

**Sondra DePalma, DHSc, PA-C, DFAAPA**

**Vice President, Reimbursement and Professional Practice**

Sondra DePalma DHSc, PA-C, DFAAPA is the Vice President of Reimbursement and Professional Practice at the American Academy of Physician Associates. She has been a PA, healthcare leader, and professional advocate at the national and state levels for over 20 years. Dr. DePalma is an expert on healthcare policy, reimbursement, and PA Practice, is a regular speaker at national conferences, and is an award-winning author of peer-reviewed articles, clinical practice guidelines, and textbook chapters.

Before joining AAPA she was an Assistant Director of Advanced Practice at Penn State Health and a past President of the Academy of Physician Associates in Cardiology. She practiced cardiology for nearly 20 years and has advanced certifications in lipidology and hypertension management. Sondra is also an adjunct assistant professor in A.T. Still University's Doctor of Medical Science program.

Dr. DePalma earned a Bachelor of Arts from Mercyhurst University, a Master of Health Science in PA Studies from Lock Haven University, and a Doctor of Health Sciences with dual concentrations in Leadership & Organizational Behavior and Fundamentals of Education from A.T. Still University. She has a graduate certificate in the Science of Healthcare Delivery and is experienced in healthcare management and quality improvement.

When not advocating for PAs and the patients they serve, she spends her time in Florida and Pennsylvania with her husband and dog.