



# NBPME Reports



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

### License Testing in a Time of Covid

The NBPME continues to work to advance the credibility of the APMLE examinations and to enhance customer service for the candidates, the schools and the state licensing boards. As with every other organization that serves the public, this year has imposed huge challenges, but the NBPME board has committed to maintain services in its mission to protect the public health by continuing to offer and administer the full series of licensing examinations.

- The NBPME hosted a regular series of bi-weekly contingency planning conference calls beginning in April with invited participants from all organizations with an interest in the licensing testing program. These included the podiatry student association, AACPM, the APMA, CPME, the Federation of Podiatric Medical Boards and the American Society of Podiatry Executives. The calls provided all participants the opportunity to plan how best to deal with unusual and unforeseen circumstances.
- The June 2020 Part III test was completed successfully. It was administered to 273 candidates, and 99% of 261 first-time candidates passed.
- The July Part I test was administered to 582 candidates over a period of two weeks to adapt to test center capacity restrictions. The results were that 88% of 539 first-time candidates passed.
- The Part II Clinical Skills Patient Encounter resumed testing October 1. As with each of the other three components of the APMLE series, this tests essential unique skills that are an important part of safe, independent practice. Candidates who have tested to date expressed appreciation that they will be able to complete this examination in a timely manner and continue with their education and careers.

### CSPE Test Slots Available

After an initial delay to ensure safety, the CSPE examination resumed October 1 with enhanced safety protocols in place. Following are some comments from the early participants:

- "It is well-done. Bigger clear masks would be a tad helpful for us big-faced people. Overall way better than expected."
- "Thank you for having the exam"
- "I'm so glad we could test today"
- "I'm relieved it wasn't canceled"

Open seats are available for testing in late October, November and December 1 and 2. Candidates are encouraged to visit: [www.nbome.org](http://www.nbome.org) to schedule.

### **NBPME Appoints Jane Pontious, DPM**

At its July meeting, the board appointed Dr. Jane Pontious, Clinical Professor in the Department of Surgery at Temple University School of Podiatric Medicine, to the position designated for a current faculty member. She replaced Dr. Jim Mahoney who served the board prior to his retirement. Dr. Pontious has previously participated in various NBPME test development workshops. Board president, Dr. Alyssa Stephenson said the board welcomed Dr. Pontious and looked forward to her contributions to the mission and program.

### **Work Continues on New CSPE Case Authoring Module**

The NBPME, at its March meeting, approved a proposal from NBOME to develop a Podiatric Case Authoring Learning Module. NBOME had developed a case development instruction module for the osteopathic exam and suggested it would be helpful to prepare one specific to podiatry to give case developers an online module with tips and a video to help guide them through the process. The board approved a proposal to develop a video similar to one used by osteopathic case writers which will be used for CSPE case authors and will also be provided to the schools who are developing cases for their students and to assist with their learning and assessments. The video has now been produced and is being reviewed.

### **Part III Practice Analysis Underway**

The NBPME has begun its update of the practice analysis study to validate the test specifications for the Part III test. This is done every five years to ensure that the test plan and specifications accurately reflect what practitioners are currently doing. The conclusion of the study will include a ranking of the significance of such areas as surgery, medicine, orthopedics and other topics. A survey form will be released in coming months and all practitioners are encouraged to respond.

### **EXPERT PANEL MEMBERS NEEDED**

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, Conshohocken, PA or by telephone and web conference calls that are typically three-hour calls from 2:00 to 5:00 Eastern Time. 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](mailto:nbpmeofc@aol.com).

### 2021 Examination Dates

	Exam Date	Online Registration Available	Registration Deadline
<b>Part I</b>	July 1, 2021	December 15, 2020	June 18, 2021
	October 4, 2021	August 2, 2021	September 17, 2021
<b>Part II</b>	January 5, 2021	August 3, 2020	December 18, 2020
	February 17, 2021	January 25, 2021	February 10, 2021
	May 5, 2021	March 8, 2021	April 23, 2021
<b>Part II CSPE</b>	To be determined	To be determined	To be determined
<b>Part II CSPE RETAKE</b>	To be determined	To be determined	To be determined
<b>**Part III</b>	June 2, 2021	January 4, 2021	May 21, 2021
	December 1, 2021	July 1, 2021	November 12, 2021

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