

NEWS RELEASE (09/23/2014)

For immediate release

For more information, contact:
info@nasbla.org

ANSI accredits NASBLA as Standards Developer

LEXINGTON, Ky. (Sept. 23, 2014) – The National Association of State Boating Law Administrators (NASBLA) has been accredited by the [American National Standards Institute](#) (ANSI) as a Standards Developer under its approved operating procedures for documenting consensus on boating education and training proposed American National Standards, effective September 19, 2014. NASBLA's scope of activity for American National Standards development focuses on knowledge and competencies for the recreational boater and boating professionals working within or on behalf of the recreational boating community in North America.

ANSI accreditation of standards developing organizations (SDOs) is intended to help make standards development in the U.S. an equitable and open process that serves both industry and the public good. SDOs must demonstrate that they meet a set of procedural criteria for openness, balance, due process, and consensus in standards development – ANSI's *Essential Requirements* (www.ansi.org/essentialrequirements). Once approved, an ANSI-Accredited Standards Developer may then submit evidence of consensus in support of a standard's approval as an American National Standard (ANS) to ANSI, based on specific due process requirements regarding the development. ANSI's SDO accreditation and ANS approval processes work in tandem to safeguard the value of the ANS designation, and ANSI's impartial audits and appeals processes support the integrity of this system.

To learn more about the value of the ANS process, visit www.ansi.org/ansvalue. To learn about the steps in the ANS process, visit www.ansi.org/anskeysteps.

For additional information on NASBLA's ANS program, please contact NASBLA Education Director Pamela Dillon at pam@nasbla.org.

About ANSI

ANSI is a private nonprofit organization whose mission is to enhance U.S. global competitiveness and the American quality of life by promoting, facilitating and safeguarding the integrity of the voluntary standardization and conformity assessment system. ANSI oversees the development and use of thousands of standards and guidelines by accrediting the procedures of standards developers and approving their documents as American National Standards. To date, there are more than 11,000 American National Standards, comprising the work of thousands of experts from hundreds of standards developing organizations representing every industry sector.

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Representing the diverse interests of more than 125,000 companies and organizations and 3.5 million professionals, ANSI provides a neutral forum for collaboration between the private and public sectors. The Institute is the official U.S. representative to the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) and, via the U.S. National Committee, the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC), and is a U.S. representative to the International Accreditation Forum (IAF).

About NASBLA

The National Association of State Boating Law Administrators is a national nonprofit organization that works to develop public policy for recreational boating safety. NASBLA represents the recreational boating authorities of all 50 states and the U.S. territories. NASBLA offers a variety of resources, including training, model acts, education standards and publications. Through a national network of thousands of professional educators, law enforcement officers and volunteers, the organization affects the lives of over 76 million American boaters. To learn more about how NASBLA continues to make the waterways safe, secure and enjoyable, visit <http://www.nasbla.org>.

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