



2022
**INDIANA PHYSICIAN
ASSISTANT WORKFORCE
BRIEF**



INDIANA PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT WORKFORCE

Fact Sheet

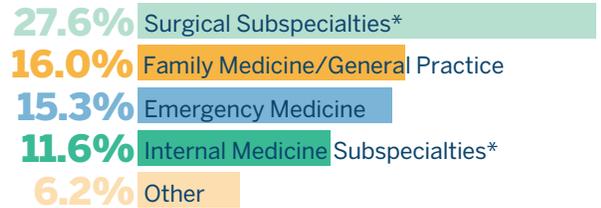
This report is based on the



1,320 Physician Assistants

who renewed their licenses in 2022, held an active license, and had either a practice address in Indiana or provided telehealth services to Indiana residents.

Top Five Collaborating Physician Specialties Reported by Physician Assistants



Indiana Physician Assistants by Sex

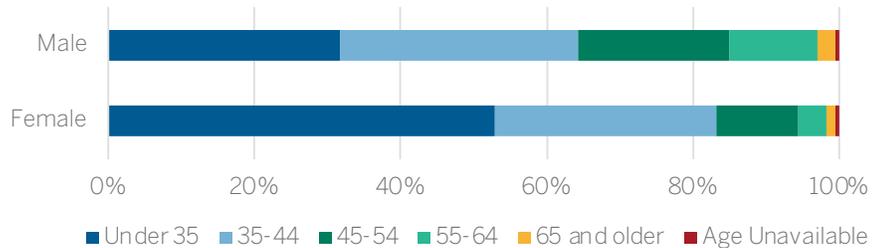


74.7%
FEMALE



25.3%
MALE

Indiana Physician Assistant Workforce by Age and Sex



Indiana Physician Assistant Employment



95.5%
Almost all Indiana physician assistants reported their primary field is in patient care/documentation



46.1%
of Indiana physician assistants reported engaging in the delivery of telehealth services

Indiana Physician Assistant Employment Plans



Where did Indiana PAs obtain their qualifying education?



56.2%
Indiana



20.4%
Indiana's Contiguous States



23.4%
Other States



0.0%
Another Country

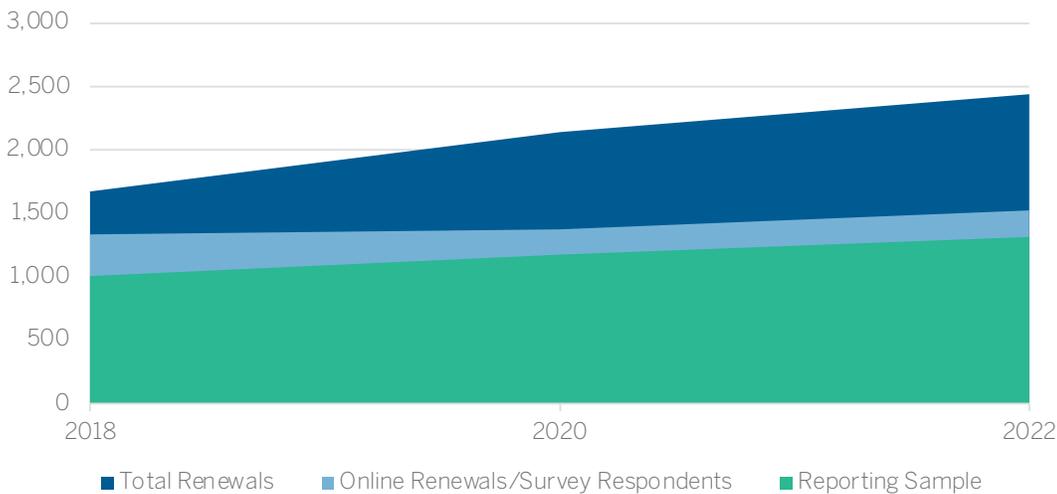
INDIANA PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT (PA) WORKFORCE THROUGHOUT THE YEARS

Indiana is fortunate to have a robust mechanism to identify, quantify, and describe the physician assistant workforce throughout the state. The PAs included in this brief are licensed by the Indiana Physician Assistant Committee, which resides under the Indiana Professional Licensing Agency. For the past few biennia, Indiana PAs have provided information on their demographic, education, and practice characteristics through a series of supplemental questions embedded within the license renewal process.

Since 2018, these PA licensees (and other selected health professions) who completed license renewal online have been required to provide key information back to the State to support policy and planning.^{1,2} The below diagram demonstrates the total number of professionals who renewed their license online and therefore were required to complete the survey compared to the total license count and the reporting sample.

The information in the brief (reporting sample) represents the unique individuals who report serving Hoosiers and are therefore contributing to Indiana's PA workforce.

Physician Assistant Workforce Throughout the Years



Interestingly, PAs have higher rates of offline renewals (35.0%) compared to many other professions (physicians: 4.6%, nurses: 3.3%, dentists: 10%). This results in missing workforce data for PAs that renewed offline.

WHO IS INCLUDED IN THE REPORTING SAMPLE?

- Active physician assistants who renewed their license online
- Those actively practicing in their field
- Those with practices located in Indiana or providing services to Hoosiers through telehealth

WHO IS NOT INCLUDED IN THE REPORTING SAMPLE?

- Physician assistants who renewed offline (paper renewals)
- Those with inactive licenses
- Those not actively practicing
- Those located out-of-state and not providing services to Hoosiers

1. Indiana Senate Enrolled Act 223-2018. Available at: <http://iga.in.gov/legislative/2018/bills/senate/223#document-b0603ddf>
 2. Questions administered to physician assistants can be found at: <https://scholarworks.iupui.edu/server/api/core/bitstreams/f855382e-c3aa-407f-a5f5-c0a6ef0a3668/content>

INDIANA PA WORKFORCE: EMPLOYMENT & DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS

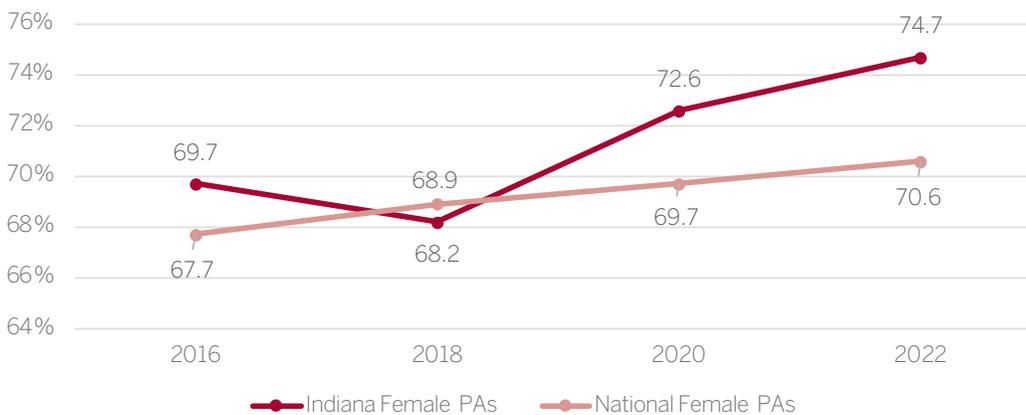
EMPLOYMENT CHARACTERISTICS

The majority of Indiana PAs have no planned changes in their employment (89.9% down slightly from 90.5% in 2020), but 6.7% hope to increase their hours in the physician assistant field.



DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS

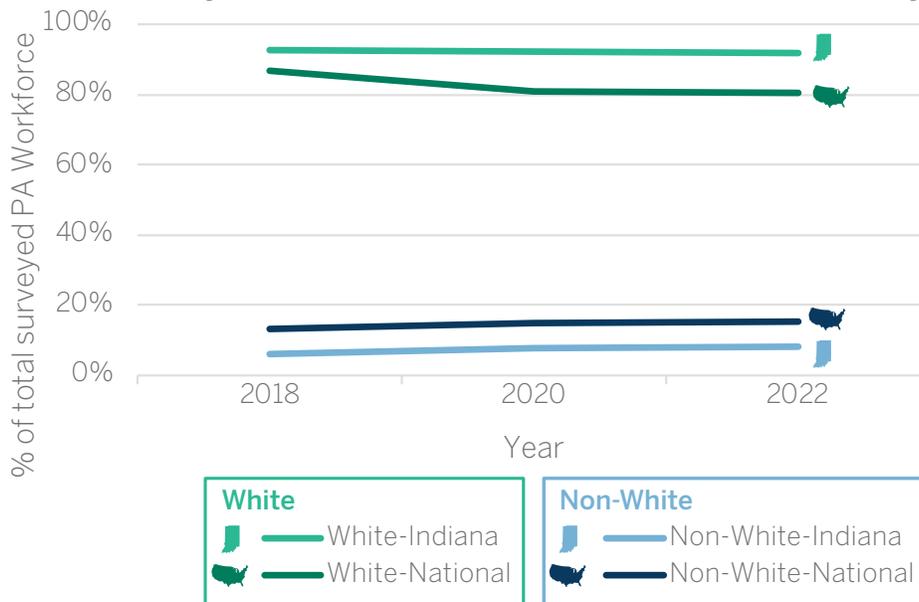
What are trends in sex demographics for Indiana PAs over time, and how does that compare to national averages^{1,2}?



Key Takeaway
Indiana is similar to the gender distribution of PAs nationally. In 2022, the national distribution was 70.6% Female, and 29.3% Male.²

A Note About National Comparisons: The National Commission on Certification of Physician Assistants regularly produces national reports on the PA workforce. This provides Indiana with the opportunity to compare certain key variables on Indiana's PA workforce with national ones. Additional information about national resources can be found in the footnote.

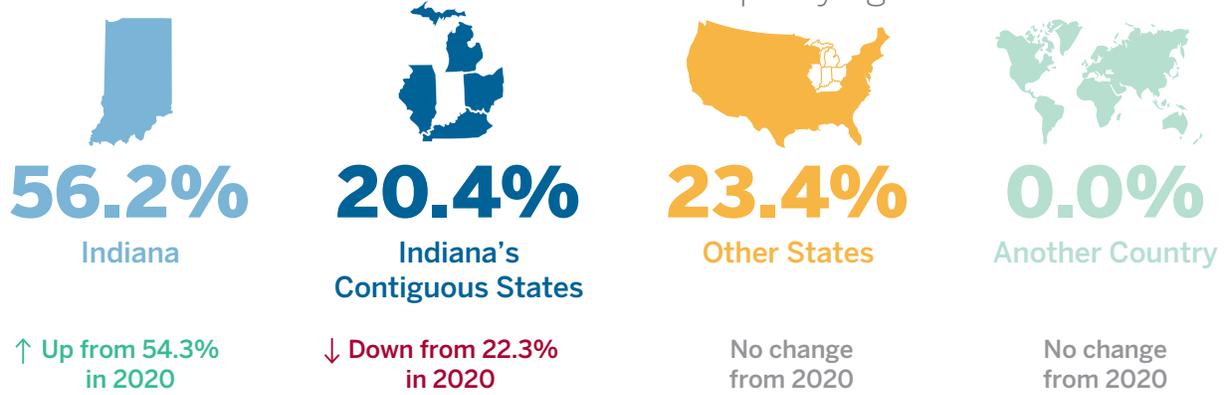
Trends in Physician Assistant Racial and Ethnic Diversity



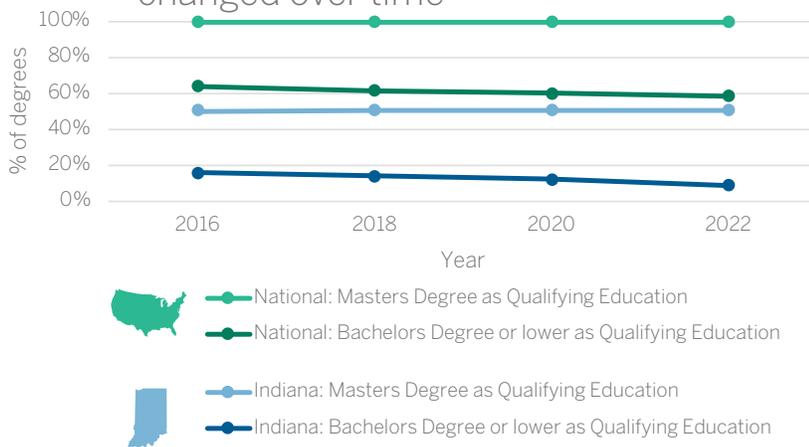
Key Takeaway
Although not as diverse as the national PA workforce, Indiana's PA workforce is becoming more diverse, particularly amongst the multiracial and Hispanic or Latino populations.

EDUCATION CHARACTERISTICS

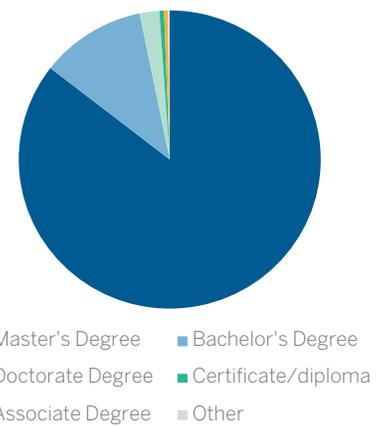
Where did Indiana PAs obtain their qualifying education?



How has PAs' qualifying education changed over time

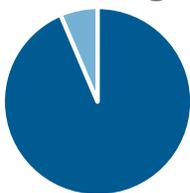


What do Indiana PAs report as their highest level of education?



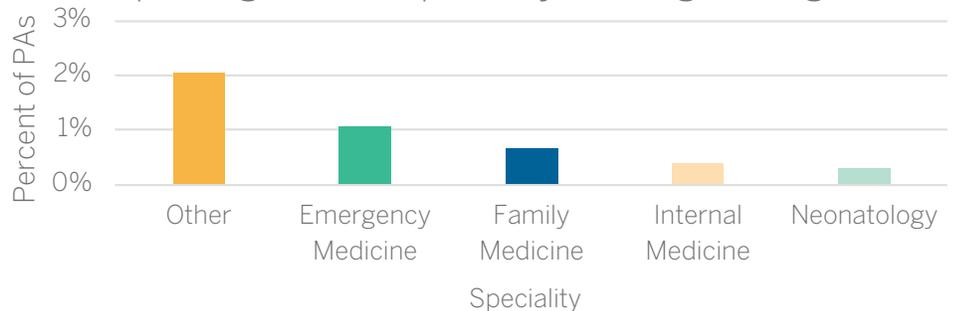
The [2022 Indiana Physician Assistant Workforce survey](#) not only asked about qualifying education but also asked about PAs' highest level of education. This allows a more accurate picture of the current education and training of Indiana's PA workforce and will produce a more comparable figure to national statistics on the PA workforce.

Postgraduate Speciality Training



- No Postgraduate Training Completed
- Postgraduate Training Completed

Top Postgraduate Speciality Training Settings



Key Takeway

The vast majority of PAs in Indiana did not complete Postgraduate Training. Only 6.4% of Indiana respondents stated they completed Postgraduate Specialty Training.

1. Source for national PA Postgraduate Speciality data: Statistical Profile of Certified PAs. 2022. Available at: <https://www.nccpa.net/wp-content/uploads/2021/07/Statistical-Profile-of-Certified-PAs-2020.pdf>

PRACTICE CHARACTERISTICS

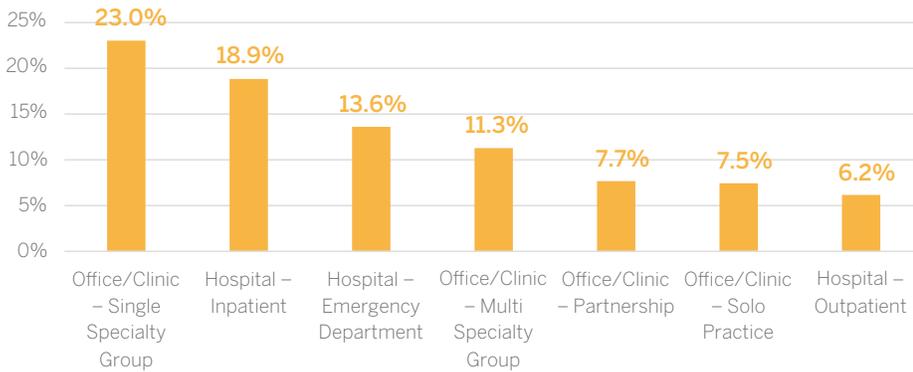
Top Five Collaborating Physician Specialties Reported by PAs



*Surgical specialties include: General, Cardiothoracic, Colon & Rectal, Obstetrics & Gynecology, Neurologic, Ophthalmic, Oral & Maxillofacial, Orthopedic, Otorhinolaryngology, Pediatric, Plastic & Maxillofacial, Urology, Vascular

*Internal Medicine specialties include: General Practice, Allergy & Immunology, Cardiology, Endocrinology, Gastroenterology, Geriatrics, Hematology, Infectious Disease, Nephrology, Oncology, Pulmonology, Rheumatology, Sports Medicine

Top 7 PA Practice Settings

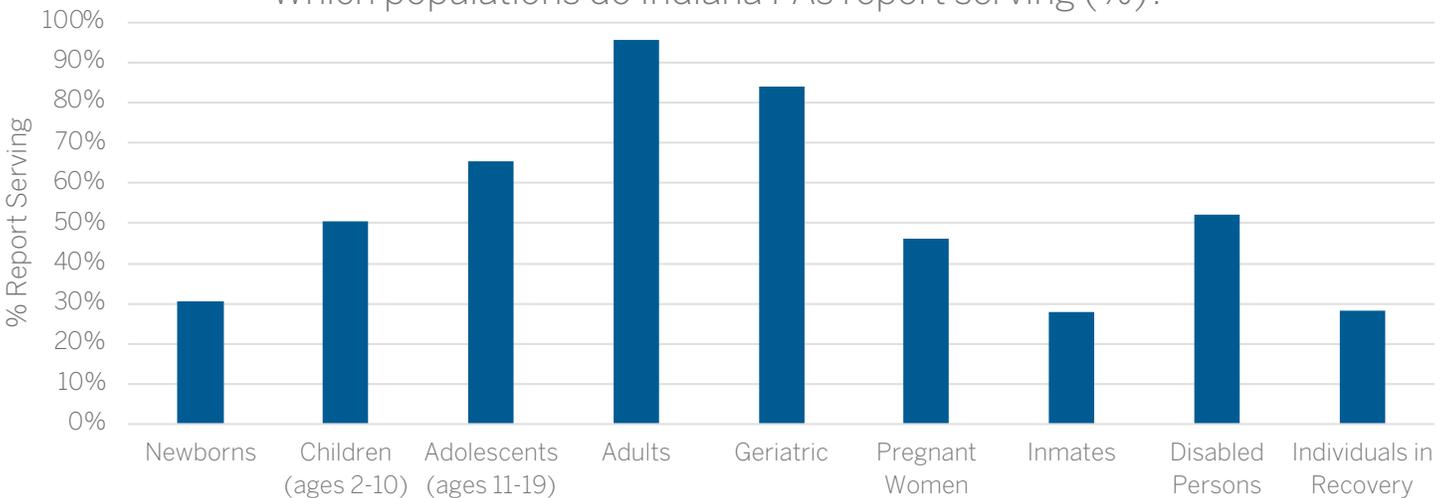


95.5% Almost all Indiana PAs reported that their primary field is in patient care/documentation

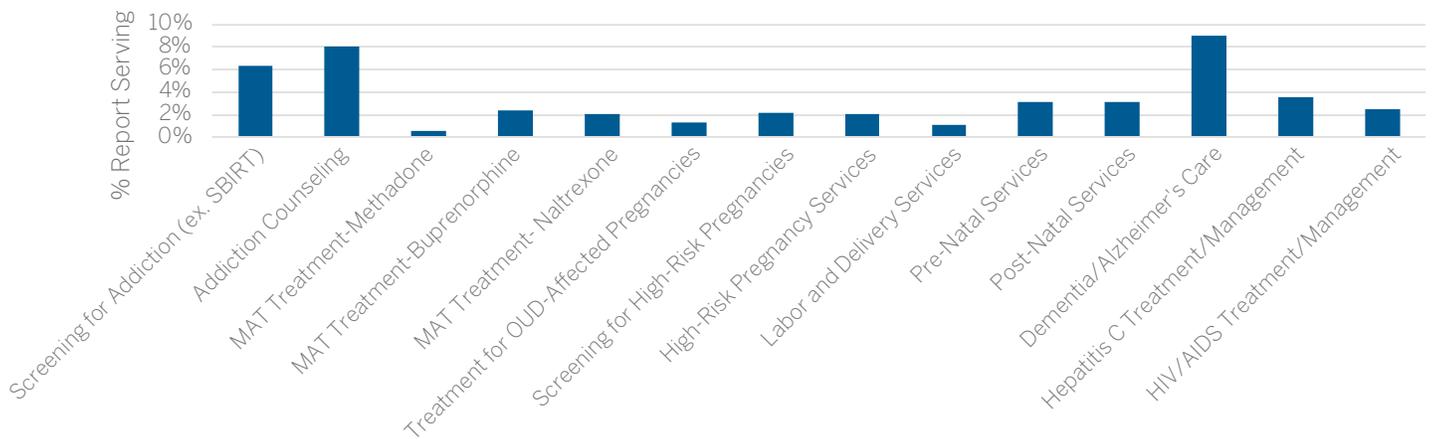


46.1% of Indiana PAs reported engaging in the delivery of telehealth services

Which populations do Indiana PAs report serving (%)?



What health care services do Indiana PAs report providing?



PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT POLICY HIGHLIGHTS

WHAT ARE THE LATEST POLICY INITIATIVES RELATED TO INDIANA'S PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT WORKFORCE?

SEA 239

Passed 2022

PRACTITIONER ADVERTISING¹

Author: Sen. Kevin Boehnlein and Sen. Liz Brown.

This bill provides that, beginning January 1, 2023, a practitioner holding a license issued by the physician assistant committee, as well as other boards, is subject to disciplinary sanctions if the practitioner: communicates or disseminates to the general public an advertisement that includes deceptive or misleading information or does not prominently state the type of license held by the practitioner.

SEA 275

Passed 2023

PRACTICE OF MEDICINE TERMS²

Authors: Sen. Tyler Johnson, and Sen. Liz Brown.

This bill requires various practitioners to wear an identification badge that clearly sets forth the practitioner's first and last name, type of license, and, if applicable, status as a student, intern, trainee, or resident while providing direct patient care. Practitioners would be subject to disciplinary sanctions if the practitioner fails to wear proper identification.

SB 3

Dead 2022

ADMINISTRATIVE AUTHORITY³

Authors: Sen. Ed Charbonneau, Sen. Travis Holdman, and Sen. Mark Messmer.

This bill would have established certain requirements for the temporary licensure of retired or inactive emergency medical services personnel, retired or inactive health care professionals, out-of-state health care professionals, or recently graduated students who have applied for a physician assistant, nurse, respiratory care practitioner, or pharmacist license. It would have allowed a health care provider or an officer, agent, or employee of a health care provider who has a temporary license to qualify for coverage under the Medical Malpractice Act.

HB 1346

Dead 2022

PHYSICIAN ASSISTANTS⁴

Authors: Rep. Vermillion

This bill would have amended the collaborative practice between physicians and PAs.

SB 190

Dead 2022

PHYSICIAN ASSISTANTS⁵

Authors: Sen. Ed Charbonneau

This bill would have amended collaborative agreement requirements for physician assistants and physicians. It would have removed the requirement for collaborative agreement in certain settings, but replace with requirements for a "practice agreement" in those settings with that entity.

PA COMPACT

PHYSICIAN ASSISTANTS LICENSURE COMPACT

Three states have enacted the PA licensure compact (Utah, Delaware, and Wisconsin). As of January 2024, it is pending legislation in six states. The PA compact cannot issue compact privileges until seven states have enacted the Compact Model Legislation. Indiana has not introduced PA licensure compact legislation.⁶

1. Senate Enrolled Act 239-2022. Available at: <https://iga.in.gov/pdf-documents/122/2022/senate/bills/SB0239/SB0239.06.ENRH.pdf>

2. Senate Enrolled Act 275-2023. Available at: <https://iga.in.gov/pdf-documents/123/2023/senate/bills/SB0275/SB0275.05.ENRH.pdf>

3. Senate Bill 3-2022. Available at: <https://iga.in.gov/legislative/2022/bills/senate/3/details>

4. House Bill 1346-2022. Available at: <https://iga.in.gov/legislative/2022/bills/house/1346/details>

5. Senate Bill 190-2023. Available at: <https://iga.in.gov/legislative/2023/bills/senate/190/details>

6. Physician Assistant Licensure Compact: <https://www.aapa.org/news-central/2024/01/the-physician-assistant-licensure-compact-update-and-what-it-means-for-pas/>

ARE YOU A PA STUDENT, PRACTICING PROFESSIONAL, OR EMPLOYER?

CHECK OUT THE INDIANA WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT INCENTIVE PROGRAMS THAT MAY BE AVAILABLE!

There are several federally funded, state-operated, and externally housed incentive programs available to support the Indiana physician assistant workforce. Most of these programs incentivize service in rural and underserved areas or specialties in Indiana.

DID YOU KNOW?

Most federal and state opportunities require service in a shortage area. Check out whether your employer qualifies by reading the program eligibility requirements and exploring health professional shortage area designations in Indiana at: <https://data.hrsa.gov/tools/shortage-area/hpsa-find>



FEDERAL OPPORTUNITIES :

[National Health Service Corps \(NHSC\) Loan Repayment Programs](#)

- Awards up to \$75,000 of loans in exchange for a two-year commitment
- Provide primary medical care in high need, underserved areas

[Substance Use Disorder Treatment and Recovery Loan Repayment Program \(STAR LRP\)](#)

- If accepted, the STAR LRP repays eligible educational loans in exchange for full-time service for six years at a STAR LRP-approved treatment facility.

[Primary Care Training and Enhancement: Physician Assistant Rural Training in Behavioral Health](#)

- Substance abuse prevention and treatment services
- Combined primary and behavioral health care services to groups of people in rural or high-need areas.



STATE OPPORTUNITIES:

- The Indiana Department of Health operates [Indiana's State Loan Repayment Program](#), which offers up to \$20,000 in exchange for a two-year service commitment.
- Funds are not distributed per year. Up to \$20,000 total is awarded for the two-year commitment period. Upon completion, participants may reapply one time, in which case, they could receive up to an additional \$20,000 for another two-year service commitment for a total of up to \$40,000 for four years of service.



OTHER OPPORTUNITIES:

- There may be other incentive programs operated externally to the State of Indiana through the [Indiana Academy of Physician Assistants](#).

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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