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March 17, 2026

The American Board of Cardiovascular Perfusion (ABCP) exists to protect the public by developing and maintaining standards for the safe practice of cardiovascular perfusion and certifying individuals who meet those standards.

### **ABCP membership in Institute of Credentialing Excellence**

In 2023, the Board of Directors engaged in strategic planning dialog as part of the transition to the new management company. The Institute for Credentialing Excellence (ICE) membership and benefits of joining were discussed. ICE is the professional home for credentialing organizations and practitioners. This membership supports ongoing education, benchmarking, and engagement with credentialing best practices. In late 2024, ABCP rejoined ICE and in early 2025 started the review process for accreditation to the National Commission for Certifying Agencies (NCCA) standard. The ABCP believes that NCCA accreditation reinforces our current credential and benefits all who hold the credential currently and those who will in the future.

### **NCCA accreditation: Where we are today**

The NCCA is the independent accreditation body within ICE for certification programs. NCCA accreditation is an evidence-based process designed to assess governance, psychometric defensibility, fairness, and program operations. The application review process is rigorous and typically spans several months from submission to determination. While accreditation is not an overnight undertaking, it is a meaningful investment in quality systems and documentation that can strengthen long-term confidence in the CCP credential.

During the accreditation process, we anticipate making updates to some of our current policies. These changes are intended to strengthen the certification program and create additional opportunities for volunteer involvement. ABCP views this work as a positive step for the profession and for the long-term integrity of the certification process. We will share updates and reach out as new volunteer roles and participation opportunities become available.

### **Commitment to transparency and stakeholder communication**

ABCP recognizes that timely, clear communication is essential, particularly when updates affect eligibility requirements, certification pathways, or recertification processes. We are actively strengthening how we share the “what” and the “why” behind decisions and how we receive input from stakeholders, consistent with ABCP’s mission and our duty to uphold standards.

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### **A constructive path forward**

ABCP asks the perfusion community to understand:

1. **Patient safety and public protection remain, and will always be, our number one priority.**
2. **Working towards accreditation is a process.** ABCP will communicate meaningful milestones as the work progresses.
3. **We welcome dialogue and input.** Communication through an organized, transparent channel that supports productive engagement and avoids misinformation is essential.

ABCP appreciates the professionalism of our colleagues and community at large. We remain committed to the strength of the CCP credential through defensible standards, continuous improvement, and open communication, always in service of patient safety.

Sincerely,

### **Emily Thunstrom-Kahring, CCP**

President, American Board of Cardiovascular Perfusion  
On behalf of the ABCP Board of Directors