



Policy for ABLE Institutional Membership & Logo Usage

Introduction

The Association for Bioskills Laboratory Excellence (ABLE) is organized as a nonprofit 501(c)(3) trade association with its headquarters in Las Vegas, Nevada. ABLE is comprised of individuals working within the bioskills industry, including members of private, corporate, and government-operated facilities, donor centers, as well as medical education and research institutions. The membership of ABLE is comprised of bioskills laboratories, tissue providers, healthcare vendors, healthcare professionals and associations who support the mission of ABLE.

The members of ABLE believe that bioskills education plays a crucial role in healthcare. We accept as self-evident, that hands-on bioskills education is essential to enhancing the skills of physicians, improving medical practice safety, and improving patient outcomes. It is our position that continued support and expansion of bioskills education is foundational to America's leadership in healthcare quality, safety, and patient outcomes.

ABLE believes in effective advocacy for public policies that encourage the use of bioskills education to advance physician skills, reduce procedure costs, improve safety, and ultimately enhance patient outcomes. To accomplish this mission, ABLE is dedicated to achieving these goals at the state level, federal level, and across the globe. With this mission in mind, and in light of the critical need and use of human anatomical specimens in a generally unregulated industry, it became apparent that ABLE needed to establish written guidelines for responsible operation of bioskills laboratories. These guidelines were first published in 2016 and have since been revised. With the second edition, published in 2018, ABLE desired to take another step towards setting standards for the industry. Institutions would have the option of following the guidelines as if they were *standards* and to join with ABLE in its mission to strive for laboratory excellence, and ultimately improve patient outcomes.

ABLE offers institutional membership to organizations that are committed to implementing the ABLE *Guidelines* for best practices within their policies and procedures. An organization seeking this membership must sign the *ABLE Institutional Membership Pledge*, attesting to its efforts to abide by the established *Guidelines*. As an institutional member, the pledged organization will be listed on the ABLE website and it will be permitted to use the *ABLE Institutional Member Logo* on its website and other marketing materials. ABLE institutional membership also grants the organization (2) individual (*Regular*) memberships at no additional cost. The annual cost for institutional membership is \$1,000.

The purpose of this policy is to define the appropriate uses for the logo, as well as establish consistency with its appearance. ABLE reserves the right to revise these policies as at its discretion. If you have any questions regarding this document or the use of the *ABLE Institutional Membership Logo*, please contact membership@ablebioskills.com.

Authorized Uses

- A. Users must be in compliance with the policy set in this document
- B. The logo may not be used in such a way as to convey that ABLE endorses an organization, nor its services or products
- C. *Institutional members in good standing* are authorized to utilize the ABLE Institutional Member Logo on its marketing materials, which may include the institution’s website, employee email signatures, and promotional literature.
 - i. An “Institutional Member in Good Standing” is defined as an institution that has pledged to abide by the established ABLE Guidelines in the current year, or has renewed its pledge by January 1 for the year they intend to utilize the current logo, and paid all associated fees with this type of membership. Furthermore, an institution is in good standing if ABLE has not received a **valid** complaint about the institutional member failing to abide by the Guidelines; therefore, not warranting the revocation of the institution’s pledge and any additional benefits of institutional membership.
- D. Use of the ABLE Institutional Member Logo is prohibited on immediate labels of human anatomical or animal specimens, instruments and equipment, or shipping containers.
- E. The ABLE institutional member logo may be used as a hyperlink to ABLE’s homepage (www.ABLEbioskills.com)

Logo Appearance

Once your Institutional Membership has been established, a zip folder--containing various file formats of the logo--will be sent to your attention.

- A. Unless expressly permitted by the ABLE Board of Directors, in writing, the logo may only be used in either full color, black and white, or all white. Some examples are provided here:



- B. Logos may not be skewed and must have matching horizontal and vertical ratios
- C. Logo areas may not be filled using alternative colors
- D. Logos are available in various formats and may be requested from ABLE. Logos are not to be recreated or altered without express permission from the ABLE board of directors.

Violation of this policy

Any violations of this policy will be investigated by ABLE and appropriate actions may be taken. These actions can include, but are not limited to: listing of the offender on the ABLE website, revocation and/or prohibition of an institution's membership with ABLE, and judicial action utilizing applicable federal, state, and local laws regarding intellectual property and trade practices.