

LEAD NEWSLETTER FOR DIPLOMATES

July 2024

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LEAD Quarter 3 Now Open



A **new quarter of LEAD** is available now through September 30. The quarter contains 20 questions, and you will have three minutes to answer each question.

Do I need to participate in this quarter?

Participation in the current quarter may or may not be necessary depending on your remaining **participation requirements** or current LEAD performance. Track your requirements on your LEAD dashboard to determine if you need to participate in a given quarter.

If the half-circle is all blue, like the image on the left, you have met the current cycle requirement.

[Start Quarter 3](#)

A Profile in Excellence: The LEAD Continuous Certification Program



The LEAD Continuous Certification Program launched in 2022, but the foundation was set years prior. During the presidential term of then-ABFAS President Christopher Lotufo, DPM, FACFAS, ABFAS leadership identified the necessity to modernize the recertification process to stay current with American Board of Medical Specialties requirements and better meet the evolving needs of busy Diplomates. They also recognized the imperative for a philosophical shift to support Diplomates in keeping their knowledge, judgement, and skills up to date over the course of their career—rather than having a once-every-ten-year interaction.

In [this recently published article](#), ABFAS Director of Certification Services Jonathan Golike shares the history behind LEAD and what the future holds for the program.

[Read Full Article](#)

What I Love Most About LEAD: Dr. Randal Wraalstad



In [this video](#), Randal Wraalstad, DPM, FACFAS, shares what he loves most about the LEAD program:

It's been great for me, spending 20–30 minutes every three months—a lot easier than driving to a testing site hours away and recertifying there.

Do you love LEAD? [Submit a short video](#) on what you love most—or tips for fellow Diplomates—and you could be featured in an upcoming newsletter.

[Watch Video](#)

Study Seeks to Evaluate Radiation Exposure Impact on Female DPMs



Arizona College of Podiatric Medicine at Midwestern University Assistant Professor Johanna Richey, DPM, and Student Doctor Bethany Robinson are seeking U.S.-based female DPMs to participate in a **short survey** for the research study, “Radiation Exposure Impact on Prevalence of Breast and All-Cause Cancer in Female Foot and Ankle Surgeons.” The survey will take 5–15 minutes to complete.

[Take Survey](#)

Featured FAQ: How Do I Renew My Board Certification



Question: How do I renew my board certification?

Answer: In early July of your board certification expiration year, ABFAS will verify that you have met minimum LEAD participation and performance requirements. If all LEAD and **non-assessment requirements** are met, ABFAS will renew your certificate for 10 years, and you will receive an updated label for your framed certificate, indicating that your ABFAS Board Certification is valid for an additional 10-year period.

Please note: Diplomates who hold lifetime certification do not need to meet the LEAD performance requirement.

As a reminder, to maintain active board certification, you also must meet **non-assessment requirements**. ABFAS conducts random audits and may request documentation for these requirements at any time.

[See All LEAD FAQs](#)



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Since 1975, ABFAS' mission has been 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

