



American Board of Psychiatry and Neurology, Inc.

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

ABPN multidisciplinary subspecialty policy change

Effective July 2019, those American Board of Psychiatry and Neurology, Inc. (ABPN) diplomates currently certified in a multidisciplinary subspecialty administered by an ABMS member board **other than** the ABPN now have the **option** of following the lead of the administering ABMS member board regarding their primary certification requirements.

Under this new policy, ABPN diplomates in the following multidisciplinary subspecialties only, **may** follow the administrative board's policies concerning maintaining or not maintaining their primary certification. Please consult the appropriate website for policy information:

- Pain Medicine: [American Board of Anesthesiology](#)
- Sleep Medicine: [American Board of Internal Medicine](#)

ABPN diplomates must continue to satisfy all ABPN MOC/Continuing Certification requirements (Parts I-IV) to maintain subspecialty certification.

Under this policy, requirements for diplomates who hold ABPN-administered subspecialties will not change. Child and Adolescent Psychiatry is the only ABPN-administered subspecialty which does not require maintenance of primary certification. Please refer to requirements tables below.

Diplomates who wish to withdraw from 2019 Psychiatry, Neurology, or Child Neurology MOC examination should notify the Board in writing by Monday, August 5, 2019. All requests should include the full name, date of birth and last 4 digits of the diplomate's social security number and can be sent to questions@abpn.org. Once the Board receives the diplomate's request, their application will be withdrawn and the application for the subspecialty exam will be enabled in the diplomate's [ABPN Physician Portal account](#).

Please review, sign and date the [Intent to Drop Primary Certification Attestation](#), which includes important details and implications of changing your primary certification.

The ABPN encourages diplomates to investigate and carefully review the policies of various external stakeholders (including but not limited to the state licensing board, medical staff, and insurance panels) and any contracts that he/she may be a party to in an effort to ensure that dropping primary ABPN certification will not have a negative impact on the diplomate, his/her practice, or these other entities.

For more information, please contact us at questions@abpn.org.

Primary Certification Requirements for Subspecialties

Subspecialty	Administrative Board	Must Maintain Primary Certification?
Brain Injury	ABPMR	Yes
Pain Medicine	ABA	No
Sleep Medicine	ABIM	No

Subspecialty	Administrative Board	Must Maintain Primary Certification?
Addiction Psychiatry	ABPN	Yes
Child and Adolescent Psychiatry	ABPN	No
Clinical Neurophysiology	ABPN	Yes
Consultation-Liaison Psychiatry	ABPN	Yes
Epilepsy	ABPN	Yes
Forensic Psychiatry	ABPN	Yes
Geriatric Psychiatry	ABPN	Yes
Neurocritical Care	ABPN	Yes
Neurodevelopmental Disabilities	ABPN	Yes
Neuromuscular Medicine	ABPN	Yes
Vascular Neurology	ABPN	Yes

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