

Health Policy and Executive Orders FAQs

This document provides a summary of the frequently asked questions (FAQs) we have received regarding key healthcare policy issues, advocacy efforts, and organizational initiatives since the beginning of January 2025. It is intended to offer a high-level overview of the most common inquiries from our members and stakeholders.

For additional context, we encourage you to watch a recently hosted [AAPA webinar titled, "What PAs Need to Know About Recent Federal Actions and Policy Changes."](#) In this session, AAPA leaders break down the latest executive orders and policy developments, explaining their potential impact on the healthcare landscape and what they mean for PAs and their patients.

As new details emerge, we are committed to providing timely updates and relevant information to keep PAs informed and prepared. If you have specific questions not addressed here, please reach out to communications@aapa.org for further assistance.

Healthcare Policy & Spending

Q: What impact will Executive Orders (EOs) have on healthcare spending?

While EOs direct federal agencies to review healthcare programs, they do not directly cut funding. AAPA is closely monitoring the President's budget proposal, the congressional appropriations process, and potential changes to mandatory programs like Medicaid, which Congress is expected to consider this spring. As details emerge, AAPA will assess the impact and advocate accordingly. We will keep you informed as more information becomes available.

Q: What is happening with Medicare coverage and telemedicine?

In December, Congress extended Medicare telehealth flexibilities through the end of March. As lawmakers work on federal funding beyond March 14, there is an expectation that these telehealth provisions will be further extended. AAPA is actively monitoring the situation and will provide updates on any legislative developments affecting PAs and their patients.

Advocacy & Policy Positions

Q: Will AAPA make a statement about the president's cabinet and future actions?

As a nonprofit professional membership organization, AAPA does not take positions on political candidates, nominations, or appointees at the federal or state level. Doing so could



compromise our ability to effectively advocate for PAs and the policies that impact patient care. However, AAPA's Advocacy team carefully reviews administration actions and engages strategically to shape policies in ways that benefit patients and the PA profession, in alignment with AAPA's policy positions.

Q: What is AAPA doing to address medical misinformation?

AAPA remains committed to combating medical misinformation by providing PAs with evidence-based resources, collaborating with healthcare leaders and organizations, and advocating for policies that uphold scientific integrity. Through ongoing education, research, and public outreach, AAPA supports PAs in addressing misinformation with facts and credible information.

Q: Are there concerns about changes to childhood immunization schedules?

AAPA is monitoring policy discussions within HHS and other federal agencies regarding childhood immunization schedules. We will continue to engage as appropriate and provide updates if any significant changes arise.

Supporting Patients & Their Healthcare

Q: How can PAs support patients during this time?

PAs play a critical role in addressing patient concerns and providing guidance during uncertain times. We encourage PAs to:

- **Listen and acknowledge patient concerns**, recognizing that many are facing confusion and uncertainty.
- **Connect patients with trusted resources**, such as local support groups and organizations that can offer guidance.
- **Stay informed** about evolving healthcare challenges and policy changes that may affect patient care.
- **Seek additional support** from their employer or professional networks if needed.

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI)

Q: Will AAPA continue to support DEI initiatives, including scholarships for underrepresented students in medicine?

Yes. Regardless of shifts in federal policy, AAPA remains committed to promoting health equity, diversifying the PA workforce, and addressing healthcare disparities. At this time, there are no changes to our scholarships or programs supporting underrepresented students in medicine.



Q: What guidance is available for constituent organizations (COs) regarding DEI?

Presidential EOs apply primarily to federal agencies, employees, and some institutions receiving federal funding, such as medical schools and hospitals. If your CO has concerns about potential political or legislative implications, we encourage you to consult with [AAPA's state directors](#) to develop a tailored strategy. You can also reach out to **Kim Williams, VP of Health Equity**, at kwilliams@aapa.org or visit the [Health Equity and DEI Resource Center](#) for additional guidance.

Resources & Ways to Get Involved

Q: How can I get involved?

AAPA's Grassroots Advocacy and Information Network (GAIN) is a nationwide network of PAs who are strengthening the future of the profession by building relationships with federal and state legislators and their staff and acting on advocacy alerts to let their legislators know how decisions made on Capitol Hill and in state capitals across the country can affect patients and communities back home. As a PA or PA student, you offer a unique perspective. Legislators look to PAs to provide them with critical information on healthcare decisions affecting their communities. [Click here to join GAIN.](#)

Q: Can COs share this webinar with our members?

Yes, the webinar is available to members. Click [here](#) to access it.

Q: Who should COs contact with additional questions?

Please contact your [State Advocacy & Outreach Contact](#) for further assistance.