



NBPME Reports



The National Board of Podiatric Medical Examiners Newsletter The American Podiatric Medical Licensing Examination Series



Dr. Jon Haber congratulates outgoing board president, Dr. Wayne Axman, for his service to the board.

Board Recognizes Service, Elects New Trustees

Three trustees of the NBPME completed their terms of service at the annual meeting in August 2014. Outgoing president Dr. Wayne Axman, former president Dr. Charles Lombardi, and Dr. Russ Sticha had all served the board for nine years. Newly-elected president, Dr. Jon Haber, thanked and congratulated them for the quality of their service.

At the same meeting, the board elected Dr. Jeff Giesking to serve in a position designated for a member of a state licensing board. Dr. Robert Eckles was elected to a seat as a residency director, and Dr. Roland Ramdass was elected to a seat as a practitioner currently in practice.

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Dr. Jon Haber presents Dr. Russ Sticha with a plaque commemorating his service.

New Candidate Management System Launched

Prometric launched a new online application for the class of 2016, on May 15, 2014 at half-past noon, for students applying for the July 2014 APMLE Part I exam. The system was designed to improve the registration and scheduling process for students by eliminating the need for paper, and providing a central place where they could apply, get approved, schedule, and view test history, all electronically. On launch date, 200 students (one-third of the 2016 class) had successfully submitted an application within the first two and one-half hours. By May 30, 98% of the students had applied, been approved, and scheduled into a testing seat. This process came full circle when this group, who successfully tested on July 9, 2014, received a record of their test history on their candidate portal.

This initiative was a collaboration between school representatives, students and Prometric, who conducted full testing of the process before making the application available to all students. The collaborative effort led to an extremely successful launch of a new technology to enhance the convenience, speed and accuracy of the application process. Further refinements are planned before the end of this year. The next class to use the new process will be the Class of 2017 for their July APMLE Part I examination.

First Clinical Skills Patient Encounter Exam

The first Part II CSPE examination concluded Friday, August 29. A total of 548 candidates were tested. Each candidate was tested in twelve encounters covering a variety of clinical situations.

Part of the test was to complete patient notes that may include entering pertinent history and physical findings, or describing differential diagnoses. These patient notes will each be scored by three judges who have the cases assigned to them from a panel of 30 judges who underwent comprehensive training in August.

A separate panel will be convened in November to review the raw scores and develop a proposed passing score. The participants will be guided through a carefully structured process by NBME and ECFMG staff. The NBPME board will consider the recommendation and make a final determination in time for the scheduled score release date of January 14, 2015.

Updated Practice Analysis Underway

Ensuring that a test examines the skills and knowledge areas that it intends to is fundamental in licensing examinations such as the APMLE series. The first step in this process is to undertake, and periodically update, a practice analysis that serves as the basis for the test specifications. The NBPME recently concluded an update for the Part I and Part II examinations; now, a similar effort is underway for the Part III examination. Each is done on a five-year cycle.

Prometric test development specialists recently guided fourteen practitioners through a workshop to revise a comprehensive list of tasks that will result in an extensive survey form to be made available to podiatrists nationwide. After further review and field testing, the survey form will be distributed early in 2015 through a variety of channels to give it the widest possible dissemination. When careful statistical studies of the responses have been completed, the task force will meet again to develop the updated test specifications. Every part of the process will be done in rigorous compliance with the "Standards for Educational and Psychological Testing" published by the professional test and measurement organizations.

Expert Panel Members Sought

The National Board is continually seeking new volunteers to serve at test development and review workshops. Participants are provided travel, per diem, an honorarium and continuing education contact hours. Workshops are held in Arlington, VA. Eligible persons will have completed a residency program and all three parts of the APMLE series. Please submit a CV with email contact information to nbpmeofc@aol.com.

2015 Exam Dates

	Exam Date	Registration Deadline
Part I	Wednesday, July 8, 2015	June 13, 2015
	Wednesday, October 7, 2015	September 11, 2015
Part II	Tuesday, January 6, 2015	December 12, 2014
	Wednesday, February 18, 2015	January 23, 2015
	Wednesday, May 6, 2015	April 10, 2015
Part II CSPE Retake	February 3rd – 4th, 2015	January 23, 2015
Part II CSPE	August, 2015 (To be determined)	To be determined
Part III	Wednesday, June 3, 2015	May 8, 2015**
	Wednesday, December 2, 2015	November 6, 2015**

State Board Deadlines Differ (Check with the State Board. A directory is listed in the Candidate Bulletin)