

Pathologists' Assistant Professionals

If your organization doesn't currently employ a pathologists' assistant (PA), we strongly encourage you to find out more about this profession, the value of a PA, and how you can hire one for your practice. To help you, we've provided answers to the following questions:

- ▶ What is a Pathologists' Assistant?
- ▶ Why Hire a Pathologists' Assistant?
- ▶ How Do I Hire a Pathologists' Assistant?

Additional information about Pathologists' Assistants can be found on our website: pathassist.org.



Visit us at pathassist.org for employer resources including our Inspection Readiness Kit and the *AAPA Macroscopic Examination Guidelines: Utilization of the CAP Cancer Protocols at the Surgical Gross Bench, aka "Grossing Guidelines"*.

Don't forget to mark April 14th on your calendar to celebrate **Pathologists' Assistant Day!**

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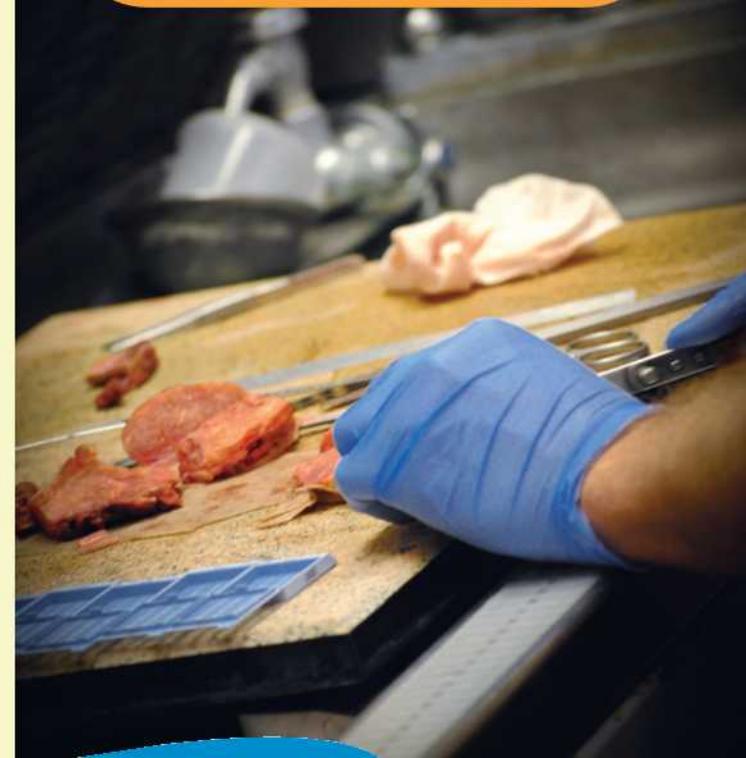


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The Value of an ASCP-Certified Pathologists' Assistant



What is a Pathologists' Assistant?

A pathologists' assistant (PA) is a highly trained, certified allied healthcare professional trained to perform surgical and autopsy pathology services under the direction and supervision of a licensed, Board Certified or Board Eligible Anatomic Pathologist. PAs can also be utilized in administrative roles such as lab managers/directors, instructors, and other such duties.

PAs become certified through the American Society for Clinical Pathology Board of Certification (ASCP BOC), and maintain certification by accruing at least 45* CE credits during a three-year certification period.

** Increasing from 45 to 60 credits for those recertifying on or after January 1, 2022.*



Why Hire a Pathologists' Assistant?

PAs play a critical role in the delivery of healthcare services in both surgical pathology and autopsy pathology. They are key partners in assisting the Pathologist to arrive at a pathologic diagnosis, but it is the sole responsibility of the Pathologist to render a diagnosis. Hiring a PA will contribute to the overall efficiency of your laboratory or practice in a cost-effective way because they are trained academically and practically. Their skills can be personalized to fit any individual laboratory's needs and requirements.

How Do I Hire a Pathologists' Assistant?

First, determine the role you wish your pathologists' assistant to assume in your laboratory. Because ASCP-certified PAs are trained to perform in various roles in a laboratory, you need to decide what this position's focus needs to be. You can then advertise your job opening through the Career Center found on the AAPA's website (careercenter.pathassist.org). Pricing starts at \$350 to have your ad published for three (3) months. Or, you may choose to browse the bank of posted resumes. Members of the AAPA who are certified or certification exam eligible are able to access the Career Center 24 hours a day.



About the AAPA

The American Association of Pathologists' Assistants (AAPA) was founded in 1972 as a not-for-profit organization dedicated to the advocacy and advancement of a then newly-emerging allied health profession. From its inception, a major goal of the AAPA was to obtain national recognition for both the profession and the individual pathologists' assistant. The AAPA is dedicated to providing comprehensive professional support for pathologists' assistants, while also being the premier provider of continuing education for pathologists' assistants.

AAPA Core Values:
Quality Patient Care :: Education
Advocacy :: Collaboration