



American Orthotic & Prosthetic Association

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AOPA In Advance SmartBrief

Breaking News

March 24, 2015

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Getting Political to Make a Difference



The 2015 Policy Forum is under way this week with appearances made by Representative Brett Guthrie (R-KY), Representative Mark Meadows (R-NC), and Senator Charles Grassley (R-IA).

This evening AOPA will host extended educational sessions that offer various perspectives of the health industry. Topics include *Competitive Bidding – Winners, Losers and Determining If You Want to Play*, *A Surgeon's Perspective*, and *With Wal-Mart as a Health Insurer, and Amazon Delivering Orthotic Braces within Four Hours: Who are Your Friends and Who are Your Enemies – A Fresh Look at O&P Partners and Competitors*.

The 2015 Policy Forum is not only the place to receive the latest legislative and regulatory information from key congressional representatives, AOPA lobbyist and staff, but also the place to receive special business and clinical education as well.

It's Not Too Late to Register for Seattle!

AOPAversity

The AOPA Coding Experts are Coming to Seattle April 13-14!

The world of coding and billing has changed dramatically in the last few years. The AOPA experts are here for you! The Coding & Billing Seminar will teach you the most up-to-date information to advance your O&P practitioners' and billing staff's coding knowledge.

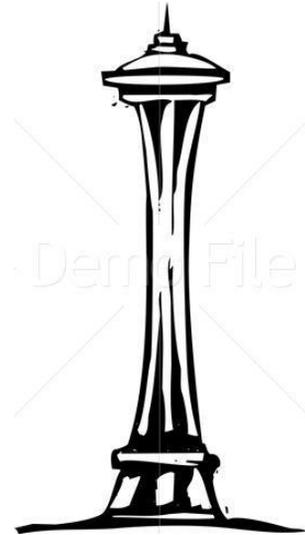
The seminar includes hands-on breakout sessions, where you will practice coding complex devices, including repairs and adjustments. Breakouts are tailored specifically for practitioners and billing staff. Start the year off right for your business, staff, and patients!

Join your Colleagues April 13 & 14 in Seattle, WA!

Top 10 Reasons to Attend

1. **Get Your Claims PAID**
2. **Increase Your Company's Bottom Line**
3. **Stay Up-To-Date On Billing Medicare**
4. **Code Complex Devices**
5. **Earn 14 CE Credits**
6. **Learn About Audit Updates**
7. **Overtturn Denials**
8. **Submit YOUR Specific Questions Ahead of Time**
9. **Advance Your Career**
10. **AOPA Coding & Billing Experts with over 70 Years of Combined Experience**

Don't miss the opportunity to experience two jam-packed days of valuable O&P coding and billing information. [Learn more and see the rest of the year's schedule here.](#)



Seattle is two cities in one—it combines a world-class metropolis within wild, beautiful, natural surroundings. Visitors and Seattleites enjoy Seattle's lively downtown, great shopping, wonderful restaurants, espresso carts on every corner, and thriving community full of live theatre and museums.

Seattle, Washington
April 13-14

REGISTER NOW!

AOPA Would Like to Thank the 2015 Policy Forum Sponsors!



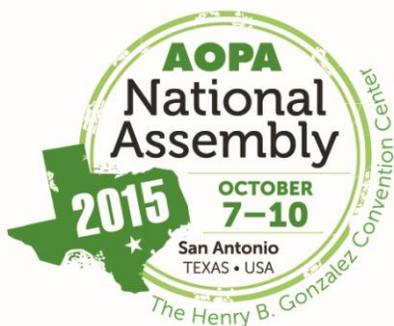
HOPE Careers Consortium Curriculum Review Program

The HOPE Careers Consortium is a partnership of five US colleges and universities whose mission is to create significant academic contributions to the field of orthotics and prosthetics. The Consortium is the recipient of an \$11.1M TAACCCT (Trade Adjustment Assistance Community College and Career Training) grant through the US Department of Labor.

The HOPE Careers Consortium is searching for professionals who work in the field of orthotics and prosthetics to review curriculum for its federally funded program.

For more in depth details, [click here](#).

Be Featured in the 2015 National Assembly: Get Your Papers In!



Become a Presenter at the 2015 AOPA National Assembly
Share Your Expertise * Advance Your Career * Improve
Patient Care

Henry B. Gonzalez Convention Center in San Antonio, Texas
October 7-10, 2015

The submission deadline ~ Monday, March 30.

AOPA is seeking high-quality education presentations for the 98th Annual AOPA National Assembly. Share your expertise and advance your career by being part of the country's oldest and largest meeting for the orthotic,

prosthetic and pedorthic profession.

Your submissions, based on sound research and strong empirical data, will set the stage for a broad curriculum of highly valued clinical and scientific offerings at the 2015 AOPA National Assembly. All free paper abstracts for the 2015 AOPA National Assembly must be submitted electronically. Abstracts submitted by e-mail or fax will not be considered. All abstracts will be considered for both podium and poster presentations. The review committee will grade each submission via a blind review process, based on the criteria below and reach a decision regarding acceptance of abstracts.

- Relevance, level of interest in topic
- Quality of Scientific Content
- Quality of Clinical Content
-

Clinical Free Papers – Those wishing to present an Orthotic, Prosthetic or Pedorthic Free Paper should [submit here](#) to have their paper considered for presentation at the 2015 Assembly. The top scoring papers will compete for the prestigious Thranhardt Award.

Technician Program – If you would like your Technical education paper considered for submission in the Technical Track, please to [submit your paper here](#).

Business Education Program – Please [submit your business education paper here](#). The top papers will be considered for the prestigious Sam E. Hamontree, CP (E) Business Education Award.

Symposia – If you are interested in organizing a Symposium, then please [submit here](#).

For further information, contact Tina at (571) 431-0808 or tmoran@AOPAnet.org

Exhibit at the 2015 AOPA National Assembly in San Antonio, TX

AOPA is currently accepting exhibit applications for the 2015 AOPA National Assembly, which is due to take place in San Antonio, TX on October 7-10, 2014. The Henry B. Gonzalez Convention Center will serve as the event's venue. This event, the oldest and largest of its kind in the United States, will feature dedicated tracks of the most relevant education for prosthetists, orthotists, technicians, pedorthists and business managers.

Why Exhibit? Exhibiting at this important event will give you the opportunity to:

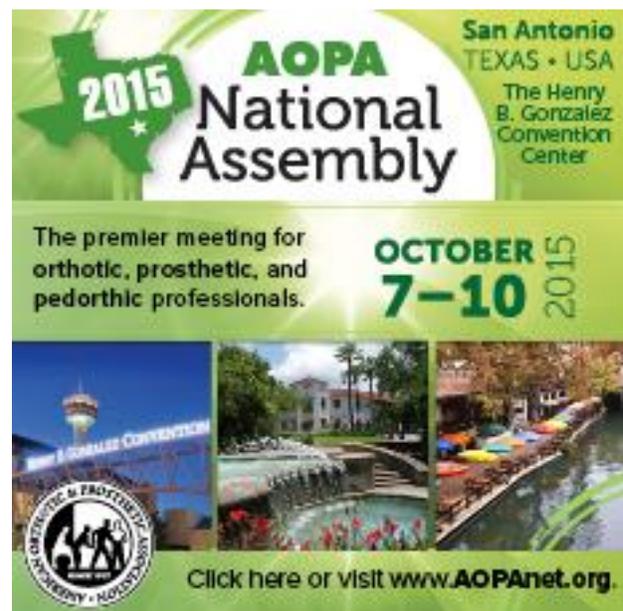
- Build your customer base and increase sales by meeting with Owners who actually make the final decisions on purchases.
- Experience face-to-face time with existing customers to answer questions and build new relationships.
- Enjoy sponsored networking opportunities, including an opening reception in the exhibit hall.
- Take advantage of fun traffic-building opportunities.
- Take advantage of education sessions to learn what's happening with Medicare, and other regulatory agencies that affect the success of your product.
- Increase visibility for your company/organization in a targeted market.
- Host a Manufacturer's Workshop and/or Product Preview Theater presentation.
- Speak to AOPA reimbursement experts, who can answer all your O&P coding, reimbursement and compliance questions.
- Hear from top researchers and clinicians to learn what products and support is needed from manufacturers.
- Participate in key education programs and plenary sessions.

Who Attends? Obtain access to key decision makers:

O&P Practitioners, pedorthists, physicians, technicians, fitters, students, educational instructors, facility owners, marketing personnel, physical therapists, residents, office managers, billing specialists, occupational therapists, researchers, engineers, manufacturers, distributors and suppliers of O&P products and services.

As an exhibitor you will receive:

- 24 hour perimeter security guard service.
- FREE breakfast and lunch.
- Exhibitor Service Kit—Exhibitors will receive two sets of information. The first will be the Exhibitor Confirmation Packet that contains your booth assignment, payment confirmation, and additional materials. The second set of information is the Exhibitor Service Kit which is an online guide provided by Freeman Decorating that includes all information and order forms you need to plan a successful trade show event; to include shipping



information, booth rental, electric and internet needs.

- Exhibitor Newsletters—provide you with up to date information regarding the show.
- Complimentary exhibitor company listing on the National Assembly website, O&P Almanac, show APP and 2015 National Assembly Preliminary Program.
- Opening night reception for all attendees held in the exhibit hall
- Post-event registration mailing list of all National Assembly attendees.
- Two exhibitor full conference badges (per 10x10 exhibit space) which include: admission to all education sessions, CE credits, meeting materials, social functions, and lunch tickets.
- Private lounge area exclusive to exhibitors.

Sign up today to exhibit at the 2015 AOPA National Assembly!

Upcoming AOPA Events

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| March 23-25, 2015 | <i>AOPA Policy Forum</i>
Washington, DC
Learn more or register online here |
| March 30, 2015 | Deadline for <i>National Assembly Call for Papers</i>
Learn more and apply online here |
| April 8, 2015 | <i>Lower-Limb Protheses Policy: Learn the Policy Inside and Out</i>
Webinar Conference
Learn more or register online here |
| April 13-14 | <i>Essential Coding & Billing Techniques Seminar</i>
Seattle, WA
Learn more or register online here |