



**American Society for Parenteral and Enteral Nutrition**

***Position Guide***

***Chief Executive Officer***

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**POSITION:** Chief Executive Officer  
**ORGANIZATION:** American Society for Parenteral and Enteral Nutrition  
**LOCATION:** Silver Spring, Maryland  
**REPORTS TO:** Board of Directors

#### **VISION**

ASPEN envisions an environment in which every patient receives safe, efficacious, and high-quality nutritional care.

#### **MISSION**

To improve patient care by advancing the science and practice of clinical nutrition and metabolism.

#### **ABOUT ASPEN**

The development of parenteral (intravenous) nutrition in 1968, an innovative therapy to nourish individuals during illness and starvation, provided an option to healthcare clinicians concerned with their patients' nutritional status. This therapy gave birth to an organization, the American Society for Parenteral and Enteral Nutrition (ASPEN) when in 1975, 35 dedicated healthcare professionals met in Chicago to create an interdisciplinary association. ASPEN was founded to provide optimal nutrition to all people under all conditions at all times. The pioneers of ASPEN recognized the importance of research, clinical practice, advocacy, education, and an interdisciplinary approach to nutrition support therapy.

The first ASPEN president was Dr. Stanley Dudrick, the primary clinical researcher who defined and demonstrated the effectiveness of total parenteral nutrition. Another important leader of the Society was Dr. Jonathan E. Rhoads, a renowned surgical nutritionist, and Dr. Dudrick's mentor, who provided the Society with research and

programmatic guidance. He mentored many physicians and other healthcare professionals and served as a senior scientist in the development of parenteral nutrition.

The Society began publishing a scientific journal in 1977, the **Journal of Parenteral and Enteral Nutrition**, and a clinical practice journal in 1986, **Nutrition in Clinical Practice**, both of which are indexed by the National Library of Medicine. The **ASPEN Rhoads Research Foundation** was developed in 1992 to honor Dr. Rhoads and continues to fund basic and clinical nutrition research.

ASPEN today has more than 6,000 members and continues its proud tradition of championing the best evidence-based nutrition support for patients. ASPEN's annual revenue is approximately \$5.5M, with sources including an annual conference, peer-reviewed journals and publications, education programs, and collaborations with corporate partners. There is currently a staff of 21 employees based primarily at the national headquarters in Silver Spring, MD. Several staff are full-time remote employees. The organization is led by a 12-member Board of Directors.

ASPEN's umbrella includes the parent society, along with several other groups. These include an active 501(c)(3) foundation, the ASPEN Rhoads Research Foundation, which provides research grant support to nutrition investigators, and the National Board of Nutrition Support Certification (NBNSC), which certifies clinicians in the field of clinical nutrition. Both the Foundation and the NBNSC have separate Boards of Directors. Staffing resources for these organizations are provided by ASPEN through management agreements. Also, under the ASPEN umbrella are 32 US-based chapters, which are separately incorporated and function independently from ASPEN.

ASPEN continues to be more relevant today than ever by serving as the go-to-source for evidence-based practice information, highly accessible continuing education opportunities, and ongoing collaborations with various associations within the medical field and from around the world.

## **THE OPPORTUNITY**

The position of ASPEN Chief Executive Officer (CEO) provides an exciting and remarkable opportunity to lead an organization that impacts worldwide clinical nutrition through the advancement of science and research, through increased public awareness, and through education and practice development of clinical nutrition professionals locally, regionally, nationally and globally, allowing them the opportunity to participate and or lead.

The 2018 ASPEN Strategic Map identifies significant goals and aspirations that will shape the future of the Society regarding its mission implementation, member support and services, collaboration with diverse stakeholders and governance effectiveness. Within each of these priority areas, significant growth and improvements will be required such as: attracting new members across all disciplines; collaborating with new business partners in innovative ways; implementing business plans to increase educational

offerings based on the latest research; developing new approaches to expand ASPEN's scientific resources; and increasing public awareness of the importance of clinical nutrition while adapting to healthcare changes in a timely manner. In addition, cultivating future leaders to support leadership succession planning across the organization is a key imperative.

The ASPEN CEO will work with a committed, engaged Board of Directors (BOD) and a dynamic staff to lead efforts in all areas of the Strategic Map through servant leadership.

### **POSITION SUMMARY**

Reporting to the BOD, the CEO is responsible for positioning ASPEN as the recognized leader and ultimate source for nutrition support expertise, leadership, science and clinical practice for healthcare professionals, government, regulatory agencies, and the public. The CEO will lead the efforts in enhancing membership growth through its value strategy and advancing the Society's science agenda; guiding the Board on matters of governance; providing effective communications and public relations; overseeing meetings and education programs; being the liaison with sponsors, donors and other stakeholder organizations; and promulgating effective advocacy practices. The CEO ensures that the organization's best efforts are made toward accomplishing the strategic plan, achieving planned growth and maintaining the financial sustainability of ASPEN. Key performance goals include:

1. Assure high-level performance, forward-looking programming and growth of the Society through the leadership, training, and management of staff.
2. Incorporate visionary leadership that utilizes trends on a national and global level to anticipate future opportunities and challenges for ASPEN and plan accordingly.
3. Serve as a knowledgeable resource for the BOD by keeping them apprised of issues that impact the profession and the Society.
4. Recommend and participate in the formulation of new policies and make decisions within existing policies in cooperation with the Executive Committee of the BOD.
5. Promote the value, importance and role of clinical nutrition through effective relationship building within the healthcare community and through effective public relations and public policy formation.
6. Ensure the financial well-being of ASPEN and its compliance with applicable laws and regulations.
7. Offer strategic direction and support to the Foundation.
8. Provide direction and assistance with ASPEN's publication program.

## CANDIDATE PROFILE

ASPEN seeks a proven executive-level leader whose career in a similar-size or larger national organization has been noted by his or her vision in charting a path forward, exceptional communication abilities and servant leadership style. This person must exhibit success in collaborating with and convening diverse stakeholders sharing common interests and values so that the aspirations and goals of the organization are pursued in a collegial, interdisciplinary, transparent and highly participatory manner. Direct experience in the field of healthcare is not required, but general knowledge of the professions and of the current healthcare landscape would be highly advantageous.

ASPEN seeks a leader who can develop and support high-producing teams of professional employees through effective delegation, professional development and confident decision making. A background which demonstrates the execution of strategic objectives and the monitoring of such goals using a balanced scorecard approach or similar metrics method would be ideal. The qualified candidate will possess a high level of business and financial acumen along with experience in continuous process improvement and increasing operational efficiencies.

The candidate should demonstrate an ability to raise awareness of the mission of ASPEN nationally and internationally while supporting the best interests of members across all disciplines in the communities they serve. Experience working with stakeholders to build philanthropic and business relationships would be desirable. Along with these skills, some of the important personal attributes ASPEN seeks include approachability, authenticity, adaptability, optimism, humility, emotional intelligence, good listening skills and a sense of humor.

A post-graduate degree from an accredited college or university is required. Demonstration of continuing professional education, accreditation in a professional field and board leadership in a state or national nonprofit, professional or trade association would be highly desirable.

Applications and nominations are being received by Kittleman & Associates, LLC. To apply, please visit [https://www.kittlemansearch.com/american-society-for-parenteral-and-enteral-nutrition-/](https://www.kittlemansearch.com/american-society-for-parenteral-and-enteral-nutrition/)

For more information about the American Society for Parenteral and Enteral Nutrition, please visit [www.nutritioncare.org](http://www.nutritioncare.org)