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NCCPA Specialty Certificate Program Adds Certified PAs to Its Roll

Johns Creek, GA, March 13, 2019 – With medical knowledge doubling more than once a year and demand for specialist services rising, over two-thirds of Certified PAs have moved into areas of medicine outside of primary care and more than 1,200 have deepened their commitment to specialty practice by earning a Certificate of Added Qualifications (CAQ).

The [National Commission on Certification of Physician Assistants \(NCCPA\)](#) offers seven CAQs in cardiovascular and thoracic surgery, emergency medicine, hospital medicine, orthopaedic surgery, nephrology, pediatrics and psychiatry.

The CAQ documents PAs' advanced skills and knowledge in highly-technical areas of medicine and distinguishes recipients for proficiency in a specialty area while maintaining general medical knowledge. The CAQ also has the added benefit of assuring patients and employers of their expertise and dedication to lifelong learning. In a time when employers increasingly put more weight on advanced skills and experience when searching for the right candidate, the CAQ designation is the advantage that can set PAs apart.

“Certified PAs who earn the CAQ demonstrate a strong commitment to continued education by staying atop evolving medical advancements in their area of practice,” says Dawn Morton-Rias, Ed.D, PA-C, president and CEO of NCCPA. “Not only have they maintained certification through continuing medical education programs and assessments throughout their careers, they have pursued and been awarded this additional credential that attests to their knowledge and skills in their specialty.”

This fall, more than 120 Certified PAs added a CAQ to their résumés. NCCPA recognizes the following recipients for their distinguished achievement:

- Melissa Abramovitz, Hospital Medicine
- Samuel Aloian, Psychiatry
- Ebenezer Aluma, Psychiatry
- Eric Amoh, Psychiatry
- Philip Arcuri, Hospital Medicine
- Andrew Baker, Emergency Medicine
- Robert Bennett, Psychiatry
- JorDonna Bergeron, Hospital Medicine
- Teresa Boenig, Psychiatry
- Gabriel Boyd, Emergency Medicine
- Amanda Caldwell, Orthopaedic Surgery
- Casey Carlson, Orthopaedic Surgery
- Jessica Carter, Emergency Medicine
- John-Colby Carter, Cardiovascular and thoracic surgery
- Billie Cartwright, Psychiatry
- Annie Celona, Psychiatry
- Ashokkumar Chaudhari, Hospital Medicine
- Anne Clayman, Emergency Medicine
- Laura Cobb, Orthopaedic Surgery

- Brittanica Cogan, Orthopaedic Surgery
- Lindsay Como, Pediatrics
- Derok Cornwell, Orthopaedic Surgery
- Melanie Cottone, Cardiovascular Surgery
- Charlene Criss, Psychiatry
- Elizabeth Crockett, Emergency Medicine
- Susan Cupolo, Hospital Medicine
- Lacy Davis-Walters, Orthopaedic Surgery
- James Delaney, Orthopaedic Surgery
- Rick DeMarr, Psychiatry
- Katherine Demers, Psychiatry
- Shea Dempsey, Emergency Medicine
- Laura DeWitz, Psychiatry
- Kuljinder Dosanjh, Emergency Medicine
- Stephen Doyle, Orthopaedic Surgery
- Eric Elder, Emergency Medicine
- Samantha Elich, Emergency Medicine
- Thomas Eppley, Orthopaedic Surgery
- Nathan Fite, Emergency Medicine
- Denis Flynn, Psychiatry
- Joshua Fox, Emergency Medicine
- Matthew Froman, Orthopaedic Surgery
- Arnulfo Garcia, Emergency Medicine
- Pamela Gray, Emergency Medicine
- Dana Green, Psychiatry
- Angela Grochowski, Orthopaedic Surgery
- Nathan Hans, Orthopaedic Surgery
- Dustin Harn, Emergency Medicine
- Scott Hennigar, Nephrology
- Rodney Ho, Psychiatry
- Sarah Hotchkiss, Psychiatry
- Gregory Howarth, Emergency Medicine
- Stephanie Hughes, Pediatrics
- Caryn Huslig, Psychiatry
- Oleg Iskhakov, Orthopaedic Surgery
- Jonathan Ives, Hospital Medicine
- Andrew Jacobowitz, Emergency Medicine
- Barry Johnson, Psychiatry
- Lavon Johnson, Hospital Medicine
- Phillip Karsen, Orthopaedic Surgery
- Patrick Katahara, Orthopaedic Surgery
- Ashkhan Kaviani, Orthopaedic Surgery
- Emily King, Psychiatry
- Susan Kirk, Pediatrics
- Steven Krolczyk, Emergency Medicine
- Ronald Laino, Emergency Medicine
- Mark Lashley, Emergency Medicine
- Kelly Lieb, Emergency Medicine
- Natalie Llewellyn, Orthopaedic Surgery
- Kristina Lou, Psychiatry
- Li Ma, Hospital Medicine
- Rodrigo Mabasa, Orthopaedic Surgery
- Jana MacDonald, Emergency Medicine
- Kaitlin Macek, Psychiatry
- Ryan Mazzone, Hospital Medicine
- Elizabeth McCarthy, Emergency Medicine
- Ryan McFeeters, Psychiatry
- William McGill, Emergency Medicine
- Sean McGovern, Emergency Medicine
- Anna McKoy, Psychiatry
- Christina Medrano, Psychiatry
- Darcy Melton, Pediatrics
- Peter Merrell, Orthopaedic Surgery
- David Michaelson, Emergency Medicine
- Matthew Miller, Emergency Medicine
- Laura Mitrowski, Emergency Medicine
- Derick Moody, Psychiatry
- Deanna Najera, Psychiatry
- Gabrielle Neal, Psychiatry
- John Nealey, Emergency Medicine
- Todd Neblett, Emergency Medicine
- Robin Neil, Psychiatry
- Robert Oladeinde, Hospital Medicine
- Jill O'Malley, Orthopaedic Surgery
- Michele Pane, Emergency Medicine
- Chris Paradee, Hospital Medicine
- Jennifer Piepenbrink, Pediatrics
- Megan Plouzek, Psychiatry
- Andrea Pollock, Emergency Medicine
- Debra Poole, Psychiatry
- Laura Powell, Psychiatry
- Denise Quattlebaum, Orthopaedic Surgery
- Paul Queior, Emergency Medicine
- Bethany Quinn, Emergency Medicine
- John Ramos, Emergency Medicine
- Francisco Ramos, Psychiatry
- Heather Reesman, Orthopaedic Surgery
- Jennifer Reim, Psychiatry
- Melissa Rice, Psychiatry
- Michael Rowe, Emergency Medicine

- Kimberly Sapre, Emergency Medicine
- Hayley Schwartz, Pediatrics
- Amanda Sedoris, Psychiatry
- Robert Soma, Hospital Medicine
- Lydia Sparks, Psychiatry
- Jessica Spissinger, Psychiatry
- Chelsey Stecher, Pediatrics
- Jodee Stevens, Pediatrics
- Jennifer Sticken, Psychiatry
- Heather Strauss, Emergency Medicine
- Unsun Suhr, Emergency Medicine
- Nicole Sutter, Nephrology
- Jessica Tabb, Psychiatry
- Gabriel Tash, Emergency Medicine
- Sara Tipton, Orthopaedic Surgery
- Linda Troia, Psychiatry
- Nicholas Vester, Psychiatry
- Thomas Wagner, Emergency Medicine
- Kevin Walsh, Emergency Medicine
- Arvin Ward, Emergency Medicine
- Rachel Weinzimmer, Emergency Medicine

To learn more about the CAQ program, visit <https://www.nccpa.net/Specialty-CAQs>.

About the National Commission on Certification of Physician Assistants

The [National Commission on Certification of Physician Assistants \(NCCPA\)](https://www.nccpa.net) is the only certifying organization for physician assistants (PAs) in the United States. The PA-C credential is awarded by NCCPA to PAs who fulfill certification, certification maintenance and recertification requirements. There are more than 123,000 certified PAs in the U.S. today. For more information, visit www.nccpa.net.

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