



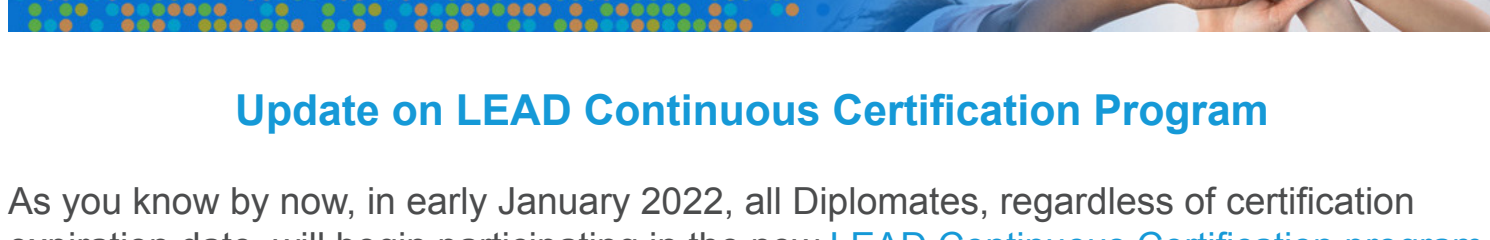
# ABFAS NEWSLETTER FOR DIPLOMATES

December 2021

[ABFAS.org](http://ABFAS.org) | [ABFAS Profile Login](#) | [FAQs](#) | [Contact Us](#)

## ABFAS Statement on Certificates of Added Qualifications

ABFAS is aware that the American Board of Podiatric Medicine (ABPM) is offering Certificates of Added Qualifications (CAQs). Please know that even though ABPM is allowing those certified by ABFAS, a CPME-recognized board, to enroll in the CAQs, ABFAS is not involved with the development or contents of the examinations and does not endorse them. Nor did ABFAS give permission to ABPM to use ABFAS certification as an eligibility criteria for ABPM's CAQs. We continue to believe that podiatric surgeons, the profession, and the public are best served by certification from the only specialty board authorized to certify podiatric surgeons—ABFAS.



## Update on LEAD Continuous Certification Program

As you know by now, in early January 2022, all Diplomates, regardless of certification expiration date, will begin participating in the new [LEAD Continuous Certification program](#). **There is nothing you need to do now or over the holidays to register for LEAD.** When the program launches, ABFAS will automatically enroll you, then send you a welcome email to alert you that you are able to log into the LEAD Diplomat site using your usual ABFAS profile credentials, and can begin answering assessment questions. At that time, you will also be able to access a practice assessment to become more familiar with the assessment experience and how to navigate the platform.

There are, however, some ways you can learn more now, including:

- using our interactive [LEAD Program requirements tool](#) to outline your specific participation requirements and find out what you need to do to maintain and renew your certification
- watching the video recording of of “[What You Need to Know About LEAD.](#)” our Dec. 13 webinar presented by ABFAS President Amberly Paradoa, DPM, and Continuous Certification Committee Chair Christopher Lotufo, DPM
- reviewing the [What to Expect on the LEAD Assessment webpage](#) to become familiar with the assessment structure and topics

## D.ABFAS: A New Way to Communicate Certification

Recognizing that how surgeons communicate their qualifications is evolving in the digital age, the ABFAS Board of Directors has approved a new professional notation suffix of **D.ABFAS (Diplomate, American Board of Foot and Ankle Surgery)** to communicate Board Certified status. The D.ABFAS notation will communicate to patients and employers your hard work and diligence in pursuing ABFAS certification. In the coming months, ABFAS will release more information about the D.ABFAS designation and how to use it.

## ABFAS-ACFAS College Visits Update

ABFAS and ACFAS continue joint sponsorship of an annual college visits program, with some visits shifting to digital-only due to pandemic restrictions. In addition to orienting students to the two organizations, the representatives give case presentations and tips on preparing for residency interviews.



Pictured here, from left, a Nov. 8, 2021 meeting of New York College of Podiatric Medicine (NYCPM) ACFAS Student Club Faculty Advisor Matrona Giakoumis, DPM, D.ABFAS; NYCPM ACFAS Student Club President Gregory Rose; NYCPM Dean Michael Trepal, DPM, D.ABFAS; ACFAS representative Andrew Meyr, DPM, D.ABFAS; ABFAS representative John Marcoux, DPM, D.ABFAS; and ACFAS representative Barry Rosenblum, DPM, D.ABFAS.

## Ensure Your Directory Address is Up to Date

ABFAS encourages every Diplomat to visit their [ABFAS online profile](#) to complete the “Directory Address” section with updated professional information. That’s the only way to appear in the ABFAS website’s popular [Find a Surgeon](#) feature, so periodically reviewing and refreshing your data ensures patients in your area can find you online. If you practice at more than one facility, be sure to list your website.

## Help Us Remain #FootFirst

We’re continuing our crowdsourcing campaign of seeking foot and ankle surgical photos from Diplomates. Email [footfirst@abfas.org](mailto:footfirst@abfas.org) with photos of you performing surgery, interacting with feet, performing surgery on feet, or just hanging out with other DPMs. We’ll feature our favorites in our publications and on social media.



Pictured here, Lisa Levick, DPM, performs a first metatarsophalangeal joint (MPJ) arthrodesis at North Shore Hospital System in Chicago, assisted by a Rush University resident.

## ABFAS 2022 Booth Exhibits and Conferences

In 2022, ABFAS is engaging with DPMs across the country. If you’re attending any of these events—virtually or in-person—we welcome you to connect with ABFAS staff to ask questions about ABFAS certification!

### [NY22 Podiatric Clinical Conference and Exhibition](#)

January 20-23, 2022 | New York, NY

Visit ABFAS at **booth 516!**

### [ACFAS Annual Scientific Conference](#)

February 24-27, 2022 | Austin, TX

Visit ABFAS at **booth 143!**

### [Midwest Podiatry Conference \(MPC\)](#)

April 6-9, 2022 | Chicago, IL

### [The Western Foot and Ankle Conference](#)

June 23-26, 2022 | Anaheim, CA

### [APMA Annual Scientific Meeting](#)

July 28-31, 2022 | Orlando, FL

### [ASPS Annual Surgical Conference](#)

November 4-5, 2022 | New Orleans, LA

## Keeping in Touch with ABFAS



ABFAS uses email as the primary method of communicating announcements and details to Diplomates. To ensure you are receiving ABFAS emails, make sure you add [lead@abfas.org](mailto:lead@abfas.org), [info@abfas.org](mailto:info@abfas.org), [updates@abfas.org](mailto:updates@abfas.org), and [scheduling@abfas.org](mailto:scheduling@abfas.org) to your email inbox safe sender list. Instructions are [available online](#).

In addition, please log into your [ABFAS profile](#) and, if necessary, update your personal information—especially your email address! And don’t forget: the directory address you input powers the ABFAS website [Find a Surgeon](#) feature.



AMERICAN BOARD OF FOOT AND ANKLE SURGERY

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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.

[www.ABFAS.org](http://www.ABFAS.org)

