



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **RECENTLY CERTIFIED PHYSICIAN ASSISTANTS IN HIGH DEMAND**

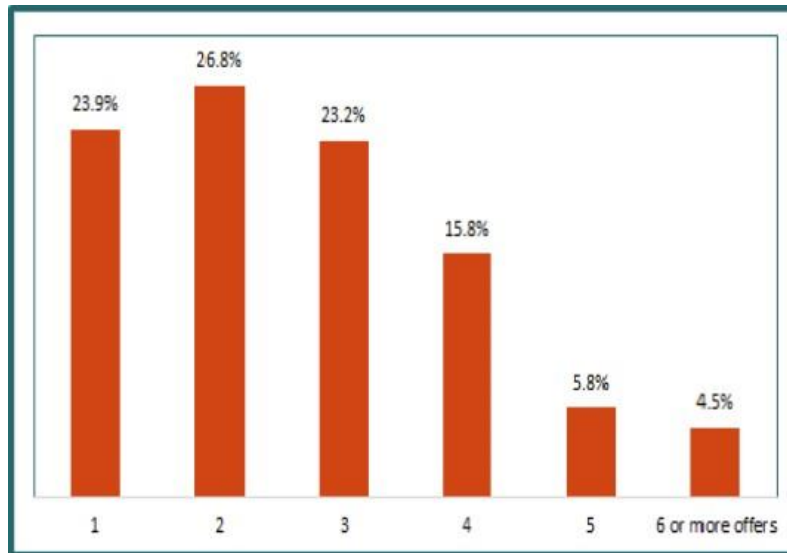
### ***Over 75% of New PA Graduates Have Multiple Job Offers***

**Johns Creek, GA, Oct. 4, 2016** – The National Commission on Certification of Physician Assistants ([NCCPA](http://nccpa.net)) today released a statistical report on recently certified physician assistants (PA-Cs), showing Certified PAs are in great demand as soon as they graduate and pass the Physician Assistant National Certifying Examination (PANCE).

Over 77% of the 7,776 PAs who passed PANCE in 2015 responded to the NCCPA survey on which the report is based. Significant findings of the [2015 Statistical Profile of Recently Certified Physician Assistants](#) include:

- Over 76% of these PAs had two or more offers; over 27% had four or more offers; and over 10% of these PAs had five or more job offers.
- The average starting salary was \$89,319.
- PAs were offered additional recruitment incentives, and PAs rated the top three in this order: income guarantee, reimbursement for continuing medical education/certification maintenance, and flexible hours.
- Other enticements beyond salary included:
  - Signing bonus —18%
  - Relocation expenses —12%
  - Education loan repayment — 9%
- 50% of recently certified PAs accepted a position in a hospital setting. This is considerably higher than the 38% of all 108,500 Certified PAs employed by hospitals.
- 27% of recently certified PAs work in primary care, a field chosen by 28% of females and 25% of males.
- Over 80% indicated they did not face any challenges searching for a job such as lack of opportunities, abundance of PAs competing for the same position, or inadequate salary or compensation offered. This was up significantly from 47% the prior year.

## Number of Job Offers for Recently Certified PAs



“Employers and physicians respect PAs for our high degree of education and commitment to maintaining certification by meeting rigorous recertification requirements throughout our careers,” says NCCPA Board Chair Denni Woodmansee, PA-C. “These statistics clearly show that PAs have proven their value in a changing and challenging healthcare system and that there are great opportunities for those entering the profession.”

Certified PAs are licensed by state medical boards and are held to the same high standards of care that physicians provide. They work in every specialty and clinical setting diagnosing illness, developing treatment plans, prescribing medication, performing procedures and assisting in surgery.

### **About the National Commission on Certification of Physician Assistants**

The [National Commission on Certification of Physician Assistants \(NCCPA\)](#) 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. NCCPA also administers the [Certificate of Added Qualifications \(CAQ\)](#) program for experienced, Certified PAs practicing in seven specialties. For more information, visit [www.PAsDoThat.net](http://www.PAsDoThat.net).

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