



Policy for ABLE Affiliate Organization

Membership and 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, NV. The ABLE organization 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 organizations such as bioskills laboratories, tissue providers, healthcare vendors, healthcare professionals, medical device manufacturers, medical supply vendors, equipment suppliers and servicers, couriers, as well as 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, to improve patient outcomes.

ABLE offers Affiliate Organization membership to companies that do not necessarily operate a bioskills laboratory, and therefore are not responsible for the educational atmosphere of participants. While Affiliate Organizations are not eligible for Institutional Membership, they are, nonetheless, committed to being an advocate for ABLE and supporting responsible bioskills laboratory operation. It is in the best interest of all parties involved in the bioskills laboratory industry to encourage the utilization of a set of best practice standards and advancing ABLE as the organization leading the charge. An organization seeking this membership must sign the *ABLE Affiliate Organization Membership Pledge*, promising to use its best efforts to promote

ABLE as an organization as well as encourage the use of the published ABLE guidelines. As an Affiliate Organization, the company and the type of services it provides will be publicly listed on the ABLE website and it will be permitted to use the *ABLE Affiliate Organization Logo* on its website, employee email signature lines, and other marketing materials (see *Authorized Uses* below). ABLE Affiliate Organization membership also grants the company (2) individual *associate* (non-voting) memberships at no additional cost. The annual cost for Affiliate Organization 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 at its discretion. If you have any questions regarding this document or the use of the *ABLE Affiliate Organization 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. *Affiliate Organizations in good standing* are authorized to utilize the ABLE Affiliate Organization Logo on its marketing materials, which may include the company's website, employee email signatures, and promotional literature.
 - i. An "Affiliate Organization in Good Standing" is defined as a company that has pledged to promote the ABLE organization and encourage the use of 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.
- D. Use of the ABLE Affiliate Organization 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 Affiliate Organization 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.

Violations of 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 organization's membership with ABLE, and judicial action utilizing applicable federal, state, and local laws regarding intellectual property and trade practices.