



American Board of Psychiatry and Neurology, Inc.

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

Board Eligibility

The ABPN recognizes a finite amount of time to sit for a board certification examination; however, does not issue statements concerning “Board Eligibility.” The Board informs an applicant of admissibility to examination only when the applicant has an active, approved application on file in the Board office.

- Effective January 1, 2012, ABPN will require a physician to become Board certified within seven years following successful completion of ACGME-accredited or ABPN approved residency training in their primary specialty or ACGME-accredited subspecialty.
- Graduates can take the ABPN Certification Examination as many times as allowed during the seven-year period.
- For example, individuals who completed an accredited residency program prior to January 1, 2012 had until January 1, 2019 to become board certified.
- Individuals who do not become certified during the 7-year period (or before January 1, 2019 for those who completed residency training before January 1, 2012) will be required to (1) repeat the required clinical skills evaluations; and (2) complete one block of Continuing Certification (CC)/MOC requirements [(74 CME credits, 16 self-assessment CME credits, and 1 PIP activity (includes a clinical module or feedback module))] in order to apply and be credentialed to take the ABPN Certification Examination. CC/MOC block requirements are valid for three years and must be completed at the time of the application.
- Diplomates must obtain initial certification in an ABPN primary specialty prior to obtaining subspecialty certification. Physicians who do not pass the subspecialty certification examination within seven years of graduating from an ACGME-accredited subspecialty program will be required to complete one block of CC/MOC activities (74 CME credits, 16 self-assessment CME credits, and one PIP activity) in order to apply and be credentialed to take an ABPN subspecialty certification examination. CC/MOC block requirements are valid for three years and must be completed at the time of the application.