



American Orthotic & Prosthetic Association

www.AOPAnet.org

## **AOPA In Advance SmartBrief**

*Breaking News*

April 9, 2015

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### **Heads Up on State Laws Affecting Residents**

Some state licensure laws have a curve ball for residents requiring them to have proper licensing credentials prior to commencing residency. Pennsylvania and Florida are two such licensure states and in Pennsylvania's case, a \$50 fee is involved to obtain the resident's Orthotist and Prosthetist Graduate Permit.

The application must be completed by the applicant, verified by the employer, confirmed by the O&P institution from which the resident graduated and then a further affirmation of the resident's status in the residency program must be obtained from NCOPE.

More details are available from the Pennsylvania State Board of Medicine [st-medicine@pa.gov](mailto:st-medicine@pa.gov) or [click on the applications here](#).

# AOPAiversity

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.

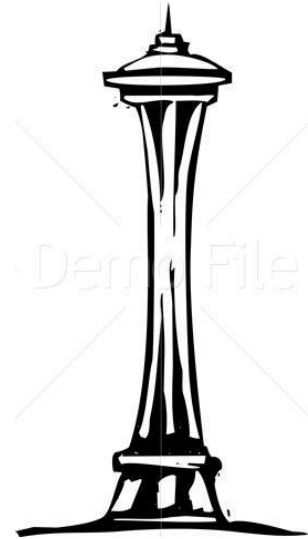
The seminar includes hands-on breakout sessions, where you will practice coding complex devices, including repairs and adjustments. Breakouts are tailored specifically for practitioners and billing staff. Start the year off right for your business, staff, and patients!

**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

## Mobility Saves Testimony Contest



The Mobility Saves Public Relations Committee has launched a testimony contest – Please share this with your patients. For flyers contact us at [info@aopanet.org](mailto:info@aopanet.org)

### The Contest

Become part of an important public relations campaign that proves cost effectiveness for orthotics and prosthetics and perhaps win \$500 just by submitting your testimony.

### Why Participate?

- Help patients obtain medically necessary devices
- Support the O&P profession
- Become part of a Major Public Relations Campaign
- Help spread the word that orthotic and prosthetic devices not only restore lives but are cost effective too!
- All entrants will receive a t-shirt
- One (1) Grand Prize Winner (\$500), one (1) Second Place Winner (\$250), and one (1) Third Place Winner (\$100) will be selected.
- All entries must be received by 11:59 PM EST on September 30, 2015

### It's as easy as 1•2•3

1. Create your video testimony by using your smartphone or video camera.
2. Complete the online entry form at <http://bit.ly/MobilitySavesContest>
3. Upload your video testimony or email video from your smart phone.

**Questions?** Contact us at (571) 431-0876 or [info@AOPAnet.org](mailto:info@AOPAnet.org)

## 2015 AOPA National Assembly

The 98<sup>th</sup> Annual AOPA National Assembly will be held October 7-10 at the Henry B. Gonzalez Convention Center in San Antonio, Texas. Located directly on San Antonio's famous Riverwalk, you will enjoy this beautiful, historic city. Whether you choose a leisurely stroll, or a ride on one of the riverboats, take time to see San Antonio's famous Riverwalk with the many shops, restaurants, nightlife, dining options, museum along the way.

With over a 100 abstracts submitted from the call for papers announcements—the scientific program is expected to be one of the best ever. Individual workgroups representing orthotics & prosthetics, Pedorthics, Business and Technical Education are busy organizing the education program with a goal of releasing the online version of the preliminary program mid-May.

Registration will open in early-May, but you can start planning ahead by making your hotel reservation at the Grand Hyatt by visiting <https://resweb.passkey.com/go/2015AOPA> or calling 888-421-1442.

To get the most of your trip to San Antonio, we have provided four easy steps to make the most of your trip to San Antonio and help you learn more about what interests you most.

Go to [VisitSanAntonio.com](http://VisitSanAntonio.com) to sign up for San Antonio's official newsletter and learn more about what interests you most. Whether it is the Arts, Music, Festivals, Family, Local Attractions or Shopping you will find a calendar of events and local information at [VisitSanAntonio.com](http://VisitSanAntonio.com)



1. Request a Free Visitors Guide — Explore arts and culture and learn about local attractions and things to do. [Request your guide](#) here.
2. [Download SAVE coupons](#) from the San Antonio Vacation Experience. Get exclusive deals and discounts.
3. Download a copy of the [River Walk map](#) to see all the great places you will want to visit within walking distance to the convention center.

Questions? Visit [www.AOPAnet.org](http://www.AOPAnet.org) or call AOPA headquarters at (571) 431-0875.

## O&P PAC Corner

The O&P PAC would like to acknowledge and thank the following **AOPA** member(s) for their recent contributions to the O&P PAC\*:

- Maynard Carkhuff
- James Fenton, CPO
- Rick Fleetwood
- Rick Stapleton, CPO
- Thomas Watson, CP
- James Young, CP, FAAOP

The purpose of the O&P PAC is to advocate for legislative or political interests at the federal level, which have an impact on the orthotic and prosthetic community. The O&P PAC achieves this goal by working closely with members of the House and Senate to educate them about the issues, and help elect those individuals who support the orthotic and prosthetic community.

In order to participate in the O&P PAC, federal law mandates that you must first sign an authorization form. To obtain an authorization form contact Devon Bernard at [dbernard@AOPAnet.org](mailto:dbernard@AOPAnet.org).

Also, the O&P PAC would like to acknowledge and thank the following **AOPA** member(s) for their recent support of an O&P PAC sponsored event(s):

- Tom Becker
- Rudy Becker, Jr.
- James Campbell, Ph.D., CO
- Maynard Carkhuff
- Rodney Cheney, CPO, FAAOP
- Ron Cheney
- Jeff Collins, CPA
- Charles Dankmeyer, CPO
- Joseph Delorenzo, CP
- Thomas Fise, JD
- Rick Fleetwood, MPA
- Elizabeth Ginzler, CPO
- Lisa Guichet
- Hanger PAC
- Thomas Kirk, PhD
- Eileen Levis
- Sam Liang
- Pam Lupo, CO
- Sara McDonald
- Schuyler Nelson
- Michael Oros, CPO, FAAOP
- Michael Park
- Andrew Pedtke
- Rick Riley, CEO
- Brad Ruhl
- Scott Schneider
- Donald Shurr, CP, PT
- Christopher Snell
- Clint Snell, CPO
- Peter Thomas
- VGM PAC
- Tom Watson, CP, LP
- Jim Weber, MBA
- Ashlie White
- Eddie White, CPO
- Travis Young, CPA
- Pam Young
- James Young, Jr., CP, FAAOP

\*\*Due to publishing deadlines this list was created on 04/01/2015 and includes only donations/contributions made/ received between 03/01/2015 and 04/01/2015. Any donations/contributions made/ received on/or after 04/01/2015 will be published in the next SmartBrief.

## 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:

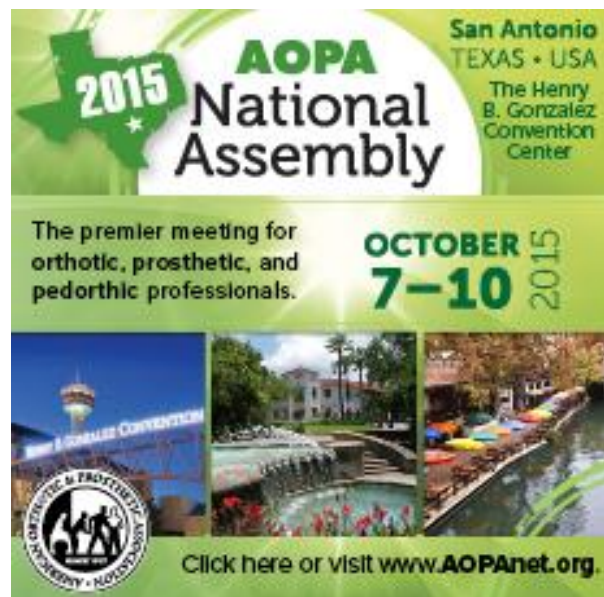
- Build your customer base and increase sales by meeting with Owners who actually make the final decisions on purchases.
- Experience face-to-face time with existing customers to answer questions and build new relationships.
- Enjoy sponsored networking opportunities, including an opening reception in 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!**

<b>Upcoming AOPA Events</b>
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|-------------------|--|
| April 6-12, 2015  | <i>National Public Health Week.</i><br><a href="#">Learn more here</a>   |
| April 8, 2015     | <i>Lower-Limb Protheses Policy: Learn the Policy Inside and Out</i><br>Webinar Conference<br><a href="#">Learn more or register online here</a>  |
| April 13-14, 2015 | <i>Essential Coding &amp; Billing Techniques Seminar</i><br>Seattle, WA<br><a href="#">Learn more or register online here</a>                    |
| May 13, 2015      | <i>The New Player In Town: Understand How the RAC Contract Works</i><br>Webinar Conference<br><a href="#">Learn more or register online here</a> |