



American Board of Psychiatry and Neurology, Inc.

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

ABPN Quarterly Update for Diplomates

August 12, 2024

August 2024 Quarterly Update Topics

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Reminder: Article Exam Count for ABCC

For those in the Article-Based Continuing Certification (ABCC) pathway, please use the [Physician Portal](#) to verify your total number of completed article exams, because the Portal will also include older Pilot article exams as applicable. Oasis, the article exam platform, will not show older Pilot article exams completed from 2019 – 2021.

2024 Deadlines for Continuing Certification (CC)



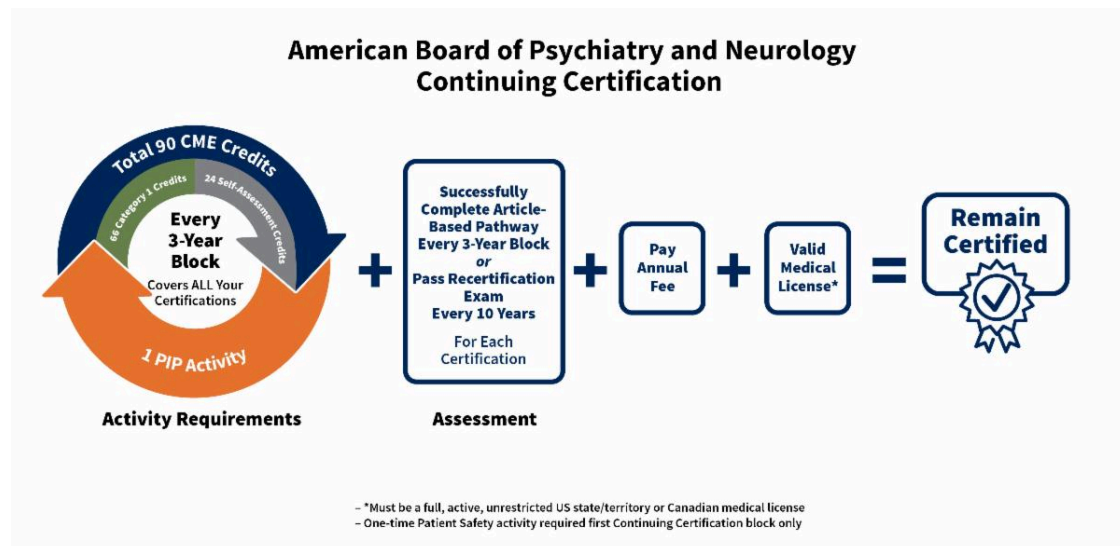
All Continuing Certification (CC) Program requirements are represented in the Physician Portal in ongoing three-year blocks based on your year of board certification/recertification. Your personalized progress in CME, Self-Assessment-CME, Performance in Practice (PIP) modules, and article exams can be viewed in your [Physician Portal](#).

Don't delay finishing article exams. We encourage diplomates to plan ahead and reserve enough time to complete all article exams. Diplomates with active CC certificates in the 2022-2024 three-year block need to successfully complete article exams by **December 15, 2024**, to have them count in lieu of your next scheduled recertification examination. *This deadline will not be extended.* Diplomates with either activities or assessments due at the end of 2024 have received several email reminders since February directing them to their Physician Portal to see what requirements remain.

If you do not successfully complete the article exams by the due date in your Physician Portal, or if you are enrolled in the exam pathway rather than the article (ABCC) pathway, you will need to pass the traditional CC/recertification exam by your exam due date shown in your Physician Portal in order to maintain certification.

For those who successfully participate in ABCC from 2022-2024, the ABPN will waive 16 out of the 24 Self-Assessment (SA) CME credits for the current 3-year block at the end of 2024; this waiver is not yet visible in your Portal but will be applied to your progress at the end of this year. For questions about CC program requirements, email questions@abpn.org or call 847-229-6512.

Board certification status is contingent on meeting all CC requirements, which are largely grouped into three-year CC cycles, as outlined in the [graphic](#) below.



ABCC article exam sharing policy

While diplomates are welcome to discuss articles from the ABCC pathway in a journal club or similar format, *discussing the questions and answers of an exam is strictly prohibited* by ABPN policies. Diplomates are required to complete exams independently. The ABPN prohibits consulting other people on the content of exam questions, sharing the questions or their

answers, or discussing the questions in a group setting. This prohibition also precludes using 'answer keys' prepared by others or using artificial intelligence to answer the questions. All of these approaches would constitute [irregular behavior](#) (i.e., cheating) and would accordingly be subject to action by the ABPN. Before taking each article exam, diplomates must attest that they have not shared or discussed the questions or answers with others.

ABPN Spotlight On...

The ABPN's Spotlight On showcases various ABPN stakeholders and provides a personal look at directors, committee members, and other diplomates. You'll get to learn more about the people who help the ABPN carry out its mission.

In the latest [Spotlight On](#), the ABPN talks with Joseph Sirven MD, and Lisa Fortuna, MD, who each volunteer their time to serve on ABPN test development committees. Some highlights from the Spotlight On include:

Joseph Sirven, MD, is Professor of Neurology and Chair Emeritus of the Department of Neurology, Mayo Clinic, Phoenix, AZ.



What do you enjoy the most about serving on an ABPN committee?

I love working with other neurologists in the field to help figure out what is safe with regards to the practice of clinical neurology. Read [Dr. Sirven's full Spotlight On here](#).

Lisa Fortuna, MD, is Professor and Chair of Psychiatry and Neurosciences, University of California, Riverside School of Medicine, Riverside, CA.



What do you hope to accomplish while serving on the ABPN committee?

My goal is to contribute to an article-based CC process for psychiatrists that helps advance their knowledge and provision of high-quality care in an equitable and inclusive manner. Read [Dr. Fortuna's full Spotlight On here](#).

Public Advisory Forum Report

The ABPN 2024 Public Advisory Forum, held in April at ABPN headquarters, focused on receiving input from several public constituencies, including patient/family advocacy organizations, on how the ABPN can better serve patients, families, and the public in keeping with its mission. Speaker presentations and summaries of small group discussions are available in the recently published [Public Advisory Forum Report](#).

August Deadlines for 2025-26 Grant Award Applications

[Application deadlines](#) for the 2025-2026 ABPN Faculty Innovation in Education Award and the 2025-2026 ABPN Dorthea Juul, PhD, Education Research Award are Tuesday, August 20, 2024.

The ABPN has established these awards to support the development of academic leaders in psychiatry and neurology.

The ABPN Faculty Innovation in Education Award is intended to support the development of innovative education and/or evaluation projects that promote effective residency/fellowship training or lifelong learning of practicing psychiatrists and neurologists.

The ABPN Dorthea Juul, PhD, Education Research Award supports research projects that deepen our understanding of the development, maintenance, and assessment of competence in psychiatry and neurology.

Get Questions Answered at Fall Professional Meetings

ABPN staff will be attending the following meetings and will be available to assist you with any certification questions:

[American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry Annual Meeting](#) on October 14-19, 2024, in Seattle

[Neurocritical Care Society Annual Meeting](#) on October 14-17, 2024, in San Diego

[American Academy of Psychiatry and the Law Annual Meeting](#) on October 24- 27, 2024, in Vancouver, BC

[Child Neurology Society Annual Meeting](#) on November 11-14, 2024, in San Diego

[American Academy of Addiction Psychiatry Annual Meeting](#) on November 14-17, 2024, in Naples, FL

2025 Exam Schedule Posted

The ABPN certification and continuing certification [examination schedule](#) for 2025 is now posted on the ABPN website. ABPN offers both Spring and Fall exam dates for select CC recertification exams to give diplomates more choices within a given year. Exam fees in 2025 will again remain unchanged, although inflationary pressures make it likely that fees may need to be increased in a future year.

ABMS Review Paper Highlights Value of Continuing Certification

The American Board of Medical Specialties recently released a review of ABMS member board continuing certification programs, which includes an overview of studies examining their value: "[A Narrative Review of the Development and Outcomes of ABMS Member Board Continuing Certification Programs, 2000-2024](#)." This narrative is available on the [ABMS website](#) along with other materials; together, they summarize the substantial evidence that ABMS member board certification is associated with improved patient safety and other patient outcomes, lower health care costs, and lower risk of physician disciplinary actions.

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