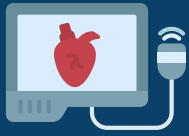


# THE ECHO EXAMINER



April 2026

## Top News

- 2026 MOCE Enrollment Open
- Meet NBE's Newest Board Members
- NBE Volunteer Spotlight

## NBE President's Message Allan Klein, MD, FASE

As the National Board of Echocardiography (NBE) looks ahead, we are entering a period defined by innovation, expansion, and a renewed commitment to excellence in cardiovascular imaging. I am honored to serve as President during this important time for our organization.

I currently serve at the Cleveland Clinic as Director of the Center for the Diagnosis and Treatment of Pericardial Diseases and as a staff cardiologist in the Section of Cardiovascular Imaging and Department of Cardiovascular imaging within the Heart, Vascular and Thoracic Institute.



**Online Testing Available via Pearson  
OnVUE for all 2026 exams!**

ASCeXAM® Now Available in Spanish! ¡ASCeXAM® ahora disponible en español!

## President's Message Continued...

Throughout my career, my clinical, research, and educational efforts have focused on echocardiography, multimodality imaging, and pericardial disease—work that continues to inform my leadership at NBE.

This year, I was honored to receive the American College of Cardiology Distinguished Scientist Award (Clinical Domain) in recognition of contributions to pericardial disease, atrial fibrillation, and cardiovascular imaging. This award reflects the importance of collaboration, mentorship, and lifelong learning—principles that are central to NBE's mission.

A primary focus of my presidency is the continued growth and refinement of MOCE® (Maintenance of Certification in Echocardiography). By eliminating a traditional recertification examination, MOCE offers a modern, longitudinal approach to maintaining competence through quarterly engagement rather than high-stakes testing. This innovative model has positioned NBE as a leader in certification and has drawn attention from other professional organizations seeking to modernize their own programs.

"MOCE is a maintenance of certification program that requires yearly enrollment and ongoing engagement, supporting continuous learning rather than episodic, high-stakes testing." – Allan Klein, MD, FASE  
President, National Board of Echocardiography

## NBE's Newest Board of Directors Members



Ellen Richter, MD is an anesthesiologist and Associate Professor of Anesthesiology at Emory University School of Medicine in Atlanta, Georgia, where she also serves as Division Chief of Cardiothoracic Anesthesiology. She brings extensive clinical and academic leadership experience and currently serves as Vice Chair of the Advanced PTE Certification Committee.

Stephen Little, MD is a Professor of Medicine at Cornell University, and practices at Houston Methodist Hospital in Houston, Texas. He serves as the System Director for Structural Heart, and is a past president of the American Society of Echocardiography. His clinical and academic interests are in Interventional Echocardiography.



James Thomas, MD serves as Director of the Center for Heart Valve Disease and Director of Academic Affairs at the Bluhm Cardiovascular Institute, Northwestern Medicine in Chicago, Illinois. A Professor of Medicine at Northwestern University's Feinberg School of Medicine, he also co-directs the Center for Artificial Intelligence in Cardiovascular Disease and brings deep expertise in artificial intelligence and advanced imaging. In addition, Dr. Thomas serves as Lead Scientist for Ultrasound at NASA's Johnson Space Center.



**TESTIMONIAL**

“The Advanced PTEeXAM® MOCE offers relevant content, is a fair assessment of one’s knowledge base, and is educational at the same time. Hats off to the NBE for their execution of this valuable MOCE product.”

Aris Sophocles, MD  
Advanced PTEeXAM® Diplomate

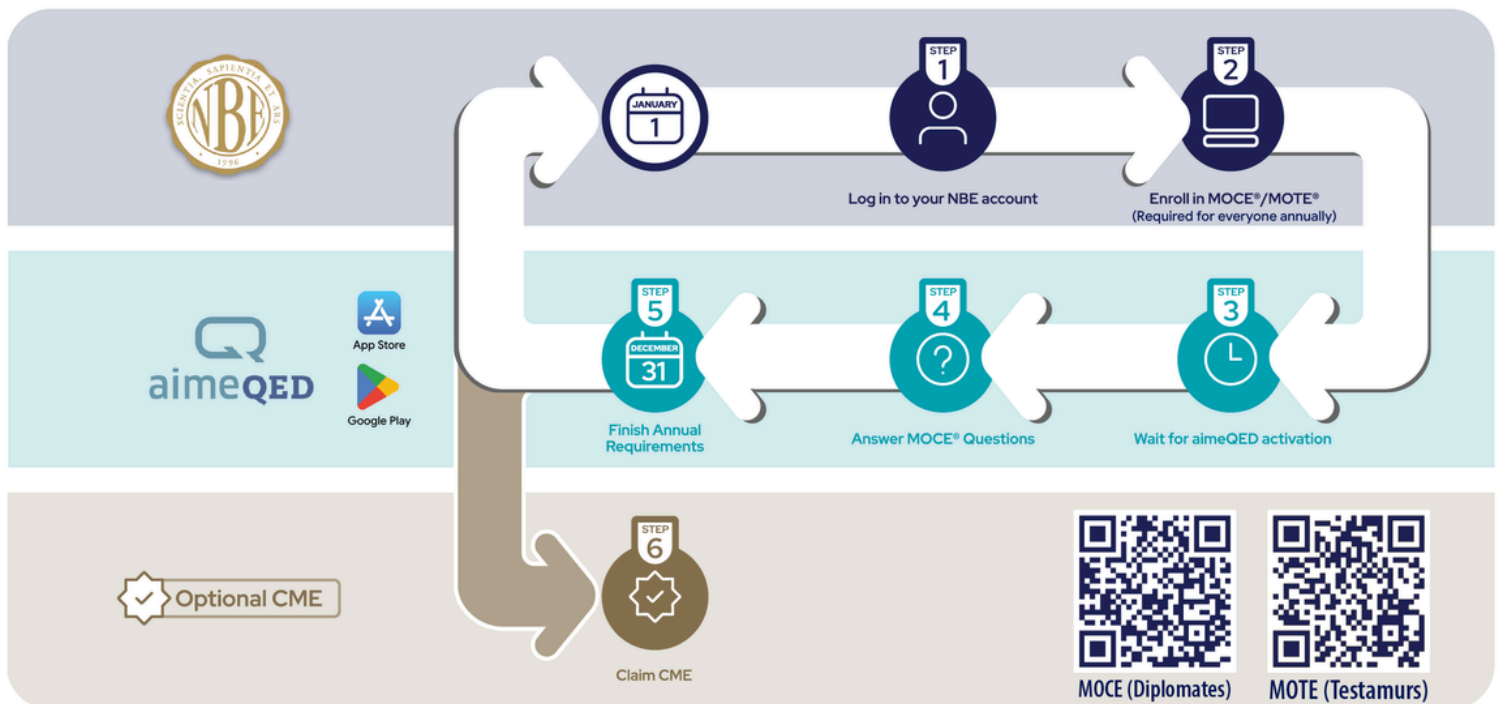
**Enrollment for 2026 NBE's MOCE®/MOTE®** is now open. Refer to the image below for all the steps. Before gaining access to questions, you must first enroll through your [NBE account](#), even if you participated last year.

**A Quick Reminder of the MOCE Structure:**

- 12 questions are released per quarter (48 total/year).
- You can answer the previous quarter’s questions any time before year-end.
- You can complete a maximum of 12 questions per day.
- You have the entire year to complete all 48 questions.



[Click here](#) to view MOCE webinar/demo recording



Download or view larger [MOCE/MOTE step-by-step overview](#)

# NBE Volunteer Spotlight

Sara Nikravan, MD, FASE, FCCM



## 2026 Exams

Register by May 7th

ASCeXAM®

July 14, 2026

Advanced PTEeXAM®

July 21, 2026

Basic PTEeXAM®

July 21, 2026

*This Echo Examiner's NBE Volunteer Spotlight is on Sara Nikravan, MD, FASE, FCCM, a member of the CCEeXAM® Writing and Certification Committees. In her words, she shares what it means to give back to her profession through volunteering with NBE.*

"I became an NBE volunteer in November 2024 because I deeply respect the NBE's mission and its commitment to rigor, quality, and meaningful standards in echocardiography. As an educator, I value the challenge of assessing competency in a way that ultimately protects patients and supports clinicians. I especially enjoy the multidisciplinary collaboration and the opportunity to give back through my work on the CCEeXAM® Writing and Certification Committees.

I've taken a somewhat non-linear path in medicine, beginning with early interests in both theater and science before ultimately pursuing a career in critical care, anesthesiology, and echocardiography. My training spans Emergency Medicine, Anesthesiology, Critical Care, and Cardiothoracic Anesthesiology, with formative experiences at Washington University in St. Louis and Stanford University. Along the way, I developed a deep passion for ultrasound and echocardiography, supported by exceptional mentors who shaped my growth as both a clinician and educator. Today, I practice at the University of Washington as a cardiothoracic anesthesiologist and intensivist, serve as Vice Chair of Education, and remain actively involved in perioperative TEE and critical care echocardiography.

Outside of work, I live in Seattle with my husband and our three children, enjoy playing classical flute, and spend as much time as possible skiing in the mountains with my family." – Sara Nikravan, MD, FASE, FCCM

# NBE ON THE MOVE!



ATTENDING ONE OF THESE ANNUAL MEETINGS OR SCIENTIFIC SESSIONS? CLICK LINKS FOR MORE INFO & BE SURE TO VISIT THE NBE BOOTH!

SOCIETY OF CARDIOVASCULAR ANESTHESIOLOGISTS (SCA)  
ANNUAL MEETING  
NASHVILLE, TN, APRIL 23-26, 2026

AMERICAN SOCIETY OF ECHOCARDIOGRAPHY (ASE), ANNUAL  
SCIENTIFIC SESSIONS  
AURORA, CO, JUNE 26-28, 2026

CHEST ANNUAL MEETING  
PHOENIX, AZ, OCTOBER 18-21

EUROPEAN SOCIETY OF ECHOCARDIOGRAPHY  
(EACVI) CONGRESS  
MILAN, ITALY, DECEMBER 3-5, 2026



## 2025-2027 Executive Committee

### President

Allan L. Klein, MD

### President-Elect

Jonathan R. Lindner, MD

### Secretary/Treasurer

Wanda M. Popescu, MD

### Past President

Christopher A. Troianos, MD

### Executive Director

Sherry Barrow, MPA

## 2025-2027 Board of Directors

Mario Garcia, MD

Arthur Labovitz, MD

Stephen Little, MD

Alina Nicoara, MD

Ellen Richter, MD

Thomas Ryan, MD

Stanton Shernan, MD

Linda Shore-Lesserson, MD

Nikolaos Skubas, MD

James Thomas, MD

Neil Weissman, MD

## NBE Past Presidents

Arthur Weyman, MD, 1996-2003\*

Arthur Labovitz, MD, 2003-2005

Daniel Thys, MD, 2005-2007

Edward Geiser, MD, 2007-2009\*

Jack Shanewise, MD, 2009-2011

Harry Rakowski, MD, 2011-2013

Stanton Shernan, MD, 2013-2015

Linda Gillam, MD, 2015-2017

John Allyn, MD, 2017-2019

Marcus Stoddard, MD, 2019-2021

Christopher A. Troianos, MD, 2021-2023

Roberto Lang, MD, 2023-2025\*

\*deceased



NATIONAL BOARD OF  
ECHOCARDIOGRAPHY

web - [echoboards.org](http://echoboards.org)  
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Christine Johnson