

BRAYLAN WENZEL

Certified Prosthetist-Orthotist



Braylan discovered her passion for Prosthetic Care while rehabbing from a major ankle injury alongside an amputee patient learning to walk for the first time. She knew right away that the combination of hands-on design and patient care was the perfect fit for her. That was in 2012, and she's never looked back. We're lucky to have her. In addition to being a Certified Prosthetist-Orthotist, she's also our resident CSO (Chief Sarcasm Officer).

What do you find most rewarding about your work?

My first patient in the field has always been my greatest inspiration. As a young resident, I was told my first patient would be "an easy one, he's 92, he will be a low functional level, he will only use his prosthesis for transfers." After speaking to the patient, I had much bigger goals. Today, my now-94-year-old below knee amputee walks everywhere with a single cane. He gets up every morning, puts his prosthesis on independently and tells the world to try and stop him. His daughter jokingly asks me to "make it harder, to slow him down." My hope for all my patients is that someone is trying to "slow them down!"

What's the most stressful part?

The paperwork and the notes! I like to compare it to a black hole: constantly pulling me in and never ending.

How does your work make a difference?

Being able to restore mobility. By being able to restore mobility, patients can regain independence in their lives. After being off my feet for a year with my ankle injury, I understand the frustrations of relying on others.

How do you unwind?

I unwind through activity. Whether it's a long run on the beach with the pups or a game of pickleball. I love to move, so if it's 20 degrees or 100 degrees, after work you will most likely find me outside.

Who has been the biggest influence in your life?

Although there are many influences in my life, my dad has always been the greatest. He is a man of very few words but a whole lot of action. He is one of the hardest working people I have met.

What's the vacation you want to take but haven't?

I have big plans for a trip to Utah, to hit park city mountain. I grew up skiing and would love to see what the west has to offer.