

Funded Accreditation Opportunity for Medical Assisting Practitioners Ivy Reade Relkin Surveyor Training Grant

MAERB is proud to announce a new initiative for the calendar year 2025, providing an opportunity for a medical assisting practitioner to serve as a guest observer for an accreditation site visit. Grant funds are available to support the expenses (travel, lodging, meals) of a practitioner observing a CAAHEP-accreditation site visit in either the spring (January – June) or fall (August – December) of 2025.

CAAHEP-accreditation visits last for a day and a half at the physical location of a medical assisting education program. The guest observer will be able to learn how medical assisting education programs comply with CAAHEP *Standards and Guidelines* as well as learn how the curriculum is delivered, practicum sites are chosen and evaluated, and how the accreditation process benefits the medical assisting profession.

The criteria for a person to apply are as follows:

- Be currently employed as a medical assistant, at least a minimum of 20 hours per week
- Be a graduate of a CAAHEP-accredited medical assisting program
- Have experience with medical assistant education, such as serving as a part-time faculty, a practicum supervisor, or an Advisory Board committee member
- Hold a current NCCA or ANSI-accredited medical assisting credential. Currently, they include the following 5 credentials: CMA (AAMA); RMA (AMT); NCMA (NCCT); CCMA (NHA); CMAC (AMCA)

The process is as follows:

- The applicant will fill out the application that is found on MAERB's website (www.maerb.org) under the [About Tab on the Events and Announcement page](#).
- The due date for applications is November 1, 2024. Please send the completed application to Sarah Marino (smarino@maerb.org) and feel free to call her at 312-392-0136.
- The MAERB office will review all applications, and the criteria used for the award will be based upon experience with a CAAHEP-accredited program and geographical proximity to a site visit.
- There will be one award for the calendar year 2025.
- All travel, lodging, and food costs of the awarded guest observer will be covered by the MAERB Ivy Reade Relkin Site Surveyor Training Fund (IRRSSTF).

The goal is to recruit practitioners to serve as MAERB Site Surveyors. As such, you should not apply for this grant if you are not interested in becoming a CAAHEP/MAERB Surveyor. Serving as a guest observer on the site visit will enable practitioners to learn more about CAAHEP-accreditation processes.

This grant is made possible by the Ivy Reade Relkin Site Surveyor Training Fund. Ivy Reade Relkin, who served as AAMA President in 1985, was a central force in the development of the accreditation processes. She was one of the founding members of the AAMA Endowment's Curriculum Review Committee in 1966, and she was a vital leader on the Curriculum Review Board (CRB), the precursor to MAERB. Mrs. Reade Relkin created the Fund so that there could be access to monies for prospective Site Surveyors. This Fund then became an ongoing project for the Society of Past Presidents (SOPPs), and the contributions received have maintained the Fund for many years.