



ABFAS NEWSLETTER

for Residents

April, 2019

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Next Steps After Residency?

Congratulations on your residency program achievements! Many of you have taken your final year In-training examination (ITE) or are preparing for it. You've asked, "What's next after residency?" There is a lot you should know about ABFAS Board Certification before moving on to the next steps of your career.

Any foot and ankle surgeon can begin the ABFAS Board Certification process once they have completed a CPME-approved residency program.

Why ABFAS? ABFAS is the only foot and ankle surgery certification board recognized by the Council on Podiatric Medical Education (CPME) through the Joint Committee on the Recognition of Specialty Boards (JCRSB). The board is made up of more than 7,100 board certified diplomates from across the country. Of the podiatric residency directors in the United States, 200 out of the 238 are ABFAS board certified.

Achieving ABFAS certification will have an impact on your career. Increasingly, more and more hospitals, credentialing bodies, and insurance companies require physicians to have specialty board certification. Many large hospitals require board certification to become a stakeholder. Certified foot and ankle surgeon's salaries, on average, increase 16% more than of a general podiatrist. And finally, once you become ABFAS board certified, you're eligible to become a Fellow of the [American College of Foot and Ankle Surgeons](#) (ACFAS).

Board certification is very important to patients as well. In a recent study, 92% of patients surveyed rated board certification the most important factor in choosing a foot and ankle surgeon.*

So, how do you achieve ABFAS certification? A DPM has two paths to choose from – Board Qualified in Foot Surgery or Board Qualified in Foot and Reconstructive Rearfoot/Ankle (RRA) Surgery.

Becoming ABFAS [Board Qualified in Foot Surgery](#) indicates that a DPM has demonstrated a capability in the diagnosis of general medical problems, including the diagnosis and surgical management of pathologic foot conditions, deformities, and traumatic injuries.

Becoming ABFAS [Board Qualified in Reconstructive Rearfoot/Ankle](#) (RRA) Surgery indicates that a DPM demonstrated capability in the diagnosis of general medical problems, including the diagnosis and surgical management of pathologic foot conditions, deformities, trauma, and of structures that affect the foot, ankle, and leg.

It is important to note that Board Qualification in Foot Surgery is a prerequisite for Board Qualification in RRA surgery. Your choice in which path you choose determines which examinations you have to pass during the qualification and certification process.

*<http://journals.sagepub.com/doi/10.1177/1938640017729499>

2019 Stone Award Winners

On February 14, ABFAS held its 45th Annual Meeting in New Orleans. It was there that Board President Danny J. Chung presented the 2019 Stone Award winners.

The Stone Awards, focusing on outstanding professional conduct, are named in honor of Michael Stone, DPM. Dr. Stone served the Board of Directors in many roles, including president in 2002-03. He left a legacy of commitment to elevating the standard and quality of foot and ankle science and education. With his outstanding devotion to his patients, he was the embodiment of professional conduct, respect, and ethics in surgical medicine.

The Stone Awards recognize a graduating senior from each of the nine podiatry colleges or schools who exemplify the highest standards of professionalism, deportment, and ethics in the student's own interactions with peers, patients, professors, and staff.

ABFAS is proud to congratulate **Ryan Lerch** from the Arizona School of Medicine at Midwestern University, **Elizabeth Ansert** from the Barry University School of Podiatric Medicine, **Nassim Natalie Tabrizi** from the California School of Podiatric Medicine at Samuel Merritt University, **Jeanne Marie Louise Mirbey** from the Des Moines University College of Podiatric Medicine and Surgery, **Bethany J. Hine** from the Dr. William M. Scholl College of Podiatric Medicine at Rosalind Franklin University of Medicine and Science, **Chandler Ligas** from the Kent State University College of Podiatric Medicine, **Caroline Tippett** from the New York College of Podiatric Medicine, **Lauren M. Christie** from the Temple University School of Medicine, and **Jeffrey R. Sanker** from the Western University of Health Sciences College of Podiatric Medicine.



Front Row (L-R): Jeffrey R. Sanker, Nassim Natalie Tabrizi, Chandler Ligas, and Caroline Tippett
Back Row (L-R): Lauren M. Christie, Elizabeth Ansert, Jeanne Marie Louise Mirbey, Bethany J. Hine, and Ryan Lerch

PRR Logging FAQs

Each month ABFAS will share PRR logging frequently asked questions and the correct answers to them.

Question:

I recently performed a 2.1.6 (Bunionectomy with first metatarsocuneiform fusion) and 2.1.8 (MPJ implant). Should this be logged separately or combined under one case?

Answer:

These procedures should be logged separately.

Question:

For a Scarf bunionectomy with an akin, can I log first ray and digital categories as two procedures?

Answer:

Yes, you can log these as two separate procedures. The Scarf bunionectomy should be logged as a first ray procedure. The Akin osteotomy can be logged separately as a digital procedure, even if performed on the same first ray.

ABFAS Board Certification Fall Examination Schedule

In-training Examination

Registration Opens for Institutions to Enroll Candidates: June 3, 2019
Registration Closes for Institutions to Enroll Candidates: August 30, 2019
Last Day for Candidates to Schedule: September 13, 2019
Exam Date/Period: September 16-21, 2019

Board Qualification Examinations (Part I)

Part I Foot Surgery Didactic
Part I Foot Surgery CBPS
Part I RRA Surgery Didactic
Part I RRA Surgery CBPS



#footfirst

ABFAS and its DPMs are #footfirst! ABFAS is looking for photos of residents performing, performing cases, interacting with feet, performing on feet, or even just hanging out with other residents. Send your best photos to footfirst@abfas.org so we can share them on social media, in our magazines, and online. We will select a monthly winner with the best photo who will receive a great ABFAS prize and recognition on our Facebook page. Don't forget to share your photos using #footfirstABFAS

Photo of Dr. Mansi Patel (PGY- 2) taken by Dr. Zane Qureshi from Inspira Health Network in Vineland, NJ.

Join us!

ABFAS will be attending more conferences in 2019 than ever before. If you are attending, we welcome you to stop by our booth.

Midwest Podiatry Conference

April 10-13, 2019
Exhibit Hall: April 10-12, 2019
Hyatt Regency Chicago
Chicago, Illinois

The Western Foot and Ankle Conference

June 20-23, 2019
Disneyland Hotel and Convention Center
Anaheim, California

American Podiatric Medical Association – The National

July 11-14, 2019
Salt Palace Convention Center
Salt Lake City, Utah

7th Annual ASPS Surgical Conference

August 2-3, 2019
Swissotel
Chicago, Illinois

Safe Sender

ABFAS would like all communication to find it to your inbox. Please add info@abfas.org, updates@abfas.org, and scheduling@abfas.org to your safe sender list to assure that all of our emails arrive in your "new emails" 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.

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