The National Community Pharmacists Association, founded in 1898 as the National Association of Retail Druggists (NARD), represents the pharmacist owners, managers, and employees of more than 22,000 independent community pharmacies across the United States. The nation's independent pharmacies, independent pharmacy franchises, and independent chains dispense nearly half of the nation's retail prescription medicines.
Some pharmacists are different. They prefer innovation, challenges, and big picture thinking. They’re thought leaders and pioneers, and they want to make sure pharmacists have a seat at the table in a rapidly changing health care environment. They value collaboration, and they understand the importance of a collective voice.

Sound like you? Then consider applying to the NCPA Executive Residency Program.

There’s Strength in Community
At NCPA, we’re about building a community. As America’s community pharmacy association, we bring pharmacists together to shape good ideas into best practices and to turn challenges into innovations. We’re also a community that speaks as one on issues that impact the future of community pharmacy. We have a track record of advocacy successes that demonstrate the power of our collective voice.

As community-based health care professionals and entrepreneurs, independent pharmacists are uniquely positioned to customize solutions to health care challenges affecting local communities and employers. At NCPA, we deliver advocacy, connections, and solutions to help independent pharmacists thrive.

Advocacy
From advocating for pharmacists’ ability to practice to the full extent of our training to combatting unfair PBM practices, NCPA works to protect our members and advance the profession. The Executive Resident has the opportunity to work with the NCPA Advocacy Center team on legislative and regulatory issues affecting community pharmacy practice.

Connections
You can’t have true community without connections. By working with the Professional Affairs and Membership departments, the Executive Resident helps our members connect with each other and with leaders throughout the health care sector. Those connections also give the Executive Resident the opportunity to network with pharmacy and health care thought leaders nationwide.

Solutions
At NCPA, we strive to prepare our members to be leaders in determining health care solutions. The NCPA Innovation Center develops and executes programs that inform and educate community pharmacists, allowing them to realize new opportunities in an evolving health care market. Throughout the year, the Executive Resident works with the NCPA Innovation Center to research and support new and expanded roles for community pharmacists.

The Details
The NCPA Executive Residency Program began in 2001, and our alumni can be found working in national and state associations, academic institutions, community pharmacies, consulting businesses, and government offices. The Executive Resident works at NCPA headquarters in historic Old Town Alexandria, Va. for a one-year term beginning each summer. He or she earns a competitive annual stipend and receives relocation assistance, paid time off, and a full benefits package. For more information, contact Hannah Fish, PharmD, CPHQ, Associate Director, Strategic Initiatives at hannah.fish@ncpanet.org.

“My experience at NCPA helped me network with some of the most successful independent pharmacists in the profession. It was a one-of-a-kind experience in which I learned more about pharmacy on a national level while also being involved in various projects that really impact our profession.”

—Whitney Cowart, PharmD, Owner, Hoover Hometown Pharmacy, Hoover, Ala.
2012-2013 NCPA Executive Resident

Applications are due Dec. 31 and are available at ncpanet.org/residency.