

HPA the Catalyst

Catalyst Group Development

Definition

An HPA Catalyst Group is an informal network of individual members with a shared interest in exploring a topic or interest area relevant to the profession of physical therapy.

Purpose

The purpose of HPA Catalyst Groups is to make it easy for small groups of members with common interests to talk to each other without the formality of creating a separate organization or entity.

HPA believes the next great idea in health care might come from anywhere. To that end, HPA is committed to providing groups of members, whether big or small, with opportunities to share ideas.

HPA Responsibilities

HPA will provide each Catalyst Group with:

1. An open discussion forum through the HPA website (open to all visitors).
2. A Board liaison through which the group may request Board consideration of program or project proposals.
3. HPA will promote the scout group through its publications, website and media channels, and regularly scheduled communications with HPA members and allies.

Catalyst Group Responsibilities

Catalyst Groups will:

1. Designate a single individual as the key contact and discussion forum moderator for the group.
2. Respond to questions regarding group activities from interested individuals, HPA staff and leadership.
3. Be self-governing and self-supporting. With the exception of initial discussion group set up and maintenance, HPA does not provide staff or financial support to scout groups.

Application Process for Catalyst Groups

HPA considers Catalyst Group requests on an ongoing basis. Upon receipt of the required application materials by HPA staff, applicants will be provided with an estimated date for review of the application by the HPA Executive Committee.

Catalyst Group applications are reviewed by the HPA Executive Committee. There is no application form; interested parties should submit the following to the HPA office via email. Upon receipt, the HPA Executive Director will acknowledge with a reply and provide an estimated timeline for a response from HPA:

1. Identification of the topic, question, or area of interest for the Catalyst Group and information describing the topic's relevance to physical therapy and/or the Association.
2. 10 signed statements of interest from individuals who intend to participate in the Catalyst Group.
3. Contact information from the individual who will serve as key contact and discussion moderator for the Catalyst Group.

The HPA Executive Committee may make an immediate decision related to approval or disapproval of a scout group request, or it may defer discussion of the request to the Board of Directors or a later meeting.

In general, proposed Catalyst Groups can expect a response to their request within approximately 3 months. If approved, HPA staff will work with the key contact to establish a timeline for installation of the Catalyst Group discussion forum.

Disbanding

Catalyst Groups may be disbanded by HPA for any, or a combination, of the following reasons:

1. Written request for disbanding by any member of the Catalyst Group.
2. Inactivity in the Catalyst Group discussion forum.
3. Lack of timely response by the Catalyst Group key contact, resignation of the key contact and/or inability of the group to identify a new key contact.
4. Failure of Catalyst Group members to observe discussion forum rules.
5. Transition of the Catalyst Group to an alternate organization entity (committee, SIG, etc.).

Adopted by the HPA Board of Directors, July 2013.