



American Board for Certification in Orthotics, Prosthetics & Pedorthics, Inc.

330 John Carlyle St., Suite 210, Alexandria, VA 22314 | Phone: 703-836-7114 | Fax: 703-836-0838 | abcop.org

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Contact: Debbie Ayres
(703) 836-7114, ext. 224
dayres@abcop.org

ABC Supports Foundation Creating Center for O&P Excellence

The American Board for Certification in Orthotics, Prosthetics and Pedorthics (ABC) is pleased to announce its contribution to a groundbreaking new non-profit group and the establishment of a state-of-the-art center for O&P excellence. The Orthotics and Prosthetics International Institute Foundation, Inc. has announced plans to open the International Institute of Orthotics & Prosthetics (IIOP) in Tampa, Fla. in 2017.

The Institute will offer a multitude of innovative O&P activities with the mission of improving lives of veterans, their families and patients through education, training, research and collaboration worldwide. The Institute will offer office and conference space for the Florida International University's O&P Master's program as well as services for O&P education, veteran's rehabilitation, amputee counseling and peer programs along with community health services for mind and body wellness.

The Institute will also work with O&P researchers, clinicians, statisticians, patients and manufacturers to develop O&P outcome measures for use throughout the profession. Their efforts will include working with researchers seeking grants for O&P research and innovation benefiting the entire profession.

"ABC's contribution has been invaluable in bringing the vision to fruition. The strong alignment of mission and vision jointly held by ABC and IIOP will be important in assuring the success of the Institute as we move forward," says Dale E. Petersen, Chairman of the Board, Orthotics & Prosthetics International Institute Foundation, Inc.

The work of the Institute supports ABC's mission of establishing and advocating for the highest patient care and organizational standards in providing safe and effective patient care services. According to ABC President Eric Ramcharran, CPO, "the monies we are donating to the Foundation will not only further our mission and provide valuable benefits to the profession, but will provide a truly innovative environment for ABC to continue to modernize, develop and administer our Clinical Patient Management exam to the next generation of practitioners."

The Institute has purchased an existing building in Tampa and will begin renovations immediately with the goal of occupancy by clinicians, researchers and educators by mid-2017. ABC hopes to administer the Clinical Practice Management exam for practitioners this summer at the new facility.

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Located in Alexandria, Va., the American Board for Certification in Orthotics, Prosthetics & Pedorthics, Inc. (ABC) is the national certifying and accrediting body for the orthotic, prosthetic and pedorthic professions. The public requires and deserves assurance that the persons providing orthotic, prosthetic and pedorthic services and care are qualified to provide the appropriate services, and it was on this basis that the ABC was established as a credentialing organization in 1948. ABC sets the highest standards for the profession and certifies more than 14,000 individuals and accredits nearly 7,000 facilities.