

POP

Month 2026

**Community Celebration
TOOLKIT**



Community Celebration TOOLKIT

Organized by the American Board for Certification in Orthotics, Prosthetics & Pedorthics (ABC), POP Month is a month-long celebration of the prosthetic, orthotic and pedorthic (POP) profession. It recognizes, motivates and inspires professionals across the country.

There are more than 15,000 POP professionals across the United States making a profound difference for patients and families. Whether a technician, patient care provider, student, resident, teacher, researcher or advocate, each individual's role is vital to the profession's future and we salute them!

POP Month recognizes and celebrates these significant contributions while inspiring the current and future workforce.

Organizations across the country are planning events—opening their doors throughout March to celebrate the work of their POP teams, highlight partnerships with patients and showcase how fulfilling a career in POP can be.

These events could include remarks from POP professionals and patients, a community Q&A, a tour and/or opportunities for one-on-one conversations and networking. We hope you will join the celebration by opening *your* doors. To that end, we have developed event ideas and sample materials to help you get the ball rolling.

Materials in this Toolkit to Help You Throw a POP Month Community Open House:

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If you have any questions, reach out to Info@WhatIsPOP.org. Additional POP Month materials can be found on popmonth.org.



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Sample Event Invitation

Two to three weeks before your event, send an email invitation to the groups/schools/individuals you'd like to attend. A sample can be found below.

New message

To:

Subject line: You're Invited: Celebrating Relationships Improving Mobility

Every day more than 15,000 professionals across the United States make a profound difference for patients and families by making mobility possible. March 2026 is a month-long celebration of their work. We invite you to learn about it directly from our motivating and inspiring prosthetic, orthotic and pedorthic (POP) professionals during POP Month.

Learn and be inspired by the professionals who make devices and serve patients as well as students, teachers, researchers and advocates—all of whom are vital to the profession's future.

On [March XX], [Practice/Clinic/Site/School] invites you to an open house to learn more about the POP profession. We look forward to connecting with you to celebrate the work, the patients we serve, and to share what drew us to POP and why we love it.

Date: [March XX]
Time: [XX:XX am/pm]
Location: [Location name and address]
Details: [Add any highlights here (i.e. raffles, activities, speakers, etc.)]
Click [here](#) to RSVP.

For more information, please contact: [Name], [Email], [Phone Number]
Click [here](#) to learn more about us. To learn more about POP Month, visit popmonth.org.

Send



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Open House Best Practices

Preparing for the Event

Staffing

Identify employees, volunteers, patients and professionals who are comfortable sharing their stories in conversations with attendees.

Timing

To maximize attendance, consider hosting your open house after school and work hours. A 4:00 pm – 7:00 pm time frame is ideal. For student clubs/groups that typically meet after school, your event could serve as a great opportunity for an “offsite” meeting.

Invitations

Review your prospective email lists and other distribution lists to share an invite that details what the event is about, date and time, and RSVP information. Consider using a Google Form to easily track RSVPs and include a designated staff contact for questions.

Promotion

Promote the event via your organization’s website, social media, email newsletters, traditional mail, local newspapers and/or through partner organizations. Many local news websites accept events for their community calendar for little or no cost. Schools and affiliated STEM clubs, academic societies, etc. may also be interested in promoting the event to members at no cost.

Permission

Ask staff and attendees to [sign release forms](#), as well as any organization-specific forms or protocols. Be careful to exclude staff and attendees who prefer not to be photographed/videotaped from any materials shared with WhatIsPOP or the public when recapping the open house. For attendees under 18, please send the form ahead of the event so parents and guardians can give permission.



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Materials & Activities to Consider

POP videos

Consider showing this [video of an inspiring POP professional](#) as part of your opening remarks or share some of your own POP stories.

Banner

Display an open house banner and/or decorations outside of your practice/clinic/site/school on the day of the event.

Giveaways

If possible, have some branded items that attendees can take with them (pens, water bottles, bags, notebooks, etc.) as a token of appreciation.

Business cards

Have staff hand out business cards so attendees can follow up directly if they have additional questions or are interested in shadow opportunities.

Activities

Coordinate a few games, raffles or hands-on activities to help generate excitement and engagement among attendees.

Capture interest

Bring a sign-up sheet, computer or tablet to capture contact info for those interested in learning more about the POP profession, exploring shadow opportunities, etc.



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After the Event

Follow-up

Follow-up with attendees after the open house by sending a “thank you” note to the attendees who RSVP’d and share links to resources, contact information and any relevant information specific to your practice, clinic, site or school.

Amplify on social media

Share the event’s success on organizational social media pages. Don’t forget to use #POPmonth2026 and tag the WhatsPOP and ABC accounts.

Share your experience

Upload photos, event reflections and consent forms using this [form](#).



Community Celebration TOOLKIT

Suggested Event To Dos & Timeline

Three Weeks Before Event

- ✓ Identify the day, time and areas of facility that will be used
- ✓ Place holds on facility space, if needed
- ✓ Identify target attendees and develop invitation
- ✓ Identify employees, volunteers, patients, providers and/or students to participate and select speakers, if applicable
- ✓ Identify and arrange for event set-up, including things like tables, chairs, orthotic and prosthetic devices for display, A/V equipment, giveaways, etc.

Two Weeks Before Event

- ✓ Begin agenda/activity preparation, as appropriate
- ✓ Solidify event set-up and logistics
- ✓ Prepare sign-in sheets for event attendees
- ✓ Begin crowd-building efforts
- ✓ Distribute invite and post about event on social media

One Week Before Event

- ✓ Continue crowd-building efforts via emails, social media posts and/or phone calls
- ✓ Send confirmation email to all registrants
- ✓ Hold meeting (virtual or in-person) to discuss agenda and logistics with event team

Day of Event

- ✓ Set up registration, tables, chairs, activities and materials
- ✓ Check A/V and technology, if necessary
- ✓ Obtain [signed release forms](#) from staff and attendees and take photos!

Post-Event

- ✓ Follow up with open house attendees
- ✓ Share photos on website and social media feeds, including #POPmonth2026
- ✓ Upload photos, event reflections and consent forms using [this form](#).



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Event Ideas

There are many ways to celebrate your team during POP Month while also showcasing the profession and every organization's approach will be unique. Here are a few starter ideas for how you could format your open house for the community:

Set-Up Networking Stations

Designate several employees/staff members/students to speak with attendees. Consider designating stations or tables by specific career paths/opportunities for attendees to rotate through.

Show Off Your Space

Every 30 minutes or so, gather groups of staff and attendees for a brief tour of your facility, if applicable.

Share Your Space

Encourage your team/students to share their POP stories with attendees. Some prompts or conversation starters could include:

- My POP story began with...
- One POP patient I'll never forget is...
- My POP mentor inspired me by...
- I'm excited about the future of POP because...



Community Celebration TOOLKIT

How to Share Event Photos on Social Media

Use the templates below to curate celebratory posts from your event on social media. Please use #POPmonth2026 and tag the WhatIsPOP and ABC accounts in your posts.

LinkedIn/Facebook



During #POPmonth2026, [Organization] opened its doors to the community to celebrate our hardworking team of prosthetic, orthotic and pedorthic (POP) professionals. Attendees toured the facility, learned why POP is such an interesting career and how [Organization] helps community members regain mobility. Check out photos from our open house.

Follow @What Is POP & @American Board for Certification in Orthotics, Prosthetics & Pedorthics, Inc. to join the celebrations and visit popmonth.org to learn more.

[PHOTOS]

Instagram



POP professionals at [Organization] make a significant difference in the lives of their patients, patients' families and colleagues. That's why we're so proud to celebrate their accomplishments every day, especially during #POPmonth2026 in March (organized by @abc.opp). Check out photos from our open house and learn more at popmonth.org.

[PHOTOS]



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For all posts, use #POPmonth2026 and tag the WhatIsPOP and ABC accounts:



Instagram: [@what.is.pop](https://www.instagram.com/what.is.pop) / [@abc.opp](https://www.instagram.com/abc.opp)



TikTok: [@whatispop](https://www.tiktok.com/@whatispop)



Facebook: [@POPCareers](https://www.facebook.com/POPCareers) / [@ABCopp](https://www.facebook.com/ABCopp)



LinkedIn: [What Is POP](https://www.linkedin.com/company/what-is-pop) / [American Board for Certification in Orthotics, Prosthetics & Pedorthics, Inc.](https://www.linkedin.com/company/american-board-for-certification-in-orthotics-prosthetics-and-pedorthics-inc)



YouTube: [What Is POP](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC...) / [American Board for Certification](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC...)