

AAMA update

Have You Heard? The AAMA Has a Podcast!

In each episode, the AAMA will explore the various aspects of medical assisting, from essential skills and qualities that make a great medical assistant to the latest advancements and legal victories for the profession. We will interview subject matter experts, discuss real-life scenarios, and share practical tips to help you navigate the challenges and triumphs of the medical assisting profession.

In our inaugural episode of the AAMA Podcast, we speak with Donald Balasa, JD, MBA, AAMA CEO and legal counsel, about the current legal challenges and trends as they pertain to the medical assisting profession. ♦

A Round of Applause

AAMA CEO and Legal Counsel Donald Balasa, JD, MBA, was awarded the first ever AAMA Trailblazer Award to recognize his extraordinary contributions to the AAMA.

The 2023–2024 AAMA Board of Trustees presented him this award at the 2024 AAMA Annual Conference. Known as the “Face of the AAMA,” we thank CEO Balasa for his exceptional dedication, impactful leadership, unwavering commitment, trailblazing spirit, and diligent representation of the AAMA for 40+ years. ♦

Upcoming Planned Outage to Prepare for New Website

The new and improved AAMA website is coming soon! These big changes will require the current website to be down for some time in mid-November. Please take this into consideration if you are recertifying your CMA (AAMA)® or renewing your AAMA membership in November.



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Standout Students

Congratulations to this year's recipients of the Maxine Williams Scholarship:



Elaine Booker graduates in November 2024 from Hunter Business School in Medford, New York. She looks forward to a career in which she can make a difference in people's lives.

As a student, Booker is well-known for her passion for education and "genuine commitment to making a positive impact." Her program director praises her "exceptional academic performance, leadership qualities, and dedication to her community."



Shalimar Guillermo will graduate in January 2025 from Central Penn College in Summerdale, Pennsylvania. With a longtime dream of working in health care, Guillermo is excited to realize her goal of being on the front line of patients' clinical experiences. After overcoming challenges and with educational and professional experience spanning multiple countries and diverse roles, Guillermo looks "forward to the opportunity to be there for future patients and their families, offering them hope, compassion, and the assurance that they have a [medical assistant] by their side."

Her strong work ethic and commitment to education and attention to detail are praised by a professor. A colleague praises her "extraordinary people skills and exceptional empathy for others."



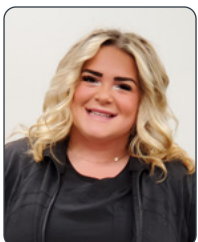
Monsurat Jimoh will graduate in May 2025 from Wake Technical Community College in Raleigh, North Carolina. Looking forward to continuing her education and making a difference, Jimoh plans to specialize in obstetrics and gynecology.

A friend highlights Jimoh's positive attitude and influence, adding that Jimoh shows kindness and compassion and is always willing to lend a hand. Further, Jimoh's program director commends her academic achievements and commitment, describing her as a "motivated and driven individual" who will "continue to excel in her endeavors and positively impact the lives of others in her future career endeavors."



Jaclyn Pullum will graduate in June 2025 from Harford Community College in Bel Air, Maryland. After completing the program, Pullum plans to find a fulfilling career with advancement opportunities. Her motivation comes from her two children.

An educator observes that Pullum excels not only in her studies, where she exhibits her eagerness to learn and active participation, but also in working with others. Pullum brings empathy and support to patient interaction and quality communication and collaboration to her peers. A coworker shares that Pullum goes above and beyond, "[taking] it upon herself to ask for more responsibility and [learning] how to be of better service to patients."



Kenadee Wiegel will graduate in April 2024 from Wisconsin Western Technical College in La Crosse, Wisconsin. Her goal after graduation is employment at a hospital where she can help "treat patients with the same kindness and caring [she has] demonstrated throughout [her] life."

As a high school student, Wiegel was known for her involvement in many activities, taking on leadership roles and prioritizing academics. Her current program chair praises her ability to learn new skills quickly and work well with other people, stating Wiegel "will be an amazing medical assistant. She has the knowledge base, motivation, and initiative to be a wonderful asset to any health care team." ♦