

Hello,

My name is Mason Spellmeier, and I am a student anesthesiologist assistant at the University of Missouri – Kansas City School of Medicine. I am writing to request your support for passing licensure for Certified Anesthesiologist Assistants (CAAs) in the state of Kansas.

As someone who has lived in Kansas my entire life and graduated with two bachelor's degrees from Kansas State University, I have always dreamed of the opportunity to serve Kansans in some healthcare capacity. After discovering and pursuing the CAA profession, I realized that this might not be an option—until now.

Throughout my education and training, I have witnessed firsthand the immense value that CAAs bring to the anesthesia care team. As a student, I have been fortunate to work alongside anesthesiologists and CAAs at St. Luke's Hospital in Kansas City, MO. I have observed these highly trained professionals who, under the supervision of anesthesiologists, provide vital services to a wide range of surgical, obstetric, and gastroenterology patients. However, without licensure in Kansas, we are unable to bring these services back to my home state.

By granting licensure for CAAs in Kansas, the state would align with three of its neighboring states, each of which has had practicing CAAs for over a decade. Not only would this increase access to care for Kansans, but it would also strengthen Kansas's reputation as a state committed to providing the best possible healthcare for its residents. Furthermore, it would create more opportunities for Kansas residents like me to remain in their home state and contribute to the healthcare workforce.

As someone currently in training to become a CAA, I have seen the tremendous value that these highly skilled professionals can bring to the state of Kansas. I am confident that licensure for Certified Anesthesiologist Assistants is a step in the right direction.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mason Spellmeier". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Mason Spellmeier