

# **Physician Assistant Modernization Act of 2024**

## **Highlights:**

- On October 1st, 2024, the PA Modernization Act will go into to effect. All active delegation agreements (DAs) will remain active and treated like collaboration agreements (CAs).
- Physician assistants (PAs) are not required to change/update their current active DAs to CAs. However, all PAs are welcome to do so at any time beginning October 1st, 2024.
- September 24th, 2024 Zoom link to the Joint Webinar - Hosted by MDAPA, MHA, & MBP: <https://zoom.us/j/93222739655>
  - The Zoom will be recorded and made available by MDAPA

---

## **Webinar Invitation: PA Modernization Act 2024:**

On September 24, 2024, at 4:00 p.m., the Board will jointly host a virtual webinar with the Maryland Academy of Physician Assistants (MDAPA) and the Maryland Hospital Association (MHA) to discuss the Physician Assistant Modernization Act of 2024 to help affected practitioners navigate the transition. The legislation made substantial changes to the requirements for physician assistants in Maryland, including but not limited to (1) transitioning from a delegation agreement to collaboration agreements, (2) transitioning from a supervising physician to patient care team physicians, and (3) altering the advanced duty approval process, including introducing a variety of exemptions.

The webinar will provide an overview of the PA Modernization Act and its changes to the processes and requirements of PA practice.

The link to attend the Zoom Meeting is: <https://zoom.us/j/93222739655>

If you are unable to attend the Webinar, the presentation will be recorded and posted to MDAPA's website.

Please contact [Michael.Tran@Maryland.gov](mailto:Michael.Tran@Maryland.gov) with any questions.

---

## Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

| Questions                                                                                                       | Answers                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>What is a collaboration agreement?</b>                                                                       | A collaboration agreement is a document that is executed by one or more patient care team physicians and a physician assistant containing the requirements of Health Occupations Article, § 15-302, Annotated Code of Maryland.                                                                       |
| <b>What is a Patient CareTeam?</b>                                                                              | Defined in Title 15 of the Health Occupations Article as: A multidisciplinary team of health care providers actively functioning as a unit with the leadership of one or more patient care team physicians for the purpose of providing and delivering health care to a patient or group of patients. |
| <b>What is a Patient Care Team Physician?</b>                                                                   | Defined in Title 15 of the Health Occupations Article as: A licensed physician who regularly practices in the State and who provides leadership in the care of patients as a part of a patient care team.                                                                                             |
| <b>Do I have to replace my active delegation agreement with a collaboration agreement by October 1st, 2024?</b> | Physician assistants (PAs) are not required to change/update their current active delegation agreements (DAs) to collaboration agreements (CAs). However, all PAs are welcome to change their DAs to CAs, at any time beginning October 1st, 2024.                                                    |
| <b>What happens to my active delegation agreement with my supervising physician on October 1st, 2024?</b>       | All active delegation agreements will remain active and be treated the same as a collaboration agreement on October 1st, 2024, until the agreement is terminated.                                                                                                                                     |
| <b>Can I create a new delegation agreement after October 1st, 2024?</b>                                         | No. After October 1st, 2024, delegation agreements will no longer be available for submission to the Board.                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| <b>I am a new PA -- do I need a Collaboration Agreement to practice?</b>                                        | Yes. All physician assistants (PAs) are required to have an executed collaboration agreement (CA) with one or more patient care team physicians (PCTPs) to practice as a PA.<br><br>The Board must be notified of the executed CA prior to a PA practicing.                                           |
| <b>Do I need to submit my collaboration agreement to the Board?</b>                                             | No. Collaboration agreements (CAs) do not need to be submitted to the Board. CAs shall be kept on file at the practice setting and made immediately available to the Board upon request.                                                                                                              |
| <b>Does my collaboration agreement need to be Board-Approved?</b>                                               | No. Collaboration agreements (CAs) do not require board-approval. However, the physician assistant is required to notify the Board of an executed CA prior to practicing.                                                                                                                             |
| <b>How do I notify the Board of an executed collaboration agreement?</b>                                        | A physician assistant may notify the Board of an executed collaboration agreement via the Practitioner Profile on the Board's website.                                                                                                                                                                |
| <b>How much is a collaboration agreement?</b>                                                                   | There is no charge or fee for a collaboration agreement.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| <b>How many physicians can be on a collaboration agreement?</b>                                                 | A collaboration agreement may list one or more patient care team physicians.                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| <b>How many PAs can be on a collaboration agreement?</b>                                                        | A collaboration agreement may only list one PA.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |