

American Board of Foot and Ankle Surgery



AMERICAN BOARD OF
FOOT & ANKLE SURGERY

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Our Mission Statement

To protect and improve the health and welfare of the public by the advancement of the art and science of podiatric surgery.

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About ABFAS

- 1975 - American Board of Podiatric Surgery (ABPS)
- July 2014 - Name changed to American Board of Foot and Ankle Surgery (ABFAS)
- Only Foot and Ankle Surgery Certification Board recognized by Joint Committee on the Recognition of Specialty Boards (JCRSB)
- JCRSB is part of the Council on Podiatric Medical Education (CPME), under the authority of the American Podiatric Medical Association (APMA)



About ABFAS

- Develops policies and examinations for foot and ankle surgery board qualification and certification.
- Is NOT ACFAS – the American College of Foot and Ankle Surgeons.
- ACFAS is a membership organization that provides educational programs, a scientific journal, and practice management information.



About ABFAS

Certification Type (as of SEP 2017)	Count
Board Certified Foot Surgery	4610
Board Certified Foot and Reconstructive Rearfoot and Ankle Surgery (RRA)	1194
Board Certified Foot Surgery and Board Qualified RRA	301
Board Qualified Foot Surgery	870
Board Qualified Foot and Reconstructive Rearfoot and Ankle Surgery (RRA)	1318
Board Certified Foot and Ankle Surgery (pre-1991)	1306
Board Certified Ambulatory	38

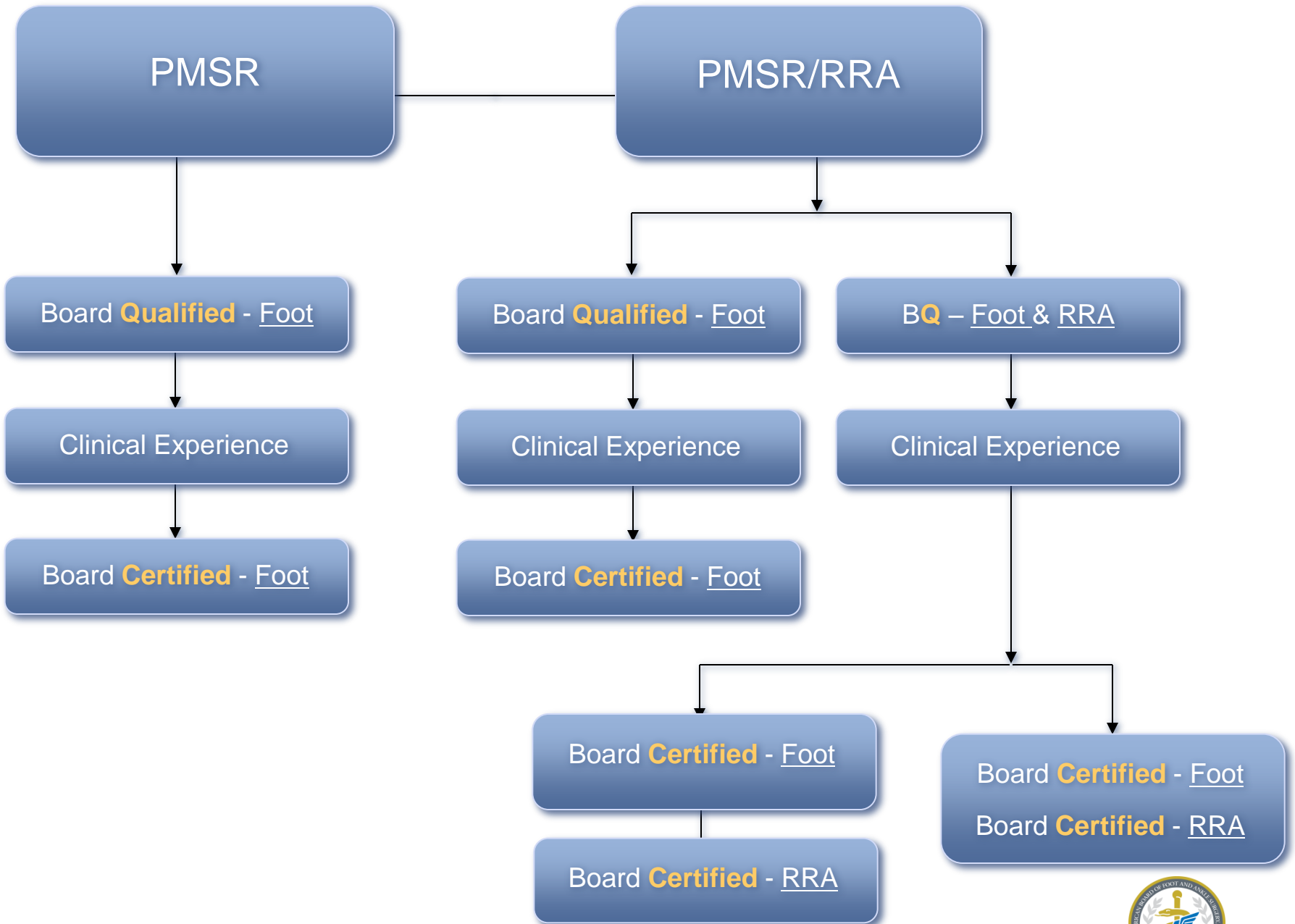
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Pathway to Certification

- Residency Training
- Part I or Board Qualification Requirements
- Part II or Board Certification Requirements
- Passing Rates
- Frequently Asked Questions





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Requirements for Board Qualification

- Completion of residency training (can register for Part I exams during last year of residency)
- Submission of verified logs through Podiatry Residency Resource (PRR) and proof of licensure
- Pass Two (2) Separate Part I Examinations (Didactic and Computer-based Patient Simulation [CBPS])
(Register and schedule early as Pearson Vue testing centers fill up quickly)
- BQ Foot status is a prerequisite for BQ RRA status



Requirements for Board Qualification

Candidates may repeat any portion of the failed examination during their window of eligibility

Pass Written, Fail CBPS = repeat CBPS

Fail Written, Pass CBPS = repeat Written

Pass Written, Pass CBPS = Board Qualified



Requirements for Board Certification

- Board Qualified Status (passed Part I)
- Seven-year window after becoming Board Qualified
- Hospital privileges in area of desired certification (Foot or Foot/RRA)
- Pass Hospital log and Podiatry Logging Service (PLS) audit
- Pass Case Review
- Pass Part II Examination - CBPS



Board Certification Case Review

- Once you have adequate volume and diversity logged in PLS, you are eligible to apply for Case Review. You can take Part II CBPS at any time within the 7 years after becoming board qualified
- Clinical Experience: 65 Foot Surgery Cases
 - 30 of these must be First Ray, Other Osseous and Reconstructive Rearfoot/Ankle categories (listed in Appendix A of the ABFAS Certification document)
- Clinical Experience: 30 RRA Cases
 - 10 of these must be Elective Osseous and two of these must be Non-elective Osseous (listed in Appendix B of the ABFAS Certification document)
- Refer to ABFAS Certification documents for more details on the case requirements



Board Certification Case Review

Fellowships

A candidate MAY log fellowship cases

- If you are the surgeon of record on the operative report and the anesthesia records.
- If you are involved in the preoperative and postoperative management of the patient.



Board Certification Documentation

TWO key documents and steps required for Board Certification

1. Hospital privileges in area of desired certification (Foot or Foot/RRA)
2. Hospital log and PLS audit
 - Log every case in PLS
 - ABFAS will compare your PLS log to a list of procedures provided by your hospital from a randomly selected period
 - If the lists do not match, you will NOT be able to submit materials for case review
 - PLS logs are LOCKED after the deadline and cannot be altered



Board Certification Documentation

Key Things to Know

- Don't wait to log cases
- Log every case, every day
- People fail case review due to not logging cases correctly
- You do NOT have to wait until you have enough cases logged in PLS to take the Part II CBPS exam



Board Certification Case Review

- Case Review is an outcomes-based practice analysis
- After a successful hospital log/PLS audit, ABFAS will randomly select 13 Foot and/or 13 RRA cases from your PLS logs and ask you to submit complete case documentation

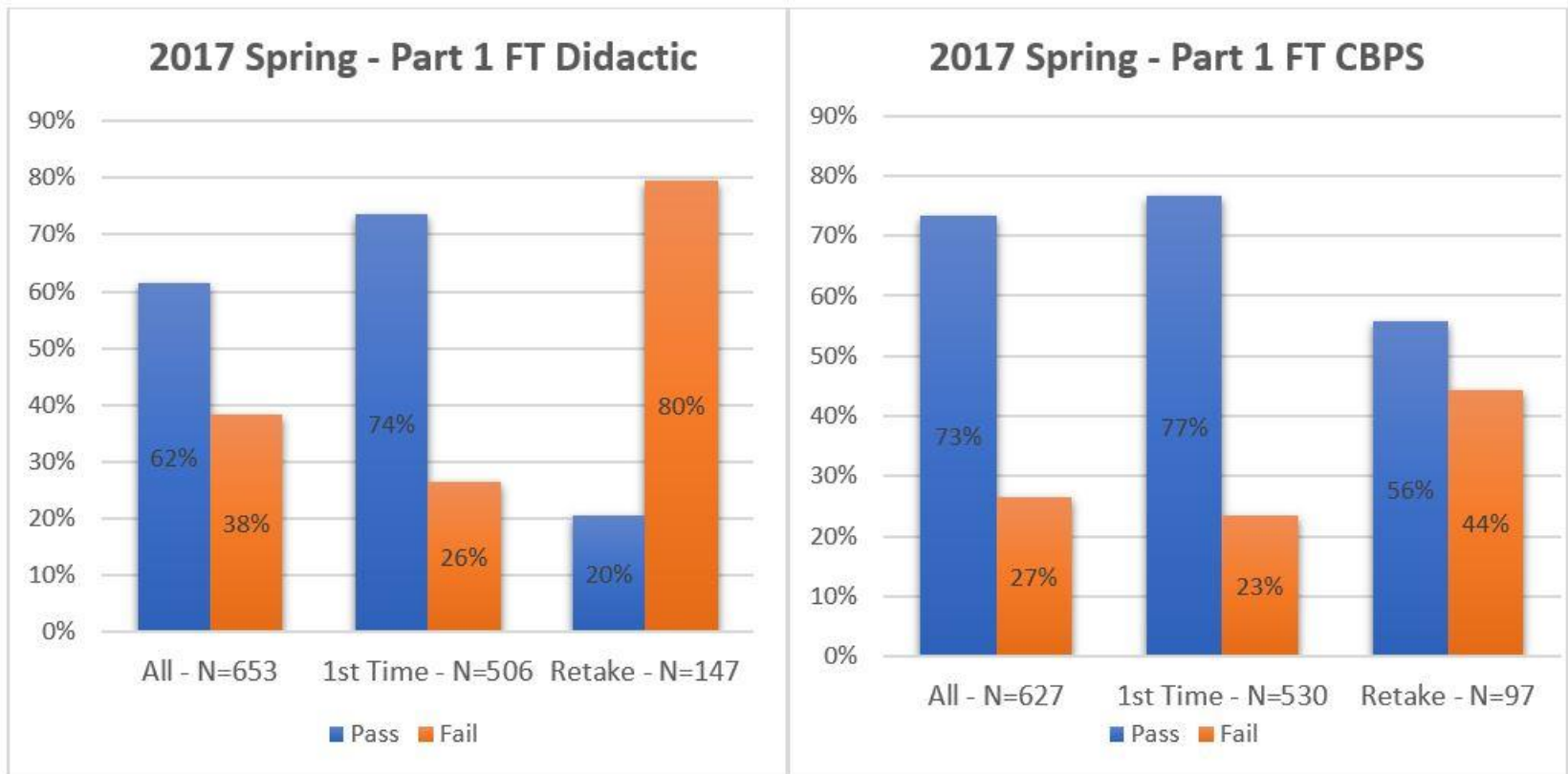


Board Certification Case Review

- Reviewers evaluate all aspects of surgical procedures candidates perform:
 - Surgical decision-making
 - Preoperative clinical assessment
 - Preoperative radiographic assessment
 - Technical skills assessment
 - Outcomes analysis
- Reviewers evaluate data from your clinical notes, operative reports, and diagnostic/imaging studies



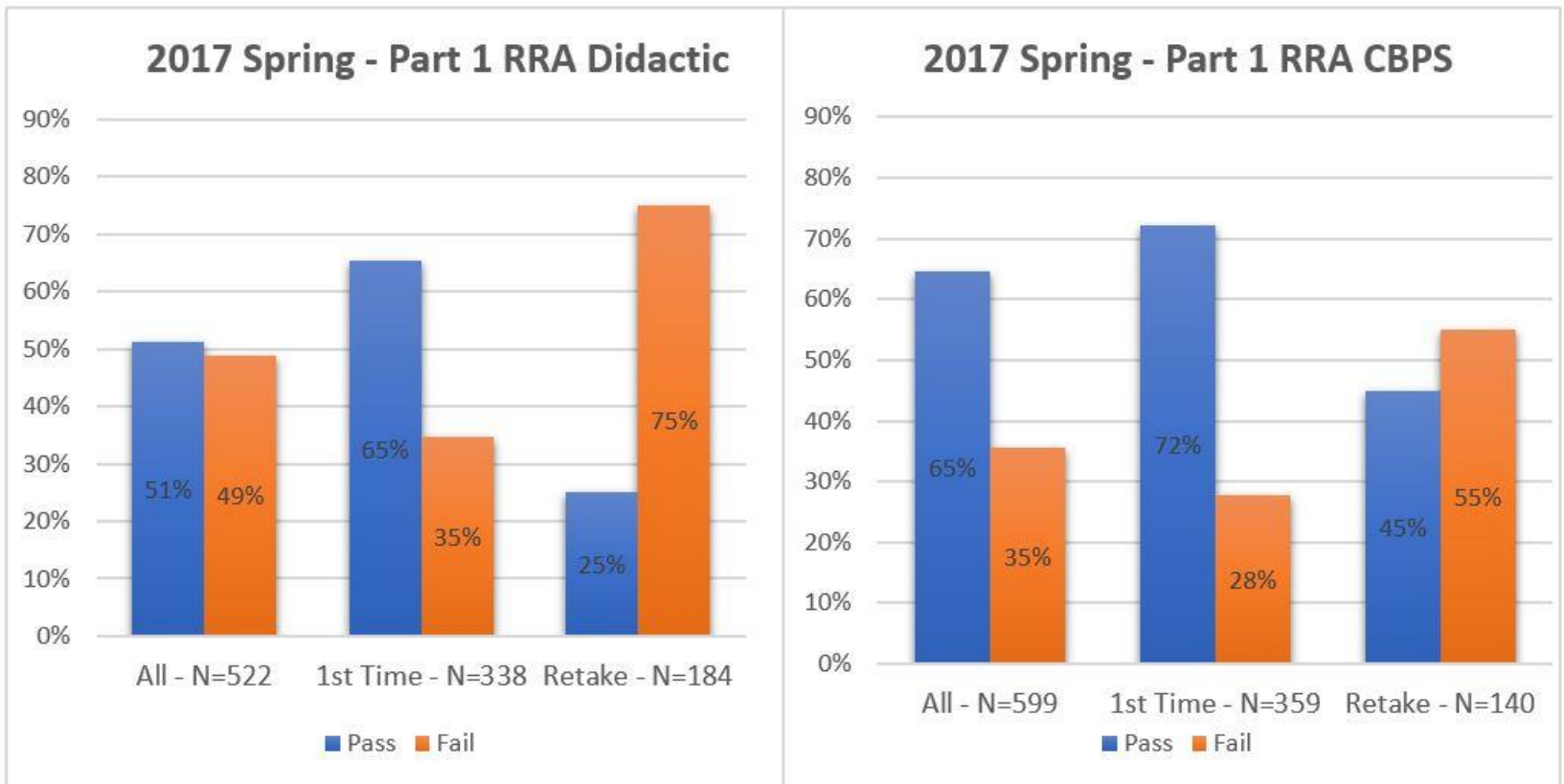
Passing Rates – Part I



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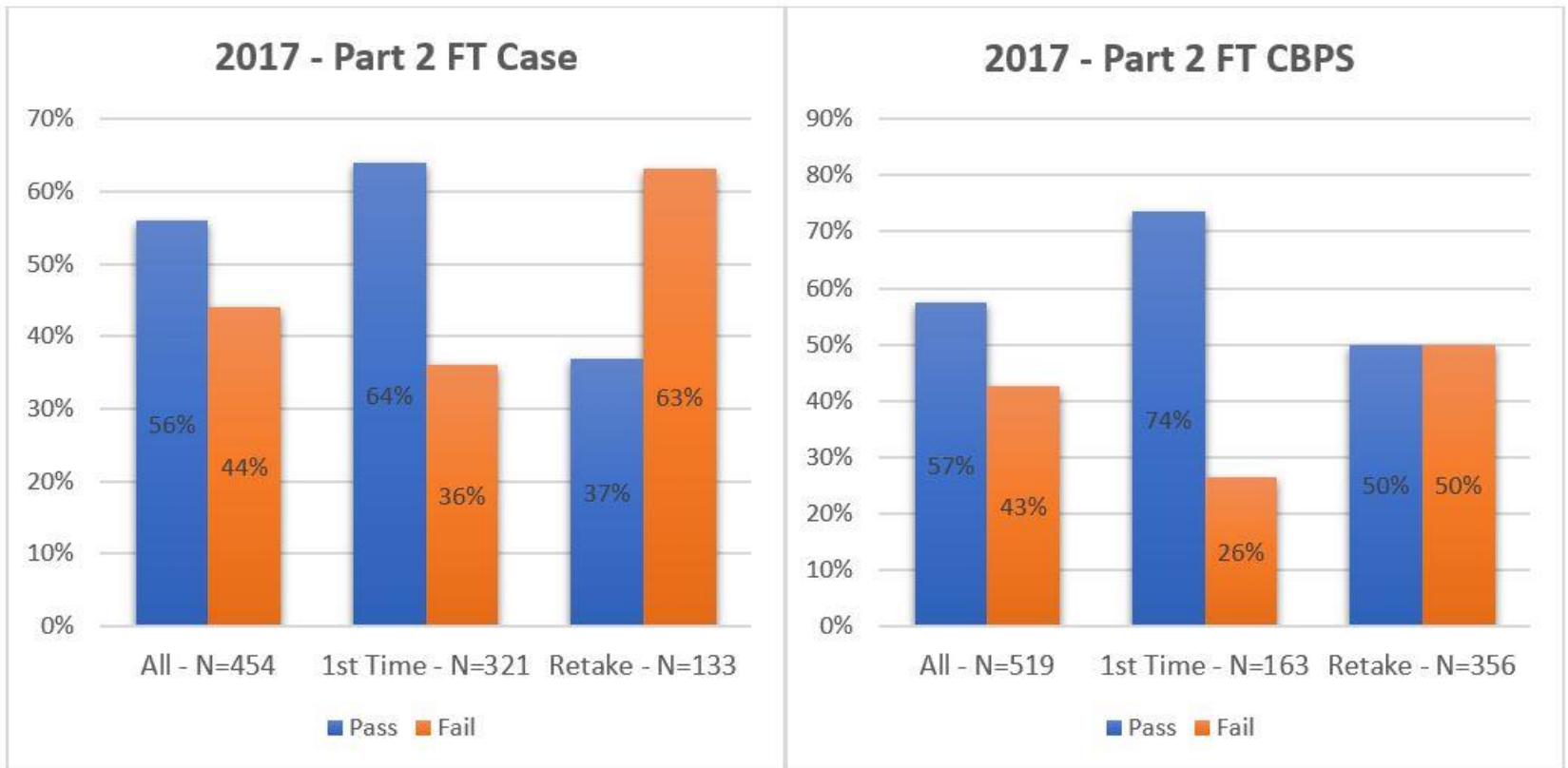
Passing Rates – Part I



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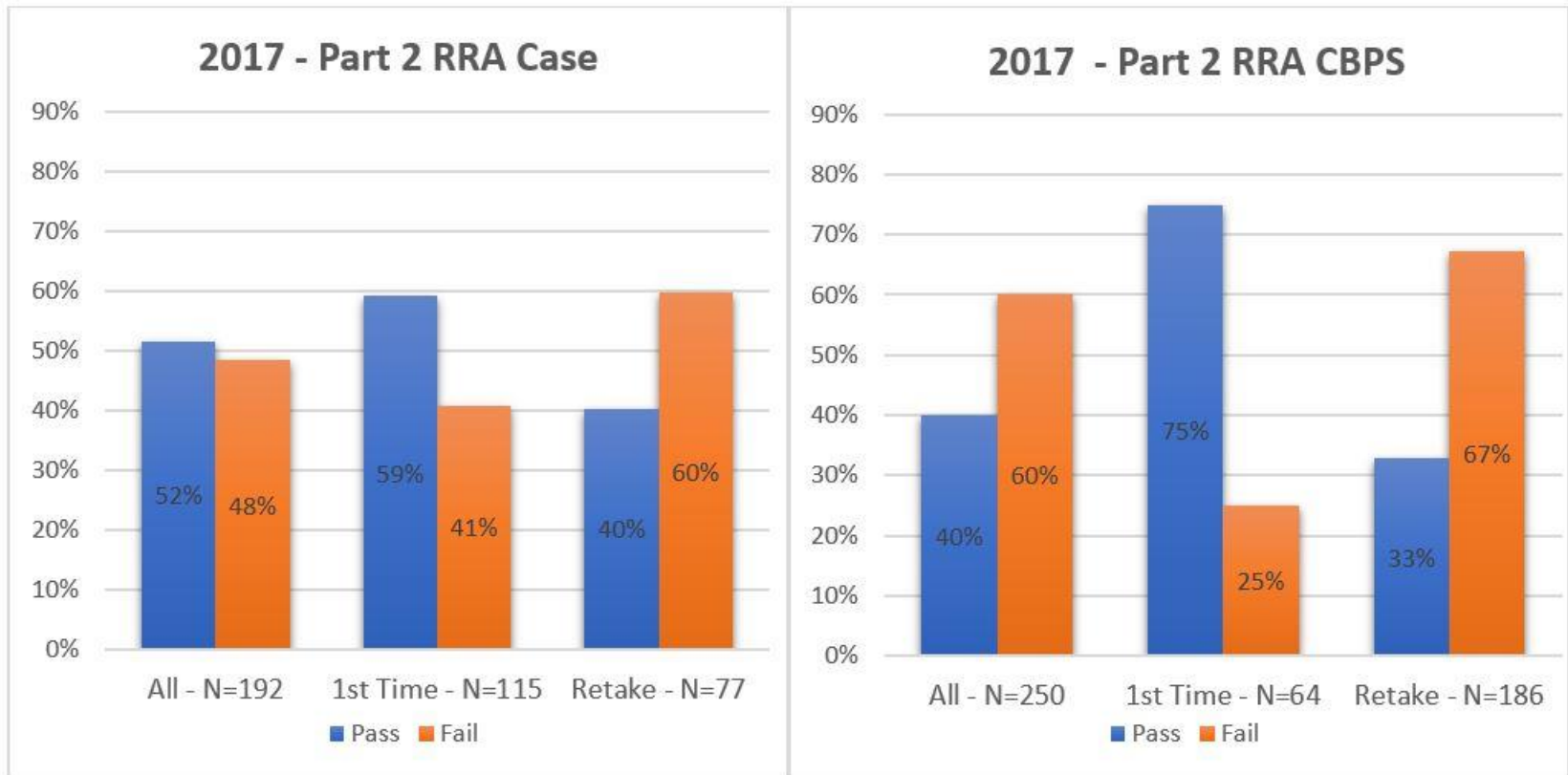
Passing Rates Part II



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Passing Rates – Part II



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Frequently Asked Questions

- What if I don't have all the necessary materials needed for a case?
 - Submit all of the materials you have, and the case will be scored accordingly. You can still earn credit for the indications and management of the case.
 - You cannot substitute a case



Frequently Asked Questions

- What if one of my cases has a complication?
 - Complications are a known surgical risk. It is important to document in your progress notes both the complication and the steps taken to address the problem.
 - If any subsequent procedures are performed, include all additional materials in your case submission.



Frequently Asked Questions

- What if I logged my case in the wrong category on PLS?
 - It is important to log your cases correctly on PLS.
 - Your case is scored using a template for the category in which it was logged.



Frequently Asked Questions

- What are some important pointers for CBPS?
 - Practice the software process and become familiar with the terminology used
 - 15 minutes per case
 - Do a thorough physical examination
 - Don't forget the medical management of the patient
 - Don't “shotgun” tests and treatments



Frequently Asked Questions

- What if I fail one part of the test process?
 - A candidate who fails one component of the test may retake the failed part
 - Pass Cases, Fail CBPS = retake CBPS
 - Fail Cases, Pass CBPS = resubmit Cases
 - You may retake the failed part as many times as needed during your window of eligibility



Frequently Asked Questions

- If I failed Case Review, do I have to log an additional 65 Foot or 30 RRA cases?
 - No, you may reapply for the Case Review process the following year
 - You MUST continue to log all new cases
 - You MUST complete a successful hospital log audit
 - Any cases previously submitted for actual review will not be reviewed in subsequent years



Frequently Asked Questions

As ABFAS no longer has oral examinations, what if I failed the oral examination, but passed Case Review in 2014?

Candidate must take a full-length CBPS examination.

What if I failed the oral examination Prior to 2014?

Candidate must complete Case Review AND a full-length CBPS examination.



Questions?

Refer to ABFAS Certification Documents on the ABFAS website – www.abfas.org

Call ABFAS 415.553.7800. Office hours are 7:00 am
– 5:00 pm Pacific time

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Good Luck!!

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