



ABFAS Sits Down With Dr. Michelle Butterworth— Newly Elected to the Board of Directors

“I think I can be helpful with my experience and it’s kind of a labor of love. It’s a passion, you just want to help, you want to pay it forward with your profession.”
- Dr. Butterworth

Michelle Butterworth DPM, was just elected into a new role on ABFAS’ Board of Directors. While Dr. Butterworth’s term starts on September 1, 2019, she is very familiar with ABFAS, having served for years on numerous committees. These committees include the Communications Committee, Online Study Guide Task Force, and Bylaws Task Force. She is currently a member of the Cognitive Examinations Committee and servers as a Case Reviewer.

ABFAS sat down with Dr. Butterworth to discuss her career, her new role, and her service to ABFAS.

Dr. Butterworth, how did you start your board certification process?

“After getting your training in residency you start focusing on the future. And then you start thinking about board certification and your long-term career. So, fortunately, I had great instructors and residency directors who were very familiar with ABFAS. From the very beginning, in my residency, it was always just a given that your goal was to become ABFAS board certified. Yes, you’re a skilled surgeon. We’re going to teach you all the techniques, but you need to become board certified. That’s going to be sort of your ultimate achievement and your success as a surgeon.”



What does ABFAS board certification mean to your patients?

“I think it’s exactly like the tagline says. It’s a credential you can trust. ABFAS is the board for podiatric foot and ankle surgery and patients look for a board certified surgeon in any type of surgery. My certificates hang on the wall, and patients comment about it. It gives them more trust in you as a surgeon, that they know that you’ve gone through this rigorous process and ultimately become board certified and you’ve got the skills and the training.”

What would your advice be to residents thinking about their own career path?

“One of the things I see with residents or those that are just out in the practice, they are focused on trying to get their numbers. They worry about the number of procedures. My advice is to just treat your patients, regardless of whether you’re trying to achieve board certification. It’s a natural process. Treat your patients as you would regardless of whether you’re trying to accumulate cases or trying to go through the credentialing process.”

To read more of the Dr. Butterworth interview, [click here](#).

Annual Fee

July 1, your annual fee invoice became available on your ABFAS profile. You can pay online with a credit card by logging into your profile page. On July 15, ABFAS will be mailing your annual fee invoice to your address on file. We encourage you to pay online, but you can use that invoice to either fax in or mail in your payment.

If ABFAS has not received payment by October 1, 2019, ABFAS will add a \$100 late fee onto your annual fee invoice. If you haven’t paid by October 15, 2019, ABFAS will send a certified letter notifying you of the final October 31, 2019 deadline. If you do not pay your annual fee plus the late fee by that date, ABFAS may revoke your status.

ABFAS will be sending out numerous reminders during this time to help you avoid paying late fees.

Annual Fee Important Dates:

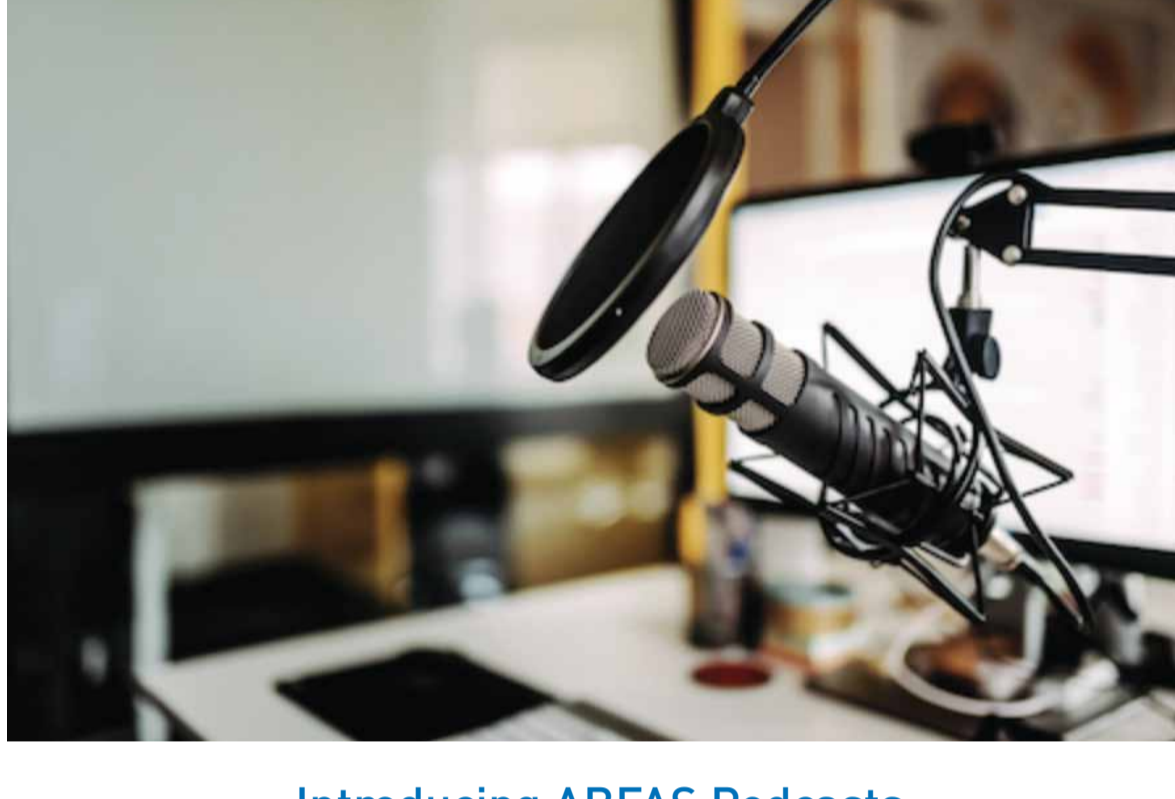
July 1, 2019 - Invoices Available Online

July 15, 2019 - Invoices Mailed Out

October 1, 2019 - Late Fee Assessed

October 15, 2019 - Certified Letter

November 1, 2019 - Status Revoked



Introducing ABFAS Podcasts

ABFAS is proud to launch new podcasts focused on important foot and ankle surgery topics. You can find these recordings at ABFAS.org/podcasts where they can be downloaded and shared.

“**ABFAS Exam Preparation Materials**” guides you through all ABFAS produced materials that you can review before taking your In-training exam or Part I Board Qualification Exams.

Another podcast, “**The New 2020 Certification Process**”, reviews the changes in the new ABFAS certification process. This podcast explains the new In-training examination changes, and the new exam format for final year residents. It also outlines the new Qualification process.

Podcast “**The Value of ABFAS Certification**” highlights the importance of board certification.

Finally, the “**Case Review Preparation and PLS Logging**” is a comprehensive overview on candidate’s preparation for case review. This will be an excellent resource when you are preparing for Part II Case Review.

Please feel free to listen to [these podcasts](#), download them, and share with #abfas.

DPM Mentors Network

Have you ever thought about being a mentor? The American Association of Colleges of Podiatric Medicine (AACPM) sponsors the DPM Mentors Network. This interactive network aims to help match pre-health students with mentors so that students can have experience shadowing professionals in the field, giving them an understanding of careers in podiatric medicine. The DPM Mentors Network also supports pre-health advisors and counselors from colleges and universities around the country by helping them locate engaging, charismatic DPM speakers for student events.

The AACPM is currently enrolling podiatric physicians as mentors. If you’re interested in becoming a mentor and helping guide students toward podiatric medicine careers, we encourage you to sign up. The AACPM welcomes all practicing podiatric physicians to participate, and they are urging anyone with a practice within 100 miles of a college or university to become a mentor. Mentoring helps you spread the word about podiatric medicine, gives you an opportunity to engage with up and coming physicians, and promotes podiatric medicine-related activities within your community.

Here are the details:

- Enrollment is free, and it’s easy to sign up. To get started as a mentor or speaker [click here](#).
- The AACPM can tailor your mentoring and speaking assignments to your schedule.
- All mentors have access to free tools and resources that will help you be a successful mentor and/or speaker.

Board Certification is Important to Your Patients!

ABFAS now offers a tri-fold brochure to help patients understand the extensive training that is involved in board certification. This important piece of collateral highlights board certification into three steps; education and residency training, certification process, and continuing education and recertification. Arm your patients with the knowledge that an ABFAS certification is a credential you can trust! This brochure fits in standard literature displays. Order your ABFAS Board Certification brochures [here](#).

Join us!

ABFAS will be at the ASPS conference in Chicago in August. If you are attending, we welcome you to stop by our booth.

7th Annual ASPS Surgical Conference
August 2-3, 2019
Swissotel
Chicago, Illinois

Examinations Dates and Deadlines

Foot Recertification Examination

November 4, 2019 – Registration Opens
January 17, 2020 – Registration Closes
January 24, 2020 – Last Day to Withdraw w/o Penalty
January 31 – February 15, 2020 – Exam Period

RRA Recertification Examination

November 4, 2019 – Registration Opens
January 17, 2020 – Registration Closes
January 24, 2020 – Last Day to Withdraw w/o Penalty
January 31 – February 1, 2020 – Exam Period

Self-Assessment Examination

November 4, 2019 – Registration Opens
January 17, 2020 – Registration Closes
January 24, 2020 – Last Day to Withdraw w/o Penalty
January 31 – February 15, 2020 – Exam Period



ABFAS Profile Update

ABFAS reminds you to log into your profile and confirm all contact information, including email address and mailing address is up to date. Please also confirm that all licenses are up to date.

To update your license information, email your license information to licenses@abfas.org or you can fax your information at 415-553-7801.

Safe Sender

ABFAS would like all communication to find its way to your inbox. Please add info@abfas.org, updates@abfas.org, and scheduling@abfas.org to your safe sender list to ensure that all of our emails arrive in your inbox and not in “spam”.

Since 1975, ABFAS’ mission is to protect and improve the health and welfare of the public by the advancement of the art and science of foot and ankle surgery.

ABFAS.org

