

## **LIMITATIONS ON CASE SUBMISSIONS**

Candidates for certification are required to submit seventy-five diverse cases of their own experience. The case mix is determined by the candidate, but there are limitations imposed on the number of cases of various types that may be submitted. In the tables which follow, procedures are broken down into categories. Candidates may submit fewer cases than the stated maximums for any procedure or any category. Submissions cannot exceed either the maximum allowable number indicated for the named procedures, or the maximum allowable number indicated for each category. Candidates are not required to submit cases in all categories.

| <b>ARTHRODESIS</b><br><b>category maximum: 20</b> | <b>procedure maximum</b> | <b>comments</b>                               |
|---|--------------------------|---|
| Interphalangeal                                   | <b>5</b>                 | By any means, with/without removable fixation |
| Interphalangeal with screw                        | <b>8</b>                 | Permanent internal fixation device            |
| Metatarsophalangeal                               | <b>5</b>                 | By any means                                  |
| Tarsometatarsal                                   | <b>10</b>                | By any means                                  |
| Intertarsal                                       | <b>15</b>                | By any means                                  |
| Subtalar triple                                   | <b>15</b>                | By any means                                  |
| Ankle mortice                                     | <b>15</b>                | By any means                                  |

LATER REMOVAL OF ANY FIXATION OR PROSTHETIC DEVICE BY THE SAME SURGEON IS NOT A CREDITABLE CASE.

| <b>ARTHROPLASTY</b><br><b>category maximum: 15</b> |           |  |
|--|-----------|--|
| Phalangeal head and/or base resection              | <b>8</b>  |  |
| Interphalangeal implant                            | <b>8</b>  |  |
| Other IPJ remodeling                               | <b>5</b>  | Osteophytes, condyles, other lesions         |
| MPJ  | <b>5</b>  | Excluding bunionectomies                     |
| MPJ implant other than 1st MPJ                     | <b>15</b> | Any type, including autogenous graft         |
| Other MPJ remodeling                               | <b>8</b>  | Osteophytes, condyles, other lesions         |
| Ankle  | <b>8</b>  | Includes intra capsular portions of malleoli |
| Other joint remodeling                             | <b>10</b> | Intertarsal, tarsometatarsal joints          |

| <b>ARTHROSCOPY</b><br><b>category maximum: 15</b> |           |  |
|---|-----------|--|
| Diagnostic  | <b>5</b>  | Any joint; report of findings must be submitted  |
| Corrective surgical procedure                     | <b>10</b> | Any joint; tissue removed, vaporized, or divided |

| <b>BUNIONECTOMY</b><br><b>category maximum: 50</b> |           |   |
|--|-----------|---|
| Simple   | <b>15</b> | Any bunionectomy not incorporating metatarsal osteotomy |
| Aiken/Reverdin                                     | <b>15</b> |   |
| Austin/other biplanar osteotomy                    | <b>15</b> |   |
| Base closing wedge osteotomy                       | <b>15</b> |   |
| Triplanar osteotomy                                | <b>15</b> |   |
| Double osteotomy                                   | <b>15</b> | Separate site, non-intersecting osteotomies             |
| Other osteotomy                                    | <b>15</b> |   |
| Keller   | <b>15</b> |   |
| Implant  | <b>15</b> | Any device, first MPJ                                   |
| Tailor's, without osteotomy                        | <b>10</b> |   |
| Tailor's with osteotomy                            | <b>15</b> |   |

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| <b>EXCISION</b><br>category maximum: 20   | <b>procedure</b><br>maximum | <b>comments</b>   |
|---|-----------------------------|---|
| Coalition, tarsal                         | 15                          |   |
| Coalition, other                          | 15                          |   |
| Mass, without reparative graft            | 15                          | Malignant or benign, nonarticular                             |
| Mass, with nonpulverized reparative graft | 15                          | Malignant or benign, nonarticular                             |
| Malleolar, partial, extracapsular         | 15                          |   |
| Metatarsal, partial                       | 15                          | Nonarticular; includes nonwedge partial diaphysectomy         |
| Metatarsal, excision of fragment          | 15                          | Must originate in nonsurgical trauma                          |
| Phalanx, total                            | 15                          | Includes excision of fracture fragments of nonsurgical trauma |
| Phalanx, partial, not arthroplasty        | 15                          | Includes excision of fracture fragments and condylectomies    |
| Sesamoid                                  | 10                          | Any site; includes accessories attached/imbedded in tendon    |
| Tarsal, partial, nonarticular             | 15                          | Includes heel spur excision                                   |
| Tarsal, total                             | 15                          |   |

| <b>FRACTURES</b><br>category maximum: 30 |    | LATER REMOVAL OF ANY FIXATION OR PROSTHETIC DEVICE BY THE SAME SURGEON IS NOT A CREDITABLE CASE. |
|--|----|--|
| Phalangeal, closed reduction             | 5  | Must submit pre- and postoperative x-rays with op report   |
| Phalangeal, open reduction               | 10 |  |
| Metatarsal, closed reduction             | 5  | Must submit pre- and postoperative x-rays with op report   |
| Metatarsal, open reduction               | 15 |  |
| Metatarsal, multiple, open reduction     | 15 |  |
| Tarsal, closed reduction                 | 5  | No cuneiforms; submit pre- and post op x-rays with report  |
| Tarsal, open reduction                   | 15 |  |
| Malleolar, single, closed reduction      | 5  | Must submit pre- and postoperative x-rays with op report   |
| Malleolar, single, open reduction        | 15 |  |
| Bimalleolar, closed reduction            | 5  | Must submit pre- and postoperative x-rays with op report   |
| Bimalleolar, open reduction              | 15 |  |
| Trimalleolar, open reduction             | 15 |  |

| <b>OSTEOTOMIES</b><br>category maximum: 30      |    | LATER REMOVAL OF ANY FIXATION OR PROSTHETIC DEVICE BY THE SAME SURGEON IS NOT A CREDITABLE CASE. |
|---|----|--|
| Phalanx, hallux                                 | 5  |  |
| Phalanx, other                                  | 10 |  |
| Metatarsal, lesser, chevron or simple DFWO      | 5  |  |
| Metatarsal, lesser, step-down, peg-in-hole, etc | 15 |  |
| Metatarsal, lesser, lengthening                 | 15 |  |
| Metatarsal, 1st, base wedge, opening/closing    | 5  | Performed without bunionectomy   |
| Metatarsal, 1st, base, DFWO                     | 5  |  |
| Metatarsal, multiple                            | 5  |  |
| Tarsal, cuboid                                  | 15 |  |
| Tarsal, navicular                               | 5  |  |
| Tarsal, talus                                   | 15 |  |
| Tarsal, calcaneus                               | 15 |  |

| <b>OTHER BONE PROCEDURE</b><br>category maximum: 30 |    | LATER REMOVAL OF ANY FIXATION OR PROSTHETIC DEVICE BY THE SAME SURGEON IS NOT A CREDITABLE CASE. |
|---|----|--|
| Grafts, any purpose, not elsewhere included         | 15 | Any site, any source; excludes bone chip pack for lytic lesions.                                 |
| Subtalar stay peg arthroeresis                      | 15 |  |
| Other procedures                                    | *  | Contact ABLES office   |

| <b>AMPUTATION</b><br><b>category maximum: 30</b> | <b>procedure maximum</b> | <b>comments</b>  |
|--|--------------------------|--|
| Symes, digital                                   | 10                       | Each such case must be proved with a pathology report which makes it clear that there has been an amputation of a body segment or part of segment, and the specimen must contain appropriate and sufficient soft tissue and bone to substantiate the case. "Bone only" amputations are not acceptable. |
| Digit  | 15                       |  |
| Digit, multiple                                  | 15                       |  |
| Transmetatarsal                                  | 20                       |  |
| Other -- Contact ABLES office                    | *                        |  |

| <b>SOFT TISSUE</b><br><b>category maximum: 30</b> |    |  |
|---|----|--|
| Ankle stabilization                               | 15 | Excludes repair of torn ligament by suturing                   |
| Excision, foreign body                            | 15 | Deep to superficial fascia (no prostheses or fixation devices) |
| Removal of prosthesis or fixation device          | 5  | Must not have been implanted by same surgeon.                  |
| Excision, ganglion                                | 15 |  |
| Excision, neuroma                                 | 15 |  |
| Excision, other mass, nonmuscle                   | 10 | Deep to superficial fascia                                     |
| Excision, mass, muscle                            | 15 |  |
| Fasciotomy/fasciectomy, plantar                   | 15 | Separate procedure, without heel spur excision                 |
| Ligament repair by suture                         | 15 | Ligament divided by trauma or late effect of earlier surgery   |
| Ligament repair by graft                          | 15 | Ligament divided by trauma or late effect of earlier surgery   |
| Tarsal tunnel syndrome/other decompression        | 15 |  |
| Syndactylization/desyndactylization               | 15 |  |
| Skin, graft, rotation flap                        | 15 | Closure of skin defect not created by concurrent procedure     |
| Skin, graft, other                                | 15 | Closure of skin defect not created by concurrent procedure     |
| Skin, other plastic repair                        | 10 | Must eliminate nerve entrapment or restore joint function      |
| Skin, excisions, lesion, with primary closure     | 10 |  |
| Tendon, tenoplasty/repair                         | 15 | Lengthen, shorten, reroute, repair preop defect; no tenotomies |
| Tendon transfer                                   | 15 | Excludes tendons of intrinsic muscles of the foot              |
| other procedures                                  | *  | Call ABLES office  |

| <b>MAJOR RECONSTRUCTION</b><br><b>category maximum: 50</b>                        |    |  |
|---|----|--|
| Multiple procedures for repair of major trauma or correction of global deformity. | 50 | <u>Trauma</u> : open reduction of three or more fractures, at least three of which must be nondigital. <u>Correction of global deformity</u> : procedures requiring multiple osseous procedures and/or multiple extrinsic tendon transfers, e.g. midfoot sag, talipes equinovarus, calcaneovalgus, forefoot equinus, and similar procedures. |