/PRACTICED] [NAME OF MEDICAL SUB-SPECIALTY] at [PLACE OF EMPLOYMENT] and [HAS BEEN A PA/WAS A PA] for [NUMBER OF YEARS].

[PA LAST NAME] earned this national recognition due to [HER/HIS/THEIR] outstanding contributions to patient care and the profession during [HER/HIS/THEIR] years as a PA. [HE/SHE/THEY] also demonstrated significant dedication and involvement in [TOWN/COMMUNITY].

[INCLUDE DETAILS OF PAST SERVICE AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS.]

Previously, [PA LAST NAME] served as (INSERT TITLE/SPECIALTY) at [NAME OF PRACTICE OR HOSPITAL]. [HE/SHE/THEY] [is/are] a graduate of [NAME OF PA PROGRAM] and [UNIVERSITY]. [INSERT ANY OTHER BIOGRAPHICAL MATERIAL.]

The Distinguished Fellow program was established by AAPA in 2007 to recognize the exceptional contributions of PAs to the profession through professional achievement, leadership, professional interaction, learning, and community service. After acceptance into the program, Distinguished Fellows continue to contribute to the work of AAPA and the PA profession. This distinction is earned by less than 2% of the entire AAPA membership.

PAs are medical professionals who diagnose illness, develop and manage treatment plans, prescribe medications, and often serve as a patient’s principal healthcare provider. With thousands of hours of medical training, PAs are versatile and collaborative.

Educated at the master’s degree level, PAs practice in every state and in every medical setting and specialty, improving healthcare access and quality.

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**About AAPA**

AAPA is the national membership organization for all PAs. PAs are medical professionals who diagnose illness, develop and manage treatment plans, prescribe medications, and often serve as a patient’s principal healthcare provider. Learn more about the profession at [aapa.org](http://www.aapa.org/) and engage through [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/AAPA.org/), [LinkedIn](https://www.linkedin.com/company/american-academy-of-physician-assistants), [Instagram](https://www.instagram.com/aapaorg/), and [Twitter](https://twitter.com/AAPAorg).