

Medical Assistants Matter

Get ready to cheer for medical assistants during Medical Assistants Recognition Week (MARWeek)! This year—and every year—we celebrate medical assistants as educated, equipped, and empowered professionals.

That is why we observe MARWeek during the third full week in October:

MARWeek: Oct. 19–23, 2026

MARDay: Oct. 21, 2026

The AAMA provides tools (i.e., products and downloads) to help you celebrate the professionals who are true partners in health care. Visit the AAMA online store to purchase clothing, tumblers, stickers, and more! You can also download complimentary posters, phone wallpapers, and virtual backgrounds.



AAMA Membership Reminder

Be on top of your dues—if you are hoping to serve as a delegate or alternate for your state society to the 2027 AAMA House of Delegates, be sure to pay your dues well ahead of the Dec. 31 deadline so that the AAMA is able to report your active status to your state.

Bonus!

Not a current member? When you join today, get membership all the way through Dec. 31, 2027.

Already a current member? Members who renew before the end of the year get access to a free CEU course! ♦

Updates from the Scholarship Road

In honor of last year's recipients of the esteemed Maxine Williams Scholarship, we checked in to see how they are doing on their journeys as medical assistants. Check out their stories on the AAMA website. ♦



Put Safety First in September

The Medical Assistant Partnership for Healthy Pregnancies and Families (MAP) strives to reduce and prevent fetal alcohol spectrum disorders (FASDs) by introducing and sustaining medical assistants' knowledge and practice behaviors.

September is FASDs Awareness Month, a great time to explore the MAP website and its resources, including the Walk and Talk products, which medical assistants can use—even during brief moments with patients—while walking from the waiting room to the examination room. Choose from scripts, posters, index cards, and more to help you and fellow medical assistants improve your interactions with patients. Visit the MAP website (FASDMap.org) for resources on these topics and more:

- Alcohol and Cancer Risk
- Pregnancy and Fentanyl
- Opioids and Naloxone
- Things to Avoid During Pregnancy
- Compassion Fatigue/Self-Care

The partnership between the AAMA and MAP acknowledges the unique role medical assistants have in forming communication links between patients and providers and motivating patients to avoid or stop dangerous alcohol consumption. Take action this FASDs Awareness Month and learn more about promoting alcohol- and substance-free pregnancies through these great products! ♦

Earn Free AAMA CEUs While Learning about FASDs

Want to expand your knowledge of addressing substance misuse in clinical settings in honor of FASDs Awareness Month? Check out these free CEU courses provided by the Medical Assistant Partnership for Healthy Pregnancies in the AAMA e-Learning Center:

- *Stimulant Use and Reproductive Health Considerations* (1 gen/admin/clin CEU) *Available for free to all learners until October 6
- *Ethical Considerations and Effective Strategies for Preventing Excessive Alcohol Use* (1 gen/clin CEU) *Available for free to all learners until October 6
- *Cannabis Use in the Perinatal Period* (1 gen/clin CEU) ♦