

Clinical Year Transition to Professional Practice Curriculum Resource

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The following guidelines are intended to serve as a resource for PA educators who are designing curriculum to support PA students in the transition from student to qualified PA. Programs will have a variety of approaches in how and when they plan to present this information. The timeframes and topics listed below are not meant to be prescriptive but rather offer one approach in presenting this type of curriculum. These guidelines are not exhaustive, so educators are encouraged to seek out other resources and references.

Please note: These are not new graduation competencies but rather topics to help students transition from student to practicing PA.

Transition to Professional Practice Curriculum Topics with Suggested Timing

Early Clinical Phase

- Contract negotiations
- Cover letters
- CV development
- Interview prep/mock interviews
- Job search strategies
- Post-grad residency program introduction and/or panel

Mid Clinical Phase

- Career coaching
- Certification maintenance/CME process
- PANCE preparation/process
- PA-S to PA-C checklist: CSR, DEA, state PA license, obtain privileges, credentialing process, contracts, timing, costs, salaries (aka licensure and certification)
- State licensing/risk management
- Q&A panel with people who hire/work with PAs, PA-Cs, supervising attending physicians, recent PA program alumni

Late Clinical Phase

- Advanced coding, billing, and documentation (ICD, CPT, and E&M)
- Board review
- Debt management and loan repayment opportunities panel
- Health care policy for the PA
- Health care trends/PA reimbursement/fraud reduction
- Liability insurance and malpractice
- Reflection

The following pages include a list of the above topics in alphabetical order with details, including suggested teaching methods, possible presenters, and available resources.

Transition to Professional Practice Curriculum Topics in Alphabetical Order

Topic	Suggested Method(s) of Delivery	Possible Presenter(s)	Resources
Advanced coding, billing and documentation (ICD, CPT, E&M)	Lecture/PowerPoint/cases	PA preceptor, local hospital/practice billing specialist	https://www.aapa.org/reimbursement/
Board review	Lecture/PowerPoint	External CME organization; faculty/adjunct lecturers	www.nccpa.net/examscontentblueprint
Career coaching	Handout/resource available to students who would like individual career coaching	Career coaches	http://www.pacareercoach.net/ http://mattcaseycoaching.com/ Other local coaches via Google search
Certification maintenance/CME process	Lecture/PowerPoint	NCCPA representative; PA faculty	http://www.nccpa.net/contact-us.aspx
Contract negotiations	Lecture/PowerPoint/role-play	Lawyer, career coach, professional mediator, clinical educator	http://blogs.jwatch.org/frontlines-clinical-medicine/2016/03/29/the-fringe-part-1-negotiation-basics/ http://blogs.jwatch.org/frontlines-clinical-medicine/2016/06/08/fringe-part-3-deciphering-benefits-package/ https://www.aapa.org/career-central/job-search/effective-and-career-healthy-contract-negotiation/ http://www.pacareercoach.net/ http://mattcaseycoaching.com/
Cover letter	Lecture/PowerPoint and one-on-one or small group feedback sessions	Career coach; HR representative; university career center employee; faculty to assist with feedback sessions; advisors to continue feedback via email and/or	https://www.aapa.org/career-central/job-search/ http://www.pacareercoach.net/ http://mattcaseycoaching.com/
CV development	Lecture/PowerPoint and one-on-one or small group feedback sessions	Career coach; HR representative; university career center employee; faculty to assist with feedback sessions; advisors to continue feedback via email and/or meetings with students	https://www.aapa.org/career-central/job-search/resumes-and-cvs/ http://www.pacareercoach.net/ http://mattcaseycoaching.com/
Debt management; loan repayment opportunities panel	Lecture/PowerPoint	Financial consultant; military representation; NHSC representation	http://blogs.jwatch.org/frontlines-clinical-medicine/2016/05/04/fringe-part-2-debt-management/

Topic	Suggested Method(s) of Delivery	Possible Presenter(s)	Resources
Health care policy for the PA	Lecture/PowerPoint	PA faculty	https://www.aapa.org/advocacy-central/
Health care trends/PA reimbursement/fraud reduction	Lecture/PowerPoint	AAPA representative	https://www.aapa.org
Interview prep/mock interviews	Lecture/PowerPoint/role-play	Career coach; HR representative; university career center employee; faculty and adjuncts; alumni	https://www.aapa.org/career/interviewing-and-contracts/ http://www.pacareercoach.net/ http://mattcaseycoaching.com/
Job search strategies	Lecture/PowerPoint/handouts	Career coach; HR representative; university career center employee	https://www.aapa.org/career-central/ http://www.pacareercoach.net/
Liability insurance and malpractice	Lecture/PowerPoint	Local insurance/risk management company representative, PA faculty	https://www.rm.harvard.edu/
PANCE Preparation/process	Lecture/PowerPoint	NCCPA representative; PA faculty	http://www.nccpa.net/contact-us.aspx
PA-S to PA-C checklist: CSR, DEA, state PA license, obtain privileges, credentialing process, contracts, timing, costs, salaries (aka licensure and certification)	Lecture/PowerPoint/hand-out or checklist	Clinical educator, alumni, NCCPA representative, PA preceptor, local hospital medical staff director	http://www.nccpa.net/contact-us.aspx
Post-graduate residency program introduction and/or panel	Q&A panel or lecture/PowerPoint	Clinical educator to organize/facilitate; may include alumni that have done fellowships and/or those who run the programs	http://appap.org/
Q&A panel with people who hire and work with PAs as well as PAs themselves; PA-physician collaboration panels; recent PA alumni panel	Two-hour Q&A panel regarding what future colleagues, supervisors, and those who hire PAs are looking for, as well as pearls of wisdom from these parties	Clinical coordinator to organize and facilitate alumni, preceptors, local providers, HR representatives, military representatives, post-graduate residency program representatives	N/A
Reflection	Student essays, class discussions	Students, faculty as facilitators	Could consider having these posted to a blog
State licensing/risk management	Lecture/PowerPoint	State PA association board representatives	N/A