



2026 EXCEL AWARD WINNERS

Congratulations to the Excel Award Winners!

AWARDS OF DISTINCTION

Leadership and Mentoring

Deborah Novak, CMA (AAMA)

Medical Assistant of the Year

Brian Stimpson, CMA (AAMA)

Golden Apple

Mary Elizabeth Regis, PhD, CMA (AAMA), BCPA, CCMA

PUBLISHING

Excel

The Missouri Minute, published by **Missouri** (A), Rachel Clifford, CMA (AAMA), editor

NSMA Monthly Newsletter, published by **Nebraska** (B), Angy McCarter, CMA (AAMA), LRT, editor

KSMA Forum, published by **Kentucky** (C), Sharon Runyon, CMA (AAMA), CPC, editor

The Michigan Medical Assistant Journal, published by **Michigan** (D), Tracie Hardy, CMA (AAMA), editor

Achievement

CTSMA e-Magazine, published by **Connecticut** (B), Susan Klos, MEd, CMA (AAMA), CPI, editor

The Helping Hands, published by **Ohio** (D), Diana Rogers, CMA (AAMA), and Jennifer Dietz, CMA (AAMA), editors

WEBSITE DEVELOPMENT

Excel

South Dakota (A), Susan Hookie, CMA (AAMA), web chair

Pennsylvania (C), Kellie A. Humma, web chair

Indiana (D), Pam Neu, MBA, CMA (AAMA), web chair

Achievement

Massachusetts (B), Dawn Jordan-LeBlanc, CMA (AAMA), and Brittany Simensen, web chairs

Michigan (D), Mistie Atkins, CMA (AAMA), web chair

MARKETING, PROMOTION, AND RECRUITMENT

Excel

“Investing in the Future of Medical Assisting,” conducted by **South Dakota** (A), Chelsea Unzicker, BS, CMA (AAMA), campaign director

“Free CEU Event Promotion for NHSMA Members,” conducted by **New Hampshire** (B), Todd Magee, CMA (AAMA), campaign director

“Bee the Difference: Grow the Hive at Great Wolf Lodge,” conducted by **North Carolina** (D), Casie Cornelison, CMA (AAMA), and Amber Greer, BS, CMA (AAMA), campaign directors

COMMUNITY SERVICE

Achievement

“OSSMA/Local Chapter SWOCMA’s Community Service Project Cincinnati State’s Food Pantry and Career Closet,” conducted by **Ohio** (C), Angela Haensel, service program director

AAMA RISING STAR AWARD

Tabitha Terry, CMA (AAMA)

MEDICAL ASSISTANT STUDENT GROUP EXCELLENCE IN COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD

Excel

“More Than Medicine: A Statewide Toy Drive Bringing Hope to Idaho Families,” conducted by College of Eastern Idaho, Jessica Hunter, CMA (AAMA), student program leader

Achievement

“The Big Squeeze,” conducted by Southeast Technical College, Amber Langbehn, student program leader

“Baker College Health Science Student Group,” conducted by Baker College of Cadillac, Ashley Hawkins, student program leader

“Backpacks for St. Luke’s CARES (Children at Risk Evaluation Services),” conducted by College of Southern Idaho, Sharon Finco, student program leader

MEDICAL ASSISTANT EMPLOYER OF THE YEAR AWARDS

Magic Valley Family Practice (A), represented by Jan Simmons

Kettering Health Medical Group (C), represented by Erica Schneider

MEMBERSHIP RETENTION

A: South Dakota

B: Alaska

C: Pennsylvania

D: Iowa

MEMBERSHIP RECRUITMENT

A: Arkansas

STUDENT MEMBERSHIP RECRUITMENT

A: South Dakota

B: Connecticut

C: Pennsylvania

D: Iowa

CMA (AAMA)® CERTIFICATION

Greatest percentage increase of member CMAs (AAMA)

A: Nevada

B: New Jersey

C: Massachusetts

D: Indiana