

ABFSE Members, (Email sent 5/5/2020)

We wanted to update you on what has been going on within ABFSE since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic. Your officers have been in constant contact with the ABFSE office and staff and the Committee on Accreditation (COA) has been hard at work. As you are aware, the pandemic caused us to cancel our annual meeting in April. Since we cannot meet in person to elect officers and conduct some of our required business, the current officers and committees will continue until our 2021 meeting in Atlanta (Dallas will be the site of our 2022 Annual Conference). ABFSE committees are encouraged to work with our Executive Director, Robb Smith, to set up Zoom video conference committee meetings as needed.

Since we are unsure when travel restrictions will be lifted for our member institutions, the ABFSE Executive Committee will be faced with a decision to determine the status of the fall committee meetings currently scheduled for New Orleans in October.

Two virtual meetings are in the planning stages.

- The curriculum review session originally planned for summer 2020 in Houston will be re-scheduled as a virtual session. Watch for details.
- COA has scheduled a 'Town Hall' meeting for May 28, 2020 to focus on accreditation and other ABFSE related topics in the pandemic era.
note: The COA approved the use of virtual clinical site inspections. Recommended procedures for the inspections are being prepared and will be distributed before the May 28 meeting.

These are unprecedented times! Thank you for what each of you are doing to serve our students and our communities. We want to reassure you that ABFSE is still working and still moving forward with accreditation and business as usual (or as close to usual as we can be in this pandemic). Please monitor your emails for important information regarding meetings and other correspondence, and we ask that you please convey this information to all of your faculty and staff. Should you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact Robb Smith (Executive Director), Mark Evely (COA), or your ABFSE officers.

Best regards,

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ABFSE President

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