A proclamation is a formal way to make a public announcement or declaration. Government officials, such as mayors, state legislators, members of Congress and the President of the United States, often write proclamations to commend individuals or to announce upcoming events or celebrations. In some states, proclamations are reserved for recognizing and celebrating the extraordinary achievements of state citizens and non-profit organizations, honoring occasions of significance to the citizens of a state and increasing public awareness of issues.

PA Week is the perfect opportunity to solicit a proclamation to honor and recognize the contributions the PA workforce makes to the community.

Obtaining a Proclamation

1. First, identify the best person/office to approach for the proclamation. If time allows, getting multiple proclamations from the city council, the state representative and even your congressperson can be impressive and garner awareness of PAs and PA Week.

2. Contact the government official's office to request the proclamation. Check his or her website for instructions on how to submit a formal request since there may be an online form or instructions on what information must be included in a letter.

3. Use the sample proclamation and add your local information, as well as the date on which you would like the proclamation issued. Consider the text in the sample proclamation a draft, since the official's office may change some language.

4. Make an appointment to meet with the official for the signing of the proclamation, if possible. Usually, the mayor will let you take a photograph of him or her signing the proclamation. Be sure to obtain permission to use the photograph to promote PA Week.
PA Week Proclamation Template

WHEREAS, quality, affordable and accessible patient-centered healthcare, provided by skilled practitioners, contributes to the well-being and quality of life for all citizens of [your city, state]; and

WHEREAS, physician assistants are often the first point of contact for many patients and play a vital role in helping patients understand their medical needs and empower them to become effective advocates for themselves; and

WHEREAS, PAs are academically and clinically prepared to provide healthcare services, including diagnosis and treatment of disease, assist in surgery and prescribe medications with the direction of a supervising physician; and

WHEREAS, a valuable asset to the medical community, PAs work side-by-side with physicians to enhance the delivery of high-quality healthcare for patients, often in medically underserved and rural areas; and WHEREAS, PAs have earned the respect of the general public for their dedication and contributions to people’s lives and for working together with the healthcare team to ensure delivery of more efficient and effective healthcare services;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, [name, title], do hereby proclaim October 6–12 [Insert year] as NATIONAL PA WEEK throughout [city or state name] and encourage all of our citizens to recognize PAs for the significant impact they have made and continue to make in healthcare as a critical part of the healthcare team.