

Standing Rules for Dr. Ruth Patterson Legacy Award

Effective 03/30/2025

The Dr. Ruth Patterson Award is a special award presented to an NCSMA member who wishes to attend an AAMA conference as a first-time attendee. The award is named for Ruth Patterson, EdD, a founding member of NCSMA, a Past President and Life Member, and the first certified medical assistant in North Carolina. Dr. Ruth was a proponent of certification, membership, and education.

The recipient will be awarded the same budgeted amount that delegates and alternates are allowed to attend the AAMA conference. The recipient will need to follow the reimbursable expense for delegates/alternates to AAMA Conference.

The recipient is required to attend the following functions at the AAMA conference. The conference brochure provided by AAMA to attendees will provide the dates, times, and locations for these functions.

- First Timer's Session
- House of Delegates – all sessions
- Candidates Forum
- Reference Committee Hearings
- Excel Awards presentation/Welcome Party
- President's Banquet
- At least 5 continuing education sessions

The NCSMA President will review these standing rules with the recipient and assign the recipient a mentor(s) from the delegates/alternates attending the conference to help guide their experience.

The recipient is expected to register for and attend the entire conference. If they are unable to attend the entire conference, he/she must inform the NCSMA President before attending the conference and provide the reason.

The recipient will be required to prepare a written report for the NCSMA Delegates packet. The report must include:

- List of mandated functions attended (including CEU sessions)
- Short narrative detailing what the recipient learned/liked the best/liked the least from the conference and any overall impressions regarding the experience

If the recipient is unable to attend a mandated function, she/he must notify the NCSMA President and include the reasoning. The President will indicate in her/his report for the Delegates Packet if the absence was excused or not excused. Failure of the recipient to comply with the requirements will be noted by the President and brought to the attention of the Board of Directors.

See reimbursement guidelines in the Standing Rules for AAMA Delegates and Alternates.