



American Board of Psychiatry and Neurology, Inc.

A Member Board of the American Board of Medical Specialties (ABMS)

Initial Certification FAQs

Transcript:

Hello. In this video, and in the next one, I'm going to try to answer some commonly asked questions that we get about certification. In this video, in particular, I will focus on questions about initial certification. So, we often get asked, how do I apply for an examination, and by when? So, the applications are available in your physician portal account in the examination section of the homepage.

You can see links to the portal account. And if you don't have an account, it's easy to create one when you're in your portal account and logged in, you'll see an orange available applications button, and from there you can access and apply for examinations. The overall schedule for application availability and the application deadlines can be found on the main ABPN website under Quick Links, and you can find that easily as well.

And the applications themselves will state the date that they become available for the next exam administration. We also get asked, well, I've applied for an examination. When will I get scheduling instructions? So, if you have an approved application for an examination, you should expect scheduling instructions to be emailed to the email address that we have on file two months prior to the first date of that exam.

If your application is on hold pending additional requirements or waiting for your medical license, then if it's already within that two-month window and then you do complete your application, you can expect to receive instructions within 48 hours after your application is approved. We get questions asking about board eligibility, so first I want to be clear that the ABPN does not issue formal statements stating that an individual is formally board eligible, but there are clear board eligibility requirements, including a time window after the completion of training, during which we're eligible to sit for an examination in that field, and that information is also available on our website.

For people who are outside that window of time but do wish to be able to take one of our examinations, there are ways to kind of regain eligibility, and we also describe that on our website. And lastly, for this video, we get questions about, well, when does my board certification expire? I look at my certificate.

I don't see an expiration date. Well, since 2012, all of our certifications and all of our specialties and subspecialties have been time limited and have been part of the continuing certification program. Continuing certification program means that we need to meet ongoing requirements in order to maintain our certification, which is why there's not an expiration date for any of us that have been certified or recertified since 2012.

How do we maintain our certification? What do we need to do to maintain continuing certification? Well, that will segue very nicely into the FAQs from the next video. So, thanks very much for watching and please stay tuned.