

Communication to Delegates, Presidents, Presidents-elect, and Executive Directors  
April 7, 2020

Dear Delegates,

In light of the current COVID-19 crisis, I want to share some important updates. I also want to bring to your attention a variety of resources AAPA has developed in response to the pandemic, to inform your important policy development and work on behalf of the PA profession.

**HOD 2020 – Rescheduled**

The 2020 in-person HOD meeting has been rescheduled for Friday, November 20 through Sunday, November 22. While the dates are confirmed, we are still in the beginning stages of planning so details such as location, meeting agenda, materials, registration information and new resolution deadlines will be shared when they become available. Current delegate terms will expire on June 30 per the HOD Standing Rules, so it will be imperative to elect and submit delegates for the 2020-2021 term in a timely manner in order to communicate accurately to delegates about the November HOD. View the [2020-2021 HOD Apportionment Memo](#) to see how many seats each organization will have beginning July 1.

**AAPA Elections – General & HOD**

AAPA has a governance responsibility to ensure business and leadership continuity by seating a full Board of Directors at the beginning of the new leadership year, which begins July 1. Over the course of the past two weeks, the Governance Commission (GovCom) and governance staff has worked with a variety of stakeholders including the Nominating Work Group (NWG), the election vendor, AAPA's attorney and others to ensure the opportunity, transparency and overall integrity of the elections process is preserved, despite the disruption from the COVID-19 pandemic.

To this end, GovCom has revised the AAPA 2020 Elections timeline to include a later application deadline and modified some election procedures to address the current demands on PAs. With the cancellation of AAPA 2020 and the postponement of May's HOD meeting -- where many election-related events historically occur -- adjustments have been made to the processes and procedures to ensure a full Board of Directors is seated when the new leadership year begins. Detailed information is available at [www.aapa.org/elections](http://www.aapa.org/elections).

Considering the postponement of May's 2020 HOD meeting and AAPA's obligation to seat a full Board with the new leadership year, the House Officers sought a solution to ensure the House Officer election -- which represents three seats on AAPA's Board -- could move forward. After consulting with AAPA's legal counsel, we will be conducting the House Officer Elections electronically during the same timeframe as the Board General Elections.

In accordance with AAPA Bylaws Article VI, Section 4d, a simple majority of the House Officers can call for an electronic vote of the HOD. The House Officers met on April 6, 2020 and voted to call for an electronic vote to conduct the House Officer Elections prior to the new leadership term beginning on July 1.

**Credentialed HOD delegates only** will receive an electronic ballot which contains House Officer candidates, as well as candidates for President-elect, Secretary/Treasurer, and Directors-

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at-Large. On June 2 when election voting opens, as a credentialed HOD delegate you will receive via email from our independent vendor unique login information.

Any delegates who would not have been seated on the HOD floor at the time of the election will receive a separate ballot listing only the President-elect, Secretary/Treasurer, and Directors-at-Large candidates.

Student HOD delegate ballots will only list the House Officer candidates.

I will reach out to all Chief Delegates in early May to confirm delegate lists for each CO and the Student Academy.

Only credentialed delegates from COs that are in full compliance will receive ballots for the House elections. Delegate credentialing will consist of the following steps and must be completed prior to **May 18**:

- Confirming your organization's core officers are current AAPA Fellows on the [CO Officer compliance page](#)
- Confirming your delegates are current Fellow members or Student members (for delegates representing the Student Academy)
- Ensuring each member of your delegation has completed a [conflict of interest disclosure form](#)

Due to Bylaws and policy provisions allowing Nominating Work Group (NWG) candidates to declare from the floor of the House of Delegates, NWG elections will be postponed until the rescheduled HOD meeting in November. A call for NWG candidates with further details will be issued closer to the dates of the November HOD meeting.

### **COVID-19 Information**

AAPA's legislative, media and education resources change rapidly. AAPA's [COVID-19 Resource Center](#) is the best place to find timely information. Today, a [new resource](#), which will be continually updated, was added to illustrate the rapidly changing state-by-state legislative environment.

AAPA is also aggressively acting on behalf of PAs during the COVID-19 pandemic, helping to advocate on behalf of the profession, amplify PA efforts and assist PAs as they work to respond to the coronavirus at work and home.

- <https://www.aapa.org/news-central/covid-19-resource-center/frequently-asked-questions/>
- <https://www.aapa.org/news-central/2020/03/aapa-wont-rest-until-pas-are-fully-empowered-to-respond-to-covid-19/>.

Let me know if you have any questions.

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On behalf of Speaker of the House, Bill Reynolds and myself, thank you for everything you do and stay safe!

**Tom Shoemaker**

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