

ABA President

Function

The ABA President's primary responsibility is to lead the activities of the Board of Trustees and the Association. The President presides over all meetings of the Board of Trustees and works with the Chief Executive and other Board members as necessary to prepare an agenda, keep meeting discussions and debates focused on the issues, and lead the Board of Trustees to decisions on key issues.

The President's authority is derived from the Bylaws of the Association. They represent the organization publicly on behalf of the Board of Trustees and the Association on issues of interest to the membership. They safeguard the organization's reputation and credibility, provide leadership in developing and implementing the Association's strategic plan, and foster an environment that attracts and energizes outstanding volunteer leaders.

Presidential Duties & Responsibilities

Specific to President:

- Serves as Chair and voting member of the Board of Trustees.
- Recommends Committee appointments for Board approval and removes members to serve the best interests of the Association.
- Appoints Ad Hoc Committees.
- Serves as Chair of the Awards Committee and Executive Committee.
- Serves on the Executive Compensation Committee, Nominating Committee, and Finance & Investment Committee.
- Notifies a member of any pending disciplinary action prior to any Board action.
- Presides at the annual meeting Opening and Plenary sessions, all meetings of the Board, the Executive Committee meetings, and the business meetings of the members and works with the Chief Executive, officers, and committee chairs to develop agendas for these meetings.
- Works with the Chief Executive, Executive Committee, and legal counsel to ensure compliance with Board policies and procedures and all relevant legal and ethical standards, including but not limited to policies and standards governing corporate relationships.
- Serves as the official representative and spokesperson for the Association.
- Communicates regularly with the Chief Executive to provide guidance, direction and insight.
- Performs such other duties and assumes such responsibilities as may be necessary.

Performs "Responsibilities of all members of the Board" (see At-large Board Member description)

Term

One year as President. This is preceded by one year as President-elect and followed by two years as a Past President member of the Board of Trustees. The term of office shall begin at the close of the Business Meeting during the ABA Annual Meeting. Except for partial terms filled according to the Bylaws, no individual may serve successive terms in the same office.

The President-elect should be included in all meetings and communications involving the President 3 months prior to assuming the role.

Commitment

In addition to the commitment outlined below for members of the Board of Trustees, the President is expected to lead meetings with the Executive Committee. In addition, they will participate in calls with the Chief Executive and relevant staff to review ABA issues on an approximately bi-weekly basis. They need to be regularly available via email to provide guidance and direction as new items arise.

The President is also expected to travel to represent the ABA at regional meetings, meetings with collaborative partners, other ABA meetings, and represent the ABA at high level meetings, such as those with the ACS, government agencies and others. The travel for these meetings is included in the ABA budget.

Qualifications

Per the Bylaws, all Officers shall:

- (a) be a professional in a burn-related field for no less than ten years; and
- (b) have demonstrated leadership abilities; and
- (c) have been and are currently active members of the Association for no less than ten years prior to their term of office.

In addition, the President-Elect must have served at least a two-year term on the Board of Trustees prior to assuming the role of President-Elect.

Additional qualifications:

- Ability to think strategically and analytically and to effectively communicate ideas and the supporting rationales.
- Possession of earned respect of ABA members and others in the field.
- Ability to work well as a member of a collaborative group with group decision-making authority and an understanding of the fiduciary duties of loyalty, care, and obedience.
- Appreciation for the differences between “oversight” and “supervision”.
- Earned reputation for emotional maturity, personal integrity, and honesty.
- Familiarity with the body of knowledge related to both the ABA as an organization as well as the substantive content of the field of burn care.
- Prerequisite of accessibility and responsiveness.
- Absence of significant conflicts of interest.

Selection

The President-elect automatically ascends to the position of President at the close of the Annual Business Meeting.