ABOUT THE NPA

Providing a national voice and seeking positive change for postdoctoral scholars

OUR HISTORY

The NPA was established in 2003 with the goal of fostering necessary improvements to the postdoctoral situation in the United States.

LEADERSHIP

The NPA employs a professional staff and is supported by a number of volunteers on the Board of Directors, Advisory Council, five Committees of the Membership, and officers.

MEMBERSHIP

The NPA serves the postdoctoral community, including 23,000 individual members and some 230 organizational members that represent approximately 70,000 postdoctoral researchers from a diversity of disciplines.

EVENTS

The NPA Annual Conference is the largest national conference and networking event dedicated to the postdoctoral community.

Since 2009 the NPA has sponsored National Postdoc Appreciation Week (NPAW). Beginning the third Monday in September, NPAW recognizes the significant contributions that postdoctoral scholars make to U.S. research and discovery.

PURPOSE

The National Postdoctoral Association (NPA) is a 503(c)3 nonprofit association headquartered in Rockville, MD

MISSION

To improve the postdoctoral experience by supporting a culture of inclusive connection. At the individual, organizational, and national levels, we facilitate enhanced professional growth, raise awareness, and collaborate with stakeholders in the postdoctoral community.

VISION

We envision an inclusive community where all postdocs are empowered, valued, recognized, and supported in their current and future endeavors.

CONTACT

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ABOUT THE NPA
2003 to Present

Since 2000, the postdoctoral experience has gained new visibility on the national level, with the NPA playing a major role in elevating that awareness.

THE NPA ADVOCATES FOR:

- Increases in the NIH training stipends;
- Requirement of mentoring plans on all grants;
- More independent funding for postdocs;
- Improved benefits for all postdocs;
- Professional and career development opportunities for postdocs;
- Increased data collection regarding postdocs;
- Diversity and inclusion within the postdoctoral community; and
- Much more.

THE NPA HAS DEVELOPED OR COLLECTED SUCH RESOURCES AS:

- Recommendations for Postdoctoral Policies and Practices;
- Survival Guide for International Postdocs;
- Family-Friendly Resources for Postdocs;
- The Advancing Postdoc Women Guidebook;
- From Ph.D. to Professoriate: The Role of the Institution in Fostering the Advancement of Postdoc Women;
- The Institutional Policy Database and Report; and,
- The Core Competencies.

THE NPA CONTINUES TO

- Work to establish PDOs and PDAs;
- Update current resources and develop new resources;
- Advocate for increased compensation and benefits for all postdocs;
- Increase in quality mentoring; expanded professional and career development opportunities;
- Improved data collection; and,
- Diversity within the postdoctoral community.