



# NBPME Reports



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

### 2016 Annual Board Meeting

NBPME held its elections at its annual board meeting on July 30, 2016. The following members were elected to serve an additional three-year term.

Public Member - Dr. Judy Beto  
 COTH Experience Member – Dr. Gregory F. Davies  
 State Board Member – Dr. Mary Jones Johnson  
 FPMB Member – Dr. Michael LaPan  
 Council Experience Member – Dr. Kathleen M. Pyatak-Hugar  
 Specialty Board – Dr. Alyssa Kay Stephenson

The 2016-17 Officers were also elected for a one-year term.

President – Dr. Mary Jones Johnson  
 Vice President – Dr. Kathleen M. Pyatak-Hugar  
 Secretary/Treasurer – Dr. Alyssa Kay Stephenson

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## President's Service Acknowledged



Dr. Jon Haber was presented a plaque by incoming President Dr. Mary Jones Johnson to recognize his outstanding leadership over the past two years as President.

### Part II CSPE Exam Underway

The Clinical Skills Patient Encounter (CSPE) candidates scheduled to graduate in 2017 have been participating in the new edition of the CSPE examination since August 17. The session continued through October 29, and scores will be released January 27, 2017 along with the scores for the written component of Part II.

Dr. Johnson stated that the NBPME is pleased with the care and preparation NBOME has invested in making the test a success. "The NBOME has excellent personnel and a state-of-the-art facility. Their scheduling calendar to offer the test over a period of ten weeks has greatly helped candidates who need flexibility in arranging for the test," she said.

## Test Prep Web Sites Unrelated to NBPME

Reacting to additional web sites that advertise practice questions for the board's APMLE examinations, President Mary Jones Johnson, DPM, explained that all such sites have no relation to NBPME programs. The NBPME provides sample tests on the [APMLE.org](http://APMLE.org) site and does not have any involvement with any other enterprises that offer test preparation services. All questions and test forms used by NBPME are copyrighted and reproduction or use in any other manner is prohibited. The NBPME monitors claims of authenticity by others has taken action against anyone who violates the stringent copyright protections. Dr. Johnson emphasized these efforts are essential to the reliability of the program and will continue unabated.

## New Security Measures Introduced by Prometric

(From a Prometric Announcement)

### Enhanced security policies to take effect in all U.S. Test Centers on October 15<sup>th</sup>, 2016

Prometric takes our role of providing a secure test environment seriously. Beginning on October 15<sup>th</sup>, 2016, we will be conducting stricter inspections of any and all eyeglasses, jewelry and other accessories to inspect for camera devices that could be used to capture exam content.

- All candidates will be required to remove their eyeglasses for close visual inspection by the TCAs. These inspections will take a few seconds and will be done at check-in and again upon return from breaks.
- Jewelry outside of wedding and engagement rings is prohibited. Candidates should be instructed to not wear other jewelry to the test center.
- Hair accessories are subject to inspection. Candidates should be instructed to refrain from wearing ornate clips, combs, barrettes, headbands, and other hair accessories as they may be prohibited from wearing them in to the testing room and asked to store them in their locker.
- If candidate is caught with a camera device prior to entering the testing room, we will confiscate and they won't be able to test.
- If a candidate is caught with a camera device while in the testing room, we will confiscate and the exam will be terminated.

Candidates should visit [www.Prometric.com](http://www.Prometric.com) for complete details.

## 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 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).

## **Exam Fee Adjustment to Apply in 2017**

The Board approved a change to the fee structure to take effect with the July 2017 Part I examination. Test fees for all written exams (not including Part II CSPE) will increase \$25. The board took this action as part of considering the annual budget in recognition of the substantial costs incurred by the CSPE initiative. Board members agreed that increasing written fees by a relatively small amount was preferable to attempting to cover costs by CSPE charges alone.

The 2017 Part II exam fees and the June 2017 Part III exam fee will remain at \$900. The Part II fee will increase \$25 beginning with the January 2018 exam. The Part III fee will increase \$25 beginning with the December 2017 exam.

## **Email Scam Aimed at Testing Sites**

(From a Prometric Announcement)

A new phishing scam targets customers of Prometric and other test services companies. This scam attempts to lure customers to a fraudulent web site to input personal information and/or download virus infected programs.

This is a classic "Spear Phishing" attempt at compromising the recipient's exam sponsor systems, deploying malware, and perhaps even obtaining proprietary exam content. Spear Phishing is an e-mail spoofing fraud attempt that targets a specific organization, seeking unauthorized access to confidential data.

Prometric is notifying clients about this incident because the senders used language that was very specific to the testing industry, and indicated that they were interested in fraudulently acquiring proprietary exam content.

Any suspicious emails should be deleted immediately, and attachments should not be opened. Further details can be found at the Prometric web site, [Prometric.com](http://Prometric.com).

## **New Sample Tests to be Posted to APMLE Website**

The NBPME and Prometric are completing an effort to improve the Part I and II practice tests offered to candidates. Additionally, two Part III practice tests will be now be offered. The goal of these exams is to ensure candidates are as well-prepared as possible for the actual exams. Therefore, the questions selected for the practice exams are those that have previously been used in actual examinations and had performed well statistically in distinguishing between better and less qualified candidates. These questions will now only be used for the practice exams. The new tests are currently available on the website.