

Med-A-Scoop

A Publication by the Indiana Society of Medical Assistants, Inc.
www.insocmedasst.org



March/April 2026



Indiana Society of Medical Assistants

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Medical Assistant Creed:

I believe in the principles and purposes of the profession of medical assisting.

I endeavor to be more effective.

I aspire to render greater service.

I protect the confidence entrusted to me.

I am dedicated to the care and well-being of all people.

I am loyal to my employer.

I am true to the ethics of my profession.

I am strengthened by compassion, courage, and faith.

ISMA Mission Statement:

The Indiana Society of Medical Assistants, in affiliation with the American Association of Medical Assistants, strives to:

- Promote professional growth of and identify its membership through education and credentialing
- Inspire members to provide honest, loyal, and efficient service to the public they serve and the proficient:
- Stimulate a feeling of fellowship and cooperation with the medical profession in improving public relations
- Encourage and assist medical assistants in forming component chapters.

Indiana State Medical Assistants Code of Ethics

E is for Endeavor in our duties
T is for Truthfulness in all we do
H is for Helpfulness to others
I is for Integrity in our work
C is for courteous treatment to all
S is for sincerity in our purpose

Put them all together they spell **ETHICS**,
A WORD WE MUST UPHOLD TO ATTAIN OUR GOAL

J. Marie Theobald Wilhite

Indiana Society of Medical Assistants

Dates to Remember

ALL State Board Meetings will be held at

IU Hospital North

11700 N. Meridian St. Entrance B

Carmel, IN 46032

Workshop 12 noon, Meeting Registration 3:15 p.m.

Virtual: Teams

2025—2026 ISMA State Board Meetings and Workshops

Meeting

April 17-19, 2026

Med-A-Scoop Deadline

March 5, 2026

Email all district news, **Microsoft Word file only**,
for Med-A-Scoop publication directly to:
Pam Neu, CMA(AAMA), MBA
msneu@yahoo.com



ISMA PHYSICIAN ADVISORS

2025-2026

PHYSICIAN	YEAR(S) TO SERVE	LOCATION	TERM
Jeff Stidam, MD	3 years	Southeast District	2025-2028
Kristi Peck, MD	2 years	First District	2024-2027
William Pond, MD	1 year	Twelfth District	2023-2026

HONORARY MEMBERS

1980	Herbert Dixon*
1997	Bruce Johnson and Hubert Irwin*
2008	Earl Williams*
2013	Jack Begley and Kathy Heck
2023	James Ginder

ISMA LIFE MEMBERS

YEAR	MEMBER
1992	Bonnie Reidenbach, CMA-AC*
1994	Patricia Kennington, RN, CMA*
2005	Eva Irwin, CMA*
2011	Eulah Dearing, CMA(AAMA)*
2012	June Brown, RMA
2015	Tammy Daily, CMA(AAMA)
2018	Marjorie Mikesell, CMA(AAMA)
2024	Rita Michel, CMA (AAMA)

LEON LEVI AWARD RECIPIENTS

1988	Patricia Kennington, RN, CMA* Pauline Pinnick, CMA* Jane Seelig, CMA-A (AAMA)
1990	Bonnie Reidenbach, CMA-AC*
1991	Bettye Yard, CMA-C*
1998	Norma Harmon, CMA
2001	Eva Irwin, CMA*
2002	Eulah Dearing, CMA (AAMA)*
2010	Marjorie Mikesell, CMA (AAMA)
2013	Tammy Daily, CMA (AAMA)
2014	Sandra Johnson, MS, CMA (AAMA), CPC
2016	Rita Michel, CMA (AAMA)
2019	Pam Neu, CMA (AAMA), MBA

GOLDEN APPLE AWARDS

2000	Eva Irwin, CMA *
2003	Sandra Johnson, MS, CMA (AAMA), CPC
2004	Nancy Measell, CMA
2005	Cindy Abel, CMA
2006	Pam Neu, CMA (AAMA), MBA
2009	Jennifer Weathers, CMA (AAMA)
2010	Rita Michel, CMA (AAMA)
2012	Nina Thierer, CMA (AAMA)
2019	Sherry Braye, CMA (AAMA), BS

INDIANA SOCIETY OF MEDICAL ASSISTANTS BOARD OF DIRECTORS

OFFICE	NAME	EMAIL
President	Paula Schubert, CMA (AAMA)	Schubertpaula63@hotmail.com
Vice President	Heidi Sisson, CMA (AAMA)	banguigirl@gmail.com
Recording Secretary	Kit Stine, CMA (AAMA)	Katjalee@live.com
Immediate Past President	Dianne Wimsett, CMA (AAMA)	d.m.wimsett@hotmail.com
Treasurer	Brandi Gaumer, CMA (AAMA)	Blauderback86@gmail.com
Med-A-Scoop Manager and Website	Pam Neu, CMA (AAMA), MBA	msneucma@gmail.com

DISTRICT DIRECTORS

DISTRICT	NAME	EMAIL
East Central District	Tabitha Terry, CMA (AAMA)	tterry916@outlook.com
First District	June Brown, RMA	jmbrown400@icloud.com
Southeast District	Joyce Edds, CMA (AAMA),	mnedds@aol.com
St. Joseph District	Karen Pershing, CMA (AAMA)	klpershing1@gmail.com
Twelfth District	Rita Michel, CMA (AAMA)	Remichel49@gmail.com

Dear ISMA Members,

Happy Spring!

ISMA welcomes all medical assistants, no matter what your credential is. If you are not currently a member of the AAMA, ISMA can help you with that. Remember, to avoid sitting for the AAMA certification exam again, you may attend educational programs offered by ISMA, your local chapter, or any other chapter offering workshops to obtain CEUs.

You only need twelve CEUs each year to maintain your recertification. A total of 60 CEUs is required every five years, with a minimum of 10 clinical, 10 administrative, and 10 general CEUs that are AAMA approved.

Our next ISMA meeting will be the **70th Annual Conference, “Spring Training for Medical Assistants,” April 17–19, 2026, at the New Harmony Inn Resort, 504 North Street, New Harmony, IN 47631.** First District is hosting the conference. There will be eight CEUs available, and six to eight vendors have already confirmed, with possibly more to come. Please plan to join us for all parts of the conference—education, networking, making new friends, and reconnecting with longtime colleagues. You can support Ways & Means by purchasing raffle tickets for the wonderful baskets created by each district.

Your participation is important in helping guide the future of ISMA. There will also be a **Chapter Door Prize drawing during the Annual Business Meeting**, but you must be present to win, so plan to attend and cast your vote for the future of our society.

Please **“Pay It Forward”** by sharing your opinions and letting us know your goals and aspirations for ISMA. This year also marks the **70th Anniversary of AAMA.** Our national leadership is asking members to share the stories of their medical assisting and membership journeys. Please scan the QR code on the following page to submit your video or written story.

AAMA Story Collection - Every Chapter Matters - Share Yours!



Always “Pay It Forward” as a Medical Assistant. This is your organization, so get involved at the local, state, or national level. Dream big, watch how big the dream can become, and where the dream can lead you.

Paula Schubert, CMA (AAMA)
2024-2026 ISMA President



Raffle Baskets-Bring to the Ways and Means Table on Saturday Morning



Annual Meeting Door Prizes-Bring to the Annual Business Meeting



ISMA Board of Directors

Pre-Conference Agenda

April 17, 2026

Call to order	Paula Schubert, CMA (AAMA), President
Invocation	La Tress Woodley, CMA (AAMA)
Medical Assistant Creed	Heidi Sisson, CMA (AAMA)
Credentials Report	June Brown, RMA
_____registered	_____voting power _____quorum _____majority _____ 2/3
Introductions	Paula Schubert, CMA (AAMA), President
Secretary's Report	Katja "Kit" Stine, CMA (AAMA)
Treasurer's Report	Brandi Gaumer, CMA (AAMA)
Presentation of Bills	Paula Schubert, CMA (AAMA), President
Correspondence	Jane Seelig, CMA-A (AAMA)
Officer Reports	President – Paula Schubert, CMA (AAMA) Vice President – Heidi Sisson, CMA (AAMA) Secretary – Katja "Kit" Stine, CMA (AAMA) Treasurer – Brandi Gaumer, CMA (AAMA) Med-A-Scoop/Website Development – Pam Neu, CMA (AAMA), MBA Immediate Past President – Dianne Wimsett, CMA (AAMA) AAMA BOT Trustees – Pam Neu, CMA (AAMA), MBA & Jane Seelig, CMA-A (AAMA)
Committee Reports	Budget & Finance—Brandi Gaumer, CMA (AAMA) Bylaws & Standing Rules – Jane Seelig, CMA-A (AAMA) Certification – Joyce Edds, CMA (AAMA), Continuing Education – Heidi Sisson, CMA (AAMA) Conference Guide—Karen Pershing, CMA (AAMA) Council of Past Presidents – Dianne Wimsett, CMA (AAMA) Eva I. Irwin, CMA (AAMA) Medical Assistant Student Support Fund – Sandra Johnson, CMA (AAMA), MS, CPC Historian – Joyce Edds, CMA (AAMA), CPT (ASPT) ISMA Liaison/Public Policy/Affairs – Tammy Daily, CMA (AAMA) Membership – Dianne Wimsett, CMA (AAMA) Mentoring – Pam Neu, CMA (AAMA), MBA Procedure Manual – Jane Seelig, CMA-A (AAMA) Social Media—Tabitha Terry, CMA (AAMA) Ways & Means – Sandra Johnson, CMA (AAMA), MS, CPC

Pre-Conference Agenda April 17, 2026 (continued)

2026 State Conference – Tammy Daily, CMA (AAMA)
2027 State Conference—Joyce Edds, CMA (AAMA)
CPT (ASPT)

District Reports East Central District – Tabitha Terry, CMA (AAMA)
First District – June Brown, RMA
St. Joseph District – Karen Pershing, CMA (AAMA)
Southeast District – Joyce Edds, CMA (AAMA), CPT
(ASPT)
Twelfth District – Rita Michel, CMA (AAMA)
West Central District—Jackie Raber, CMA (AAMA),
CBSCHA, EMT-B

Unfinished Business Discuss 2026-2027 Proposed Budget—Brandi Gaumer,
CMA (AAMA)
Proposed Bylaw Amendments—Jane Seelig, CMA-A
(AAMA)
Discuss non-budgeted expense for HOSA

New Business Election of Physician Advisor to a three-year term
Dr. William Pond – Fort Wayne IN – (*term ends this
year*)
Assignments for the Annual Business Meeting:
Timekeeper (1) Glennella Bruce, RN, CMA-C (AAMA)
Tellers (3) Marjorie Mikesell, CMA (AAMA)

Pages (2) _____

Announcements Deliver raffle baskets to the Ways and Means
table in the morning.
Bring your chapter door prize to the Annual
Business meeting.
Reminder: June Raffle Basket—St. Joseph District

Adjournment



The annual ISMA 70th Conference is rapidly approaching in April. This is when all members have a voice in the organization. In order to have a discussion, it first requires a motion. This is a reminder of the correct procedure for handling a main motion according to Roberts Rules of Order.

PROCEDURE FOR HANDLING A MAIN MOTION

Obtaining and assigning the floor

A member raises hand when no one else has the floor

- The chair recognizes the member by name

How the Motion is Brought Before the Assembly

- The member makes the motion: *I move that (or "to") ...* and resumes his seat.
- Another member seconds the motion: *I second the motion or I second it.*
- The chair states the motion: *It is moved and seconded that ... Are you ready for the question?*

Consideration of the Motion

1. Members can debate the motion.
2. Before speaking in debate, members obtain the floor.
3. The maker of the motion has first right to the floor if he claims it properly
4. Debate must be confined to the merits of the motion.
5. Debate can be closed only by order of the assembly (2/3 vote) or by the chair if no one seeks the floor for further debate.

The chair puts the motion to a vote

1. The chair asks: *Are you ready for the question?* If no one rises to claim the floor, the chair proceeds to take the vote.
2. The chair says: *The question is on the adoption of the motion that ... As many as are in favor, say 'Aye'. (Pause for response.) Those opposed, say 'Nay'. (Pause for response.) Those abstained please say 'Aye'.*

The chair announces the result of the vote.

1. *The ayes have it, the motion carries, and ...* (indicating the effect of the vote) or
2. *The nays have it and the motion*

WHEN DEBATING YOUR MOTIONS

1. Listen to the other side
2. Focus on issues, not personalities
3. Avoid questioning motives
4. Be polite

INDIANA SOCIETY OF MEDICAL ASSISTANTS

70th Annual Conference

Business Meeting Agenda

April 18, 2026

Call to order	Paula Schubert, CMA (AAMA), President
Pledge of Allegiance	Heidi Sisson, CMA (AAMA), Vice President
Invocation	LaTress Woodley, CMA (AAMA), Chaplain
Medical Assistant Creed	Heidi Sisson, CMA (AAMA), Vice President
Introductions	Paula Schubert, CMA (AAMA), President AAMA Representative: Sherry Bogar, CMA (AAMA), CN-BC AAMA Board of Trustee Members Board of Directors Past Indiana Presidents Life Members Medical Assistant of the Year Recipients Leon Levi Award Recipients Golden Apple Award Recipients Honorary Members 2026 ISMA Conference Chairs
Credentials Report	June Brown, RMA
_____registered _____voting power _____quorum _____majority _____2/3	
Additions/Corrections to the Agenda	Paula Schubert, CMA (AAMA), President
Adoption of Conference Program	
Booklet	Tammy Daily, CMA (AAMA), Conference Chair
Correspondence	Jane Seelig, CMA-A (AAMA)
Secretary's Report	Katja "Kit" Stine, CMA (AAMA)
Report of the Annual Meeting	
Minutes Audit	Jane Seelig, CMA-A (AAMA)
Treasurer's Report	Brandi Gaumer, CMA (AAMA)
Presentation of Bills	Paula Schubert, CMA (AAMA)
Report of the Financial Audit	
Committee	Karen Pershing, CMA (AAMA)
Reading of the Rules	Rita Michel, CMA (AAMA), Parliamentary Advisor
Introduction of Pages, Tellers, & Timekeeper	Paula Schubert, CMA (AAMA), President
Instructions to Pages, Tellers, & Timekeeper	Rita Michel, CMA (AAMA), Parliamentary Advisor

Nominating Committee
Nominations from the Floor
Election by acclamation
Election Results
Supplemental Reports of Standing
Committees

Karen Pershing, CMA (AAMA)
Paula Schubert, CMA (AAMA), President

Paula Schubert, CMA (AAMA), President

Unfinished Business

Adoption of 2026-2027 Proposed Budget
2026 ISMA Annual Conference Report—
Tammy Daily, CMA (AAMA)
Proposed Bylaw Amendments—Jane
Seelig, CMA –A (AAMA)

New Business

Election of Physician Advisor to a three-
year
term--Dr. William Pond– Ft. Wayne IN –
(*term ends this year*)
Election of 2026 AAMA HOD Delegates
Members planning to attend 2026 AAMA
Conference
Mid-regional Conference—June 26-27, 2026

Announcements

**2027 ISMA 71st Conference Southeast
District**
Time for head table line up
Installation rehearsal time

Recess

Reconvene 6 PM



**ADDITIONAL ISMA PROPOSED BYLAW AMENDMENTS
FOR CONSIDERATION ON APRIL 18, 2026**

PROPOSED BYLAW AMENDMENT 26-16

To separate the duties of Med-A-Scoop Editor and Website Development. Med-A-Scoop Editor and Website Development Officer will continue to be elected officers.

PROPOSED WORDING:

ARTICLE VII OFFICERS AND THEIR QUALIFICATIONS

The elected officers of this Society shall be President, Vice President, Recording Secretary, Treasurer, Website Development Officer and Med-A-Scoop Editor. A candidate for office shall be an active member in good standing and shall submit to the Chair of the Nominating Committee, written consent to serve. No member shall be permitted to hold more than one elected state office at a time.

The nominees for Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Website Development Officer and Med-A-Scoop Editor shall have been Active members for at least two years, held at least one elected office in a component chapter prior to nomination, and served at least one term on the Board of Directors. In addition, the Vice President must have held at least one elected ISMA office and will automatically assume office of President at the end of the President's term of office.

ARTICLE VIII ELECTION AND TERM OF OFFICE

SECTION 3. Term of Office

All officers may serve in the same office for two consecutive terms. Med-A-Scoop Editor and Website Development Officer term is for two years and is exempt from term of office limitations.

STANDING RULES

11. DUTIES OF OFFICERS/BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- F. Med-A-Scoop Editor:** It shall be the duty of the Med-A-Scoop Editor to prepare the ISMA official Newsletter materials for publication and distribution (by paper and/or electronic) to the society members at least 30 days prior to each Board of Directors meeting.
- G. Website Development Officer:** It shall be the duty of the Website Development Officer to post to the website current information

regarding the District and State leadership and activities. The term of office shall be two years without limitation of terms.

13. ANNUAL CONFERENCE

The registration fees of the ISMA President, Vice President, Recording Secretary, Treasurer, Immediate Past President, Parliamentary Advisor, Corresponding Secretary, Med-A-Scoop Editor, Website Development Officer, Conference Chair, Vice Chair and Honorary members would be complimentary. Complimentary registration fees are to be budgeted as a conference expense.

PROPOSED BYLAW AMENDMENT 26-17

To change the notification date for proposed bylaw amendments to 30 days.

ARTICLE XXI AMENDMENTS

These Bylaws may be amended at any Annual Business Meeting of this Society by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the voting members present. A copy of the proposed amendment must be submitted in writing to the membership for consideration and approval thirty (30) days prior to such annual meeting, and such amendments shall become effective immediately upon adoption unless otherwise specified.



ISMA Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

Saturday February 14, 2026

Virtual Meeting

The meeting was called to Order by President Schubert at 2:57 p.m.

The invocation given by Vice President Sisson

The Medical Assistant Creed led by Vice President Sisson

The credentials committee report was given by June Brown

30 Registered _14__ Voting Power _7__ Quorum __8_ Majority _10__ 2/3

Secretary's Report

Kit Stine, CMA (AAMA) -Published in the Med-A-Scoop

Treasurer's Report

Brandi Gaumer, CMA (AAMA) -Approved as distributed

Presentation of Bills

Paula Schubert, CMA (AAMA), President- no bills presented

Correspondence

Jane Seelig, CMA-A (AAMA), Corresponding Secretary read correspondence from AAMA Nominating Committee Chair Case requesting candidates for the open positions of Vice President, Secretary, and four trustee positions, three two-year terms and one one-year term.

Officers' Reports

President – Paula Schubert, CMA (AAMA)- no report

Vice-President – Heidi Sisson, CMA (AAMA) - Below are the dates for the ISMA Meetings for 2026. This information was emailed to IU North to reserve the meeting rooms.

ISMA MEETING

MAS Deadlines

06/20/26

05/06/26

08/15/26

07/04/26

11/14/26

10/03/26

02/20/27

01/09/27

2027 Annual Conference

TBD

Recording Secretary – Kit Stine, CMA (AAMA) - no report

Treasurer – Brandi Gaumer, CMA (AAMA)- no report

Med-A-Scoop/Website Development – Pam Neu, CMA (AAMA), MBA- The Med-A-Scoop is now available on the Indiana Society of Medical Assistants website! It is still in Publisher format for now, as I still have access to the program. This issue is especially colorful, and I [truly appreciate](#) everyone helping in submitting such wonderful articles — thank you all! Our next issue will be an incredibly special one — the 70th Conference Issue! Let us make it a celebration to remember! The website is up to date and now features the latest issue of Med-A-Scoop. If anyone has articles, they would like to see posted on the website, please feel free to share them. Updating content regularly helps draw more attention and keeps the site engaged.

Immediate Past President—Dianne Wimsett, CMA (AAMA)-no report

BOT—Pam Neu, CMA (AAMA), MBA and Jane Seelig, CMA-A (AAMA) Speaker of the House AAMA- The AAMA Board of Trustees met at the Embassy Suites Hotel in Downtown Chicago January 29 through 31, 2026. We had a very productive meeting. The new Executive Director, Annie Storey attended all executive and open meetings, making many valuable contributions. The Summer BOT meeting will be in Chicago June 4-6. The open session will be on Friday, June 5 if any members wish to attend. Attendees get the same room rate negotiated for the BOT and are invited to join the BOT for dinner. Special efforts are focused on making our 70th Anniversary Celebration in Reno exciting with updates to events and conference formats. Since the conference is Monday through Thursday, it is an opportunity to add weekend vacation days. Please visit the AAMA website to share your membership story. We are using survey responses to guide the direction of our association. A new Mission Statement and Vision Statement presented by the Strategic Issues Plan committee were approved. In the next few weeks, notifications will be sent regarding Representative Bureau Assignments. The 2027 Annual Conference will be held in Kansas City, Missouri September 13-16, 2027, at the Sheraton Kansas City Hotel at Crown Center. Thank you for your support and contact with either of us should you need assistance or information about your AAMA membership.

Committee Reports

Budget & Finance -Brandi Gaumer, CMA (AAMA)- no report

Bylaws & Standing Rules – Jane Seelig, CMA-A (AAMA)- Table of Contents will be updated with approved wording.

Page 3 Addition of AAMA Mission Statement Lines 87-90 “To empower medical assistants by advancing education, certification advocacy, and scope of practice protection.”

Addition of AAMA Vision Statement Lines 91-96

“To be the leading voice for medical assistants, setting the standard for excellence in education and certification while championing their value, empowerment in the essential role within the healthcare team.”

For discussion: changing or deleting ISMA Mission Statement

ARTICLE II STATEMENT OF PURPOSE Add or revise to the AAMA Statement of Purpose (mandatory compliance) Lines 109-117

The purpose of the American Association of Medical Assistants is to enable medical assisting professionals to enhance and demonstrate the knowledge, skills, and professionalism required by employers and patients; protect medical assistants’ right to practice; and promote effective, efficient health care delivery through optimal use of multiskilled CMAs (AAMA).

For discussion: Adding AAMA statement instead of replacing ISMA statement

ARTICLE IV COMPONENT CHAPTER Lines 127, 128, 129, 130, 132, 133, 134, 135, 136, 141, 148, 150, 152, 202, 216, 268, 270, 291, 391, 315, 318, 330, 332, 347, 348, 392, 394, 404, 475, 532, 533, 632, 643, 665, 668, 678, 679, 686, 717, 741

Replace “chapter” with “district” throughout the bylaws

For discussion: Instead of replacing chapter with district, the AAMA bylaws use the term chapter.

ARTICLE V – MEMBERSHIP (create Section 3 Privileges and relocate dues to Article VI)

B. ASSOCIATE remove “Such a member shall enjoy all the privileges of active membership.” Line 169

C. SUSTAINING Remove “Such a member shall pay one-half (1/2), shall not hold elected office or serve as a Delegate to the AAMA House of Delegates.” Lines 172-174

D. STUDENT Remove 3 “Shall pay one-half (1/2) dues” line 193

Remove 4 “May serve as an ISMA director and/or alternate director, chair a committee, and/or serve on a committee and have full voting privileges. They may not be an ISMA elected officer, AAMA delegate or alternate delegate or AAMA committee chair.” Lines 195-197

E. HONORARY Remove “An Honorary member shall not pay state dues, vote, hold office or chair a committee.” Lines 209-210

F. LIFE Remove “A life member shall not pay AAMA dues and shall continue to enjoy all the rights and privileges of active membership.” Lines 223-224

G. AFFILIATE Remove “An affiliate member shall not vote, hold office or chair a committee.” Lines 227-228

Create **SECTION 3. Privileges** line 229-242

A. Active May hold elected office, serve as committee member, chair, director, Delegate to the AAMA House of Delegates.

B. Associate Same privileges of active membership.

C. Sustaining May not hold elected office or serve as a delegate or alternate delegate to the AAMA House of Delegates.

For discussion: Allow Sustaining members the same privileges as active members.

D. Student May serve as an ISMA director and/or alternate director, chair a committee, and/or serve on a committee and have full voting privileges. They may not be an ISMA elected officer, AAMA delegate or alternate delegate or AAMA committee chair.

E. Honorary May not vote, hold office or chair a committee.

F. Life Same privileges of active membership.

G. Affiliate May not hold office or chair a committee.

ARTICLE VI DUES

SECTION 4

B. Add “and student” line 273

C. Remove “Dues will be assessed for student members.” Add “ISMA will pay all dues for Life members.” Line 274

D. Remove “Life and honorary members are not required to pay state dues.” Add “Honorary members shall not pay dues.” Lines 275-276

ARTICLE VII OFFICERS AND THEIR QUALIFICATIONS

Paragraph 1 Remove “Recording” line 284

Paragraph 2 Add “or two years as a committee chair” line 292

For discussion: Allow members who have chaired committees for two years (director term of office) but not served as director to run for elected office.

ARTICLE X BOARD OF DIRECTORS remove “Corresponding Secretary” line 326 and “The Corresponding Secretary shall have a voice in all procedures but no vote.” Lines 327-328

ARTICLE XI VACANCY IN OFFICE/REMOVAL FROM OFFICE

Paragraph 2 Add “If the remaining term of office exceeds six (6) months, a majority of all ballots cast shall elect.” Lines 344-345

ARTICLE XII EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE remove “recording” line 352

ARTICLE XIV COMMITTEES Remove “and” line 371

SECTION 2 Rename “Committee Composition” line 374

ARTICLE XVI MEETING OF MEMBERS

SECTION 3. NOTICE OF MEETINGS add “or posted on the website.” Line 421

SECTION 4. PREPARATION OF AGENDA add “posted on the website” lines 425- 426

SECTION 6 VOTING Add after in person “at the annual business meeting;” line 433 and “Electronic voting may be conducted between Board of Directors meetings by voting Board members.” Lines 435-436

Page 14 change 1575 to 3720 line 509

STANDING RULES

9. A. PRESIDENT Add “and” line 552, remove “and Corresponding Secretary whose duty shall be to conduct the correspondence of the Society. Lines 552-553

D. Recording Secretary Remove “Recording” lines 571, 573, 574

E. add Surety before “bond” line 583

11. Annual Conference

Invitations: Remove “Brown and Brown” add “Medical Assistant of the Year Sponsor Organization.” Line 690

Registration fees: Remove Recording and Corresponding Secretary lines 692, 693, 694

Complimentary rooms: Remove Corresponding Secretary line 701

14. DELEGATES TO ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING OF AAMA rename
“REPRESENTATIVES TO THE AAMA HOUSE OF DELEGATES”

Add “or two years as a committee chair.” Line 742

IF APPROVED, ADD 15. Lines 782-797

15. Annual Conference Attendance and Membership Support (if approved)

A. Available to all current members without current chapter/district or state volunteer committee responsibility.

B. Between May 1 and March 31 attend in person or virtually four chapter/district or state workshops and complete meetings with active participation. Virtual meeting attendance will be confirmed with a cell phone request to activate your camera within 5 seconds of contact.

C. Volunteer to participate on a committee or assist with a special project.

D. Write an essay of any length detailing how your AAMA membership impacts your personal and professional life.

E. Six grants will be awarded by ISMA. One for each chapter/district. Grant will consist of the following

One-year Active membership or two-year Student membership

Full ISMA Annual Conference registration fee

One-half payment of hotel accommodation for the ISMA Annual Conference

Certification – Joyce Edds, CMA (AAMA), CPT (ASPT) - Waiting on the final attendance of the conference to prepare for recognition of the new CMA's and those who have recertified.

More info at the conference.

Conference Guide – Karen Pershing, CMA (AAMA)- I have not had any additions or corrections. I will have a couple copies at the State Conference in case someone wants one.

Continuing Education – Heidi Sisson, CMA (AAMA)- The program today was “Microaggressions Today” was presented by Heidi McLean Frye, M.Ed., CMA (AAMA), BS, RMA, CAHI, LMT. The program today was approved for 3 CEUs AG. We had 127 attended virtually. Certificates of Attendance are available upon request to all attendees as well as a copy of the speaker's power point presentation upon request.

Council of Past Presidents – Dianne Wimsett, CMA (AAMA) - no report

Eva I Irwin CMA (AAMA) Medical Assistant Support Fund - Sandra Johnson, CMA (AAMA), MS, CPC and Joyce Edds, CMA (AAMA), CPT (ASPT) - no report

Historian - Joyce Edds, CMA (AAMA), CPT (ASPT) - Finishing pictures for the president's book.

ISMA Liaison/Public Policy/Affairs – Tammy Daily, CMA (AAMA) - From the recent Indiana State Medical Association Report, in January 2026, there are big changes on the horizon for medical coding and reimbursement for 2026. The Physicians had a Webinar “ICD-10 Updates and Medicare's Final Rule: What You Need to Know, which was held on January 8, 2026. The program reviewed the latest ICD-10-CM updates, which included 487 new codes, key specialty revisions, and important documentation clarifications. It also covered the Medicare Final Rule, outlining new payment policies, compliance requirements, and workflow changes. Attendees gain insight on how to adjust operations, prepare staff, and protect revenue under the new rules. February 11, 2026, was Physician Advocacy Day at the Statehouse. This allows the attendees to discuss important issues with the State Senators and Representatives. March 18, 2026, will be the Statehouse Outcomes: Final Report. I will update when the information is printed and sent out to the ISMA. The Indiana State Medical Association 177th Annual Convention date will be September 25-27, 2026. Information will be coming in a couple of months.

Membership - Dianne Wimsett, CMA (AAMA)-- The Indiana Society of Medical Assistants as of February 10, 2026, has a membership of 892. This is a decrease in the membership that we had in November 2025, which was 1,259 members. This is a decrease of 357 members. The Indiana Society of Medical Assistants has had 30 new CMAs since November.

Mentoring – Pam Neu, CMA (AAMA), MBA- On January 16, 2026, this chair sent more than 3,600 emails to non-member CMAs (AAMA) in Indiana, notifying them of the February 14,

2026, workshop. With the strong and relevant topics being presented, the hope was that this outreach would encourage some non-members to return as active members. As of February 3, 2026, Indiana now has 4,038 non-member CMAs (AAMA). This challenge is not unique to Indiana; it is an ongoing issue across all active states. All states are asking for chapters and districts to share ideas on how to retain current members and reconnect with those who have not renewed. Please share any suggestions with the officers on this chair. No idea is too small, and all input is welcome

Nominating –Karen Pershing, CMA (AAMA)- Nominating Committee is happy to announce the slate of officers for 2026-2027.

President: Heidi Sisson, CMA (AAMA),

Vice President: Katja "Kit" Stine, CMA (AAMA)

Secretary: Brandi Gaumer, CMA (AAMA)

Treasurer: Karen Pershing, CMA (AAMA).

Med A Scoop/Website: Pam Neu, CMA (AAMA)

Immediate Past President: Paula Schubert, CMA (AAMA).

All members running for office have paid their dues before December 31, 2025, deadline. The committee would like to thank the individuals running for the state office.

Karen Pershing, CMA (AAMA), Nominating Committee, Chair.

Nominating Committee Members: Katja "Kit" Stine, CMA (AAMA), Clara Poirot, CMA (AAMA), Rita Michel, CMA (AAMA), Joyce Edds, CMA (AAMA).

Procedure Manual – Jane Seelig, CMA-A (AAMA)--The ISMA Procedure Manual was updated prior to the November meeting and is available on the ISMA website. It is intended to provide guidance and information to any member interested in or serving in a leadership role within a chapter or the ISMA. Please notify this chair if needed information or instruction is not available within the document.

Social media—Tabitha Terry, CMA (AAMA) - No updated Social Media Report. The ISMA Facebook page has 48 members.

Ways & Means - Sandra Johnson, CMA (AAMA), MS, CPC and Dianne Wimsett, CMA (AAMA)- There was no raffle for this meeting because we met virtually. Just a reminder, our next meeting will be at our State Conference in April. Each District/Chapter is asked to bring a Raffle Basket valued at least \$50. The raffle basket can be any theme. Tickets will be sold. This is a huge money maker for our State Society. Each chapter is also asked to bring a Door Prize valued to be at least \$25. The door prize will be given at the Annual Business Meeting. You do have to be present at the Annual Business Meeting to win the Door Prize. So, I hope to see you all at the Annual State Conference.

ISMA 2026 State Conference – Tammy Daily, CMA (AAMA), June Brown, RMA- First District Conference Committee will have a short meeting on 2-10-26, at 5pm, before our regular monthly Chapter Meeting at 6pm, to go over our current updated information regarding the scheduled State Conference in April. We have the following items finalized for the Conference: Date, Place & Rooms are all set for us to enjoy. We have several room reservations already made

for the conference by our contact person at the New Harmony Inn. Remember, the date to receive the listed room charge of \$99.00 per night must be made by April 2, 2026. After this date, their regular rates will apply. I have had calls from several people that live in the Evansville area or close by, and they are going to do their Registration only and not stay at the Inn. They will just go home each night and come back the next morning and join us for the whole day. They are excited about saving money! The meals have been selected each day. Speakers have been confirmed for 8 CEU's. 6-8 Vendors have already confirmed, and we may have a few more. Our cutoff dates for our committee part with New Harmony Inn are made and are looking very good. Hopefully by the end of February, we will have all conferences completed and will send Tabitha Terry for the Facebook page and send to Paula Schubert for the Conference Booklet. We are hoping to see a Big Attendance for our 70th ISMA Annual Conference.

ISMA 2027 State Conference- 2027 Conference, Southeast District will be hosting the 2027 conference at the Hilton in Edinburgh, IN. We will be meeting with the Hotel March 21, 26 and will have more information to come. I have asked the Kentucky chapter if they want to host with us. Rina said they have a meeting, and she was going to see if that was something they wanted to do.

Director Reports

East Central District –. Tabitha Terry, CMA (AAMA)- East Central District Chapter last met November 9, 2025, at IU Hospital North for education. East Central District Chapter will meet again in March for Spring education. We have 234 members in our chapter.

First District – June Brown, RMA- In December we had our annual Christmas meeting with gift exchange. January meeting Dr. Thomas “Chris” Putnam spoke on dietary guidelines for Americans. He explained that the new nutritional pyramid First District has 275 members.

St. Joseph District – Karen Pershing, CMA (AAMA)- We have a workshop scheduled for March 28, 2026, at BMG Administration Bldg. on Niles Ave. All speakers will be from Luminary Hospice and lunch will be provided. More information to follow. Marjorie Mikesell and I took the ISMA raffle check over to Mishawaka Troop Town. St. Joseph District made up the difference so that it was \$500.00 dollars that we were giving them. We received a tour of the community center and one of the apartments the veteran will be staying in. Each apartment is furnished with bed, bedding, dresser, couch, coffee table, and end tables, kitchen table, and chairs. The kitchen has a dishwasher, refrigerator, pots and pans, dishes, toaster, and coffee pot. The bathroom has a bathtub with a shower and a shower curtain. Kitchen dish cloth and dish towels and towels for bathroom are furnished. They also receive laundry detergent, personal items, and food items that have been donated. Two washing machines and dryers are in the community hall for them to use. They have 5 of 8 apartments filled. We have 164 members.

Southeast District – Joyce Edds, CMA (AAMA), CPT (ASPT)- 2027 Conference, I hope all are doing well. Our chapter had to change a workshop we were planning due to an unexpected health issue with my husband Richard. Southeast District will host the 2027 conference at the Hilton in Edinburgh, IN. We will meet at the Hotel on March 21, 2026, and will have more information. I

have asked the Kentucky chapter to host with us. Rina said they had a meeting, and she was going to see if that was something they wanted to do. We have 95 members as of 2-12-26

Twelfth District – Rita Michel, CMA (AAMA) - Twelfth District has not had any activity and current membership is 165.

West Central District – Jackie Raber, CMA (AAMA), BSHCA, EMT - The West Central District has been busy with planning meetings and arranging speakers for the next four months. ·

2/17/26-Topic: Professionalism in medical practice. Presenter: Brooklyn Burton.

3/17/26 Topic: Patient outcomes, access to care, and treatment efficacy. Presenter: Danielle Hallam Community Health Worker. ·

4/21/26-Topic: Professionalism and what that means to Riggs. Presenter: Amy Hobbs Adult Unit Manager. ·

5/19/26-Topic: MA responsibility and expectations. MA/provider ratio. Team leads to responsibility/ expectations. Transition from MA to leadership, what I thought looked like vs. Reality. Presenter: Hanna Sturgeon Adult Unit Assistant Manager.

In January, West Central District hosted a meeting via zoom that had 18 attendees. This year West Central District has 165 members on the roster. We have been reaching our membership via zoom, email blast, and text messages on meeting dates. We will continue to keep Facebook updated with the information.

Unfinished Business

ISMA Membership Committee Expansion -Dianne Wimsett, CMA (AAMA)- We have formed an ISMA Membership Committee Expansion. The committee will consist of the Membership Chair (Immediate Past President) and a Point of Contact from each district. The Point of Contact will oversee contacting new CMAs and Non renewing members.

Point of Contact

East Central – Tabitha Terry, CMA (AAMA),

First District – Tammy Daily, CMA (AAMA) and June Brown, RMA,

St. Joseph District – Karen Pershing, CMA (AAMA),

Southeast District – Sandra Johnson, CMA (AAMA), MS, CPC,

Twelfth District – Rita Michel, CMA (AAMA),

West Central – Jackie Raber, BSHCA, CMA (AAMA), EMT-B

Support for members attending ISMA Annual Conference-Jane Seelig, CMA-A (AAMA)

Available to all current members without current chapter/district or state volunteer committee responsibility.

Between May 1 and March 31, attend in person or virtually four chapter/district or state workshops and complete meetings with active participation. Virtual meeting attendance will be confirmed with a cell phone request to activate your camera within 5 seconds of contact.

Volunteer to participate on a committee or assist with a special project.

Write an essay of any length detailing how your AAMA membership impacts your personal and professional life.

Six grants may be awarded by ISMA. One for each chapter/district.

Grant will consist of the following

One-year Active membership or two-year Student membership.

Full ISMA Annual Conference registration fee

One-half payment of hotel accommodation for the ISMA Annual Conference.

Objective: To increase membership with informed contributing members.

Fiscal impact: \$3,000.00 per year if all grants are awarded (estimated \$500.00 per grant)

Funds to be paid out of the money market account and is not to be a budgeted item.

Suggested judging committee: Five active Past Indiana Presidents.

This was adopted by all in attendance for presentation to the membership at the Annual Business Meeting at Conference in April 2026.

Jane Seelig, CMA-A (AAMA), Chair,

Joyce Edds, CMA (AAMA), CPT (ASPT), Rita Michel, CMA (AAMA), Pam Neu, CMA (AAMA), MBA, Karen Pershing, CMA (AAMA).

Nominating Committee: Present slate of ISMA Officers-Karen Pershing, CMA (AAMA)

President: Heidi Sisson, CMA (AAMA)

Vice President: Katja "Kit" Stine, CMA (AAMA)

Secretary: Brandi Gaumer, CMA (AAMA)

Treasurer: Karen Pershing, CMA (AAMA)

Med A Scoop/Website: Pam Neu, CMA (AAMA)

Immediate Past President: Paula Schubert, CMA (AAMA)

New Business

Candidate Nominees for National Office-Jane Seelig, CMA-A (AAMA)--Anyone interested in running for an office at the national level contact Monica Case, CMA (AAMA)-Chair of the Nominating committee. Pam Neu, CMA (AAMA), MBA will not be running for re-election.

Presentation of Proposed Budget-Brandi Gaumer, CMA (AAMA)-Jane Seelig, CMA-A (AAMA) moved to adopt this budget to present to the membership. All those in attendance voted in favor.

Report Schools contacted for Eva I. Irwin CMA (MMA) Medical Assistant Support Fund-Co-Chairs Sandra Johnson, CMA (AAMA), MS, CPC, CCS-P & Joyce Edds, CMA (AAMA), CPT (ASPT)--Jane Seelig, CMA-A (AAMA) is going to help Sandra and Joyce with gathering the contact information of the programs here in the state of the IN.

CMA Project Link-Pam Neu-CMA (AAMA) MBA—AAMA is asking for stories from CMAs on their “why” they are CMAs about how it impacts their lives personally and professionally. These can be submitted by video, voice recording, or in writing with photos and highlights. Please make your submissions to Pam Neu, CMA (AAMA), MBA, and she will forward it to the AAMA.

HOSA-Jane Seelig, CMA-A (AAMA) --Their next meeting is April 16, 2026, at the Marriott downtown Indianapolis. The table cost is \$400 for 2 tables. There is also an opportunity to present a workshop to the students. Jane Seelig, CMA-A (AAMA) will make a presentation and sit at the table while not presenting with Kit Stine, CMA (AAMA). Jane is asking for \$600 to cover the cost of the table and parking for those attending. This was proposed to everyone and all in attendance voting in favor of this.

Announcements:

Med-A-Scoop Deadline-March 5, 2026

Next Meeting (Annual Conference) April 17-19, 2026

Deadlines:

End of year reports Officers, Committee Chairs, and Directors, due March 1, 2026, send to Paula Schubert and Kit Stine.

Adjourned: Paula Schubert, CMA (AAMA) at 5:28 p.m.



**ISMA—70 years and
still going strong!!**

MED-A-SCOOP LEARNING NOOK

TRANSLATING MEDICAL CODING FROM THE OFFICE TO THE CLASSROOM

By Teresa Hallmen, MEd, CMA (AAMA), CPC (AAPC)

As we move to the Educational Corner, our first topic is the significance of medical coding. While often seen as a technical billing task, medical coding is also an essential educational tool that bridges the office and classroom. It involves converting patient visits into codes for insurance understanding, facilitating payments, compliance, and healthcare data tracking. Students should learn both the codes and their practical applications in real medical settings, along with how to communicate this information effectively.

HOW MEDICAL CODING IS USED IN THE OFFICE

Medical coding is essential in clinics for documenting patient encounters. Key standardized code sets include:

- ICD-10-CM: for diagnoses
- CPT: for services and procedures
- HCPCS Level II: for supplies and additional services

These codes are crucial for insurance claims, as mismatches can lead to denials or delays. Official coding guidelines are provided by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, while the American Academy of Professional Coders promotes ethical standards. The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services enforces laws against fraud and abuse in healthcare billing. Although vital for reimbursement and compliance, coding language can be technical and challenging for non-clinicians.

WHY TRANSLATING INTO SIMPLE TERMS MATTERS

Translating complex medical language into simple terms is crucial in education. It helps students:

- Understand the condition behind codes
- Connect documentation to patient care
- Enhance critical thinking skills

For patients, clear explanations:

- Improve understanding of diagnoses and services
- Reduce confusion with bills or EOB statements
- Build trust in healthcare providers

For instance, explaining “acute otitis media” as “an ear infection” enhances clinical understanding and communication, supporting health literacy essential for patient-centered care.

References (APA 7th Edition)

American Academy of Professional Coders. (2022). What is medical coding? <https://www.aapc.com/resources/medical-coding.aspx>

Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services. (2023). ICD-10-CM official guidelines for coding and reporting. <https://www.cms.gov/medicare/icd-10/2023-icd-10-cm>

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Inspector General. (2023). Fraud and abuse laws. <https://oig.hhs.gov/compliance/physician-education/fraud-abuse-laws/>



HOW TO TEACH MEDICAL CODING IN THE CLASSROOM

To effectively transition from office practice to education, coding instruction should be practical and communication-focused:

- **Start with Documentation:** Teach students to review provider notes, ensuring codes reflect documented information.
- **Use Case-Based Scenarios:** Provide patient cases; students select codes and explain diagnoses in simple terms.
- **Teach the Revenue Cycle Process:** Outline steps from patient visit to payment, and discuss how to explain this to patients.
- **Emphasize Ethics and Compliance:** Highlight the legal and professional responsibilities of accurate coding.
- **Practice Dual-Language Communication:** Have students assign codes, define terms, and translate them into layman's language for real-world readiness.

2026 ISMA 70th ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Registration Form

Hosted By **FIRST DISTRICT**

April 17 - 19, 2026

New Harmony Inn Resort, New Harmony, IN (please print)

Name: _____

AAMA Member ID # _____ Credential: _____

Address: _____

(City, State, Zip) _____

Phone: Cell: _____ Home: _____

Home Email address: _____

We need this information for your nametag please:

District (Chapter) Name: _____

Current responsibility and credentials: Local/State/National

Please check one: Member Student member Not a member

Since **April 2025**, please check: New CMA (AAMA) Educator

First-time Conference Attendee Recertified CMA (AAMA)

FOOD ALLERGIES: _____

REGISTRATION & HOTEL DEADLINE: Thursday, April 2, 2026

All workshops, meals and entertainment are included in the total registration package.

Registrations **received** by April 2, 2026

Members: \$190.00 Student Members: \$100.00

Non-members: \$235.00 Non-member Students: \$150.00

Late Registrations received after April 2, 2026

Members: \$225.00 Student Members: \$125.00

Non-members: \$260.00 Non-member Students: \$175.00

One Day registration without meals: \$150.00

Guest Meal only registration: Breakfast: \$30.00 Lunch: \$35.00 Dinner: \$ 55.00

QUESTIONS????????

Tammy Daily, CMA (AAMA) 812/549-5036 tammydaily44@gmail.com

June Brown, RMA 812/319-3931

Rita Michel, CMA (AAMA) 260/358-7282 remichel49@gmail.com

Please forward the completed form with check payable to:

ISMA Conference Fund or VENMO: @RitaMichel

Rita Michel, CMA (AAMA) Email Registration to: remichel49@gmail.com

6710 W 600 N

Huntington, IN 46750



ISMA 70TH CONFERENCE SCHEDULE
APRIL 17 – 19, 2026
SPRING TRAINING FOR MEDICAL ASSISTANTS
8 CEU'S (total)
All activities will be in Conference Rooms A & B
Vendors will be in Bayou Room

FRIDAY, APRIL 17, 2026

3:00 pm – 6:00 pm	Registration open
5:00 pm – 6:00 pm	Pre-Conference Meeting
6:15 pm – 7:00 pm	Welcome & Meal
7:15 pm – 9:15 pm	Workshop #1 Topic: Sports Medicine (2 CEUs) Speaker: Isiah Kemper, B.S., MSOT

SATURDAY, APRIL 18, 2026

SHOPPING WITH VENDORS will be open from
9:00 am to 5:00 pm in the Bayou Room

6:30 am – 8:00 am	Registration open
6:30 am – 8:00 am	Breakfast (Hot Breakfast Buffet)
7:00 am – 7:45 am	Special seating for PIPS meeting
8:00 am – 9:00 am	Workshop #2 Topic: Concussions (1 CEU) Speaker: Dr. Thomas Weinzapfel
9:15 am – 9:30 am	Registration for Annual Business Meeting
9:30 am – 11:30 am	Annual Business Meeting
12:15 am – 1:15 pm	Lunch with AAMA National Representative Vice President Sherry Bogar, CMA (AAMA), CN-BC
1:30 pm – 3:30 pm	Workshop #3 Topic: Orthopedic Update (2 CEUs) Speaker: Tri-State Ortho NP with Dr. Hamby
3:30 pm – 5:30 pm	Free time----Get out and Enjoy the Surroundings and Relax
5:30 pm	Cocktails and Group Photos (head table line-up at 6:00 pm)
6:00 pm- 9:00 pm	Banquet- Awards and Installation

SUNDAY, APRIL 19, 2026

7:00 am – 8:00 am	Breakfast (Hot Breakfast Buffet)
8:15 am – 11:15 am	Workshop #4 Topic: Fall Prevention & Workplace Bullying (3 CEUs) Speaker: James Ginder
11:30 am-12:30 pm	Post Conference Board Meeting

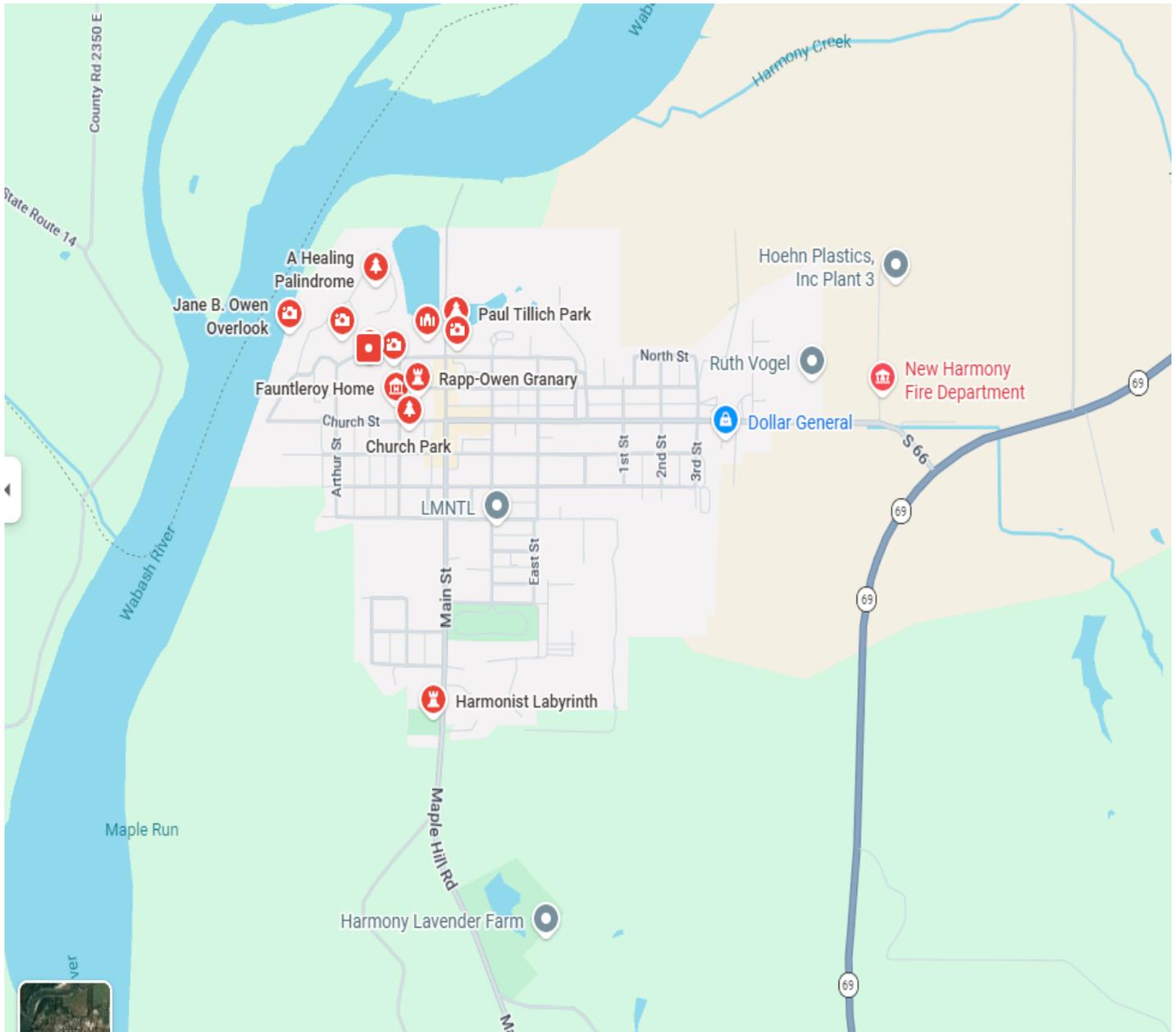
**Hotel Reservations for 2026 ISMA Conference
April 17 - 19, 2026
New Harmony Inn
504 North St. New Harmony, IN 47631
Phone: (812) 682-4431**

**Our Room Rate: \$99.00 King, Queen, Loft and Two Double Bed Rooms
Maximum of four persons per room**

1. Call Local: 1-812-682-4431
Toll Free: 1-800-782-8605
2. Inform the reservation agent that you would like to book a group reservation at the New Harmony Inn. (**Indiana Society Medical Assistants April 2026**)
3. Provide your arrival and departure dates to the agent, as well as your name, address information and a credit card for guarantee. (Can pay cash at arrival, but must provide a credit card to guarantee the room)
4. Please inform the reservation agent of the total number of adults (anyone over the age of 18). It is important that we have an accurate count per room.
5. If you wish to receive a confirmation e-mail, a valid e-mail address must be provided to the agent.
6. Any questions or concerns regarding the availability of rooms should be directed to: Melissa, Director of Sales at 1-812-682-4431.

The group cutoff date is April 2, 2026. Reservations will continue after that date, but the group rate will not be honored.

Come early and see the sites! Beautiful town and area!



Quick facts New Harmony is a historic town on the Wabash River in Harmony Township, Posey County, Indiana. It lies 15 miles north of Mount Vernon, the county seat, and is part of the Evansville metropolitan area. The town's population was 690 at the 2020 census. [Wikipedia](#)



Tigers & giraffes are among the 700+ animals in themed exhibits at a 45-acre zoo & botanical garden



Cathedral Labyrinth



Harmonie State Park



Harmonist Labyrinth



Atheneum Visitors Center, Historic New Harmony

ISMA Coding Corner

Medical Coding for Lesions

Documentation for several types of lesions vary.

- * Benign skin lesions (e.g., skin tags, seborrheic keratoses)
- * Premalignant lesions (e.g., actinic keratosis)
- * Malignant lesions (e.g., basal cell carcinoma)
- * Viral lesions (e.g., warts)
- * Suspicious or changing moles (nevi)
- * Use centimeters (cm), not millimeters.

Examples: Visible lesion: 1.0 cm
Left margin: 0.2 cm
Right margin: 0.2 cm
Total excised diameter = 1.4 cm.

Each lesion type directly impacts the diagnosis and procedure codes assigned.
* Measure the length at its' greatest diameter (the widest part of the visible lesion.)

Coders should not use the length of the incision, the length of the sutured wound, or the size of the final scar. Only the excised diameter is used for code selection. Codes for lesions: Diseases of the skin and subcutaneous tissue: L00-L99. Neoplasms (benign, in situ, malignant, or uncertain behavior). Destruction of lesions: Codes 17000-17004 – Actinic keratosis destruction; 17110-17111 destruction of benign lesions.

Key issues: Always wait for pathology when coding suspicious lesions. Be sure to check whether the procedure is bundled with other services. This is mandatory for correct billing.

BC Advantage; September/October 2026 Issue; www.billing-coding.com

Sandra Johnson, MS, CPC, CMA-AAMA, Southeast District





National Doctors' Day

March 30th

History of National Doctors' Day

National Doctors' Day is held every year on March 30th in the United States. It is a day to celebrate the contribution of physicians who serve our country by caring for its' citizens.

The first Doctor's Day observance was March 30, 1933 in Winder, Georgia. Eudora Brown Almond, wife of Dr. Charles B. Almond, decided to set aside a day to honor physicians. This first observance included the mailing greeting cards and placing flowers on graves of deceased doctors. The red carnation is commonly used as the symbolic flower for National Doctor's Day.

On March 30, 1958, a Resolution Commemorating Doctors' Day was adopted by the United States House of Representatives. In 1990, legislation was introduced in the House and Senate to establish a national Doctor's Day. Following overwhelming approval by the United States Senate and the House of Representatives, on October 30, 1990, President George Bush signed S.J. RES. #366 (which became Public Law 101-473) designating March 30th as "National Doctor's Day."

DOWNLOAD THE ISMA WEBSITE LINK!

Instructions for Android and iPhone:

Android Phones: Open Chrome and type in the website address: Insocmedasst.org—hit enter and let the website appear. Tap the menu icon (3 dots in upper right-hand corner) and tap Add to home screen. **Every time you go into the Web link, make sure you refresh the page!**

iPhone: Using Safari type in the website address: Insocmedasst.org and hit enter. At the bottom of your screen you will see a box with an arrow going up-touch that and scroll over until you see the prompt “add to home screen” tap the words and touch “add” at the top of the screen and watch your Web link appear. **Don’t forget to refresh the page each time when you go into the web link!**

**Official Newsletter of the
Indiana Society of Medical Assistants, Inc.
An Affiliate of the American Association of Medical Assistants**

NOTICE- If you have a name or address change
PLEASE NOTIFY the National AAMA office at
1-800-ACT-AAMA
(1-800-228-2262) OR WWW.AAMA-NTL.ORG