

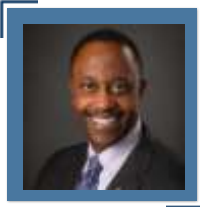
An ABFM Update

The Now and Future of ABFM Board Certification

— SPEAKER

Gary LeRoy

Senior Vice President of Diplomate Experience



Objectives For This Session

- Why ABFM Board Certification?
- Describe what's new in ABFM's current certification program.
- Share recent enhancements to improve your experience.
- Introduce "Certification 2025" - and how the 5-Year Cycle will work.



ABFM Vision

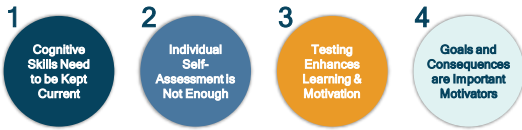
We are all working for the same purpose:
Optimal health and health care for all people
and communities that family physicians
serve.

The Pittsburgh Study:

Conceptual Foundations



What's The Evidence Behind Continuing Certification Exams?



<https://www.theabfm.org/research/evidence-behind-continuing-certification-conceptual-foundations>



The Components of ABFM Board Certification

Each component signifies an important aspect of the commitment you make toward demonstrating the higher standard of board certification.



Continuous Certification Process - Now

Three 3-Year Stages

- Follow ABFM's Professionalism and Licensure Guidelines
- Certification Activities
 - Self-Assessment and Lifelong Learning (CME)
 - Performance Improvement
- Exam Requirement (Every 10 Years)
- Annual Certification Fee



Exam Requirement

Purpose

- Objective assessment of knowledge and practice across wide spectrum of conditions treated by family physicians.



Exam Options

- Longitudinal Assessment
- One-Day Exam

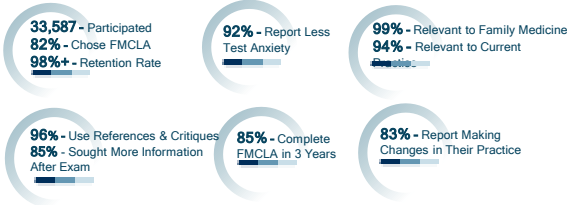


How Does Longitudinal Assessment Work?

| | | | |
|------------------------------------|--|---|--|
| Begin in January of next exam year | Answer 25 questions online per quarter | Complete 300 questions over 3-4 years | Immediate feedback and critiques |
| 5 minutes allowed per question | Estimated scaled score after initial 100 questions | Earn 10 points and 30 CME at completion | If needed, take the one-day exam in year 5 |



Diplomate Feedback Last 5 Years



What are Diplomates Saying about the Longitudinal Assessment?

“ I feel more competent and know what to tune up and how to do that. I am a better physician for doing this assessment. ”

“ I didn't see this as an exam, but more of a learning opportunity. ”

“ This is a huge step forward. It mimics my real-world workflow very well. If I know the answer, I can click immediately. And if I need a quick double-check, I can do that. ”





A Higher Standard

Established by physicians, board certification is the marker of excellence that demonstrates a commitment to professionalism and the highest standard of care.

“There's an incredible level of autonomy in patient and team processes. Board certification demonstrates that physician is committed to a higher standard of care.”

Andree Anderson, MD, MEd, FACP
Board Certified since 2003

Certification Activities

Purpose

- Provide a wide variety of self-assessment and performance improvement activities that help Diplomates continuously self-assess and improve care in practice.

Options

- Self-Assessment and Lifelong Learning (CME)
- Performance Improvement



Self-Assessment Activities

Purpose

- Designed to help identify knowledge gaps by reviewing updated clinical content.

Options

- Knowledge Self-Assessment
- Continuous Knowledge Self-Assessment
- National Journal Club
- Alternative Activities



ABFM National Journal Club

- Convenient access to peer-reviewed articles at no additional charge.
- Articles selected by a national committee of family medicine experts based on
 - Relevancy
 - Methodological rigor
 - Impact on practice
- 80-100 articles available per year. Read as many as you want.
- Answer four questions per article to receive CME and certification points.
- Growing rapidly with 27,000 Diplomates participating.



NJC Feedback

- >95% satisfaction
- User friendly
- Highly relevant
- Indicated intention to change practice



Lifelong Learning - CME

- CME earned for your state medical license board or AAFP applies to ABFM certification.
- Total hours and overall distribution parallels AAFP requirements.
- AAFP members report in your AAFP CME record.
- Non-AAFP members have manual entry option.
- To view your specific CME requirements, please visit your MyABFM Portfolio.



Performance Improvement

Purpose

- Identify an improvement opportunity or a performance gap, implement a change in care delivery, and measure the impact of that change.
 - Credit for quality improvement work you are already doing or have completed
 - Exemption for those who are clinically inactive

Activity Options

- ABFM-Directed
- Self-Directed
- Organizational
- COVID-19
- Health Equity
- Recognition Programs
- **New** Augmented Intelligence



Performance Improvement

Self-Directed Activity: Report Work You're Already Doing

- Complete your application in 20 minutes or less.
- Up to 10 physicians can participate.
- Demonstrate attempted improvement:
 - **Initial** data measurement.
 - Intervention.
 - **Secondary** data measurement.
- Attest to your participation in the effort.





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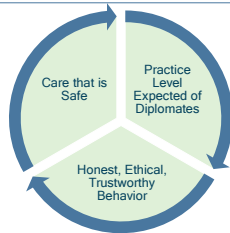
There is an irreplaceable value in setting a higher standard. Board certification demonstrates that a physician is committed to a higher standard of care.

Barbara Messeri MD, MPH, ABDFM
Beverly Hills, CA 2017



Professionalism - 3-Part Framework

Use 3-Part Framework and ABFM Guidelines for Professionalism, Licensure and Personal Conduct.



Losing Certification is Uncommon

- 0.9% of Diplomates reviewed by Professionalism Committee annually
- Only 0.09% lose certification
50% of these are restored
- Most common issues:
 - Prescribing controlled substance
 - Sexual misconduct
 - Personal substance use



2024 ABMS Standards for Continuing Certification

How is ABFM Meeting ABMS Standards?



- Longitudinal assessment as exam option
- Incorporated feedback into self-assessment and exam for learning opportunities
- Integration of activities to reduce burden
- Engage Diplomates in ongoing process improvement

New - Assess Diplomates at an interval no longer than five years to retain each certificate.



Continuous Certification
5-Year Cycle
Beginning in 2025

Flexible.
Convenient.
Certification Your Way.

Why Change?

- To meet the American Board of Medical Specialties' Standards for Continuing Certification of assessing physicians in more frequent intervals
- To help maintain awareness of increasingly rapid medical advances and changes in practice guidelines.
- Simplify the continuous certification process so that is more flexible and convenient for you.

Certification 2025 - The 5-Year Cycle

Beginning in 2025, longitudinal assessment will be at the core: you will never need to take the one-day exam again, unless you want to!

- Existing 10-year commitments will be honored
- Other activities will continue, but with more time to complete (5 years). Choose the activities most relevant to your practice.
- Check your ABFM portfolio to see your schedule is or if you have questions.
- Fees will remain the same in 2025 (and for as long as we can!)



| Continuous Certification Process | CURRENT 3-Year Stages |
|--|-----------------------|
| Points & Activities Complete Self-Assessment & Performance Improvement Activities to Earn Certification Points | 50 Points |
| Continuing Medical Education | 150 CME |
| Professionalism & License Continuously Hold Medical License(s) that Meet ABFM Professionalism Guidelines | ✓ |
| Annual Certification Fee | ✓ |
| Certification Exam Participate in Longitudinal Assessment or Opt for One-Day Exam | — |

| Continuous Certification Process | CURRENT 3-Year Stages | EXAM YEAR 5-Year Cycle |
|--|-----------------------|---|
| Points & Activities Complete Self-Assessment & Performance Improvement Activities to Earn Certification Points | 50 Points | 60 Points |
| Continuing Medical Education | 150 CME | 200 CME |
| Professionalism & License Continuously Hold Medical License(s) that Meet ABFM Professionalism Guidelines | ✓ | ✓ |
| Annual Certification Fee | ✓ | ✓ |
| Certification Exam Participate in Longitudinal Assessment or Opt for One-Day Exam | — | Begin Longitudinal Assessment In Year 1 |

START 5-YEAR CYCLE IN EXAM

| | | |
|---|----------------------------|---|
| Continuous Certification Process | START 5-YEAR CYCLE IN EXAM | EXAM YEAR 5-Year Cycle |
| Points & Activities <small>Complete Self-Assessment & Performance Improvement Activities to Earn Certification Points</small> | | 60 Points |
| Continuing Medical Education | | 200 CME |
| Professionalism & Licensure <small>Continuously Hold Medical License(s) that Meet ABFM Professionalism Guidelines</small> | | ✓ |
| Annual Certification Fee | | ✓ |
| Certification Exam <small>Participate in Longitudinal Assessment or Opt for One-Day Exam</small> | | Begin Longitudinal Assessment In Year 1 |

| | | | |
|---|----------------------------|---|---|
| Continuous Certification Process | START 5-YEAR CYCLE IN EXAM | EXAM YEAR 5-Year Cycle | Earn 60 Certification Points: • Min. 1 Self-Assessment • Min. 1 Performance Improvement • Additional Activities |
| Points & Activities <small>Complete Self-Assessment & Performance Improvement Activities to Earn Certification Points</small> | | 60 Points | |
| Continuing Medical Education | | 200 CME | |
| Professionalism & Licensure <small>Continuously Hold Medical License(s) that Meet ABFM Professionalism Guidelines</small> | | ✓ | |
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| Continuing Medical Education | 200 CME | |
| Professionalism & Licensure Continuously Hold Medical License(s) that Meet ABFM Professionalism Guidelines | ✓ | |
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| Continuous Certification Process | EXAM YEAR 5-Year Cycle | |
| Points & Activities Complete Self-Assessment & Performance Improvement Activities to Earn Certification Points | 60 Points | Meet ABFM Guidelines: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continuously Hold Valid & Unrestricted Medical License(s) |
| Continuing Medical Education | 200 CME | |
| Professionalism & Licensure Continuously Hold Medical License(s) that Meet ABFM Professionalism Guidelines | ✓ | |
| Annual Certification Fee | ✓ | |
| Certification Exam Participate in Longitudinal Assessment or Opt for One-Day Exam | Begin Longitudinal Assessment in Year 1 | |

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| Points & Activities <small>Complete Self-Assessment & Performance Improvement Activities to Earn Certification Points</small> | | 60 Points | |
| Continuing Medical Education | | 200 CME | |
| Professionalism & Licensure <small>Continuously Hold Medical License(s) that Meet ABFM Professionalism Guidelines</small> | | ✓ | |
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| Annual Certification Fee | | ✓ | |
| Certification Exam <small>Participate in Longitudinal Assessment or Opt for One-Day Exam</small> | | Begin Longitudinal Assessment in Year 1 | |

Benefits of the 5-Year Cycle

- Never take the one-day exam to maintain your certification (unless you want to).
 - The option to answer quarterly exam questions (or opt for the traditional, one-day exam).
- More time and flexibility to complete certification activity requirements. Five years versus three years.
- Fifth year off for Diplomates who complete all requirements in four years.
- No changes to annual fees or ABFM Professionalism Guidelines in 2025.



A Higher Standard

Established by physicians, board certification is the marker of excellence that demonstrates a commitment to professionalism and the highest standard of care.



“ABFM Board of Certification stands for the commitment to quality, ethics and highest-quality care for my patients, and exceeds the standard.”

William Thompson, MD
Board Certified since 2008

Cost of Certification

Your Annual \$200 Certification Fee Covers:

- Your exam (with no exam administration fee).
- All ABFM activities including the National Journal Club.
- **One free retake** if your first exam attempt was unsuccessful.

→ ABFM fees have not increased since 2008.



Enhancing ABFM Board Certification

Longitudinal Assessment (exam)

- Earn additional self-assessment and CME credit for completing

Knowledge Self-Assessment (KSA)

- Streamlined platform, more efficient
- Single best answer, easier to move through

Continuous Knowledge Self-Assessment (CKSA)

- Provides short periods of activity on a quarterly basis

National Journal Club (NJC)

- Credit per article supports incremental time investment

Performance Improvement (PI)

- Simply report what you are already doing



MyABFM Portfolio

- Knowledge Self-Assessment (KSA) Platform - updated & modernized
- Certification Planner Tool - plan your certification activities
- Communication Preferences
 - Select email messages you wish to receive
 - Text messaging option
- **Coming Soon**
 - MyABFM Mobile App



Digital Badge - Share Your Certification

- **Now Available!** Digital resources to share your board certification with peers, patients, and the public.
- Digital badge, digital certificate, and DABFM designation.
- Share on social media (LinkedIn, Facebook, etc.).
- Embed in email signature, website, add to mobile wallet.
- More than **24,000** ABFM Diplomates have claimed their digital badge and certificate.
- Claim yours inside your [MyABFM Portfolio](#).



ABFM Public Website - Redesigned

- Updated look and color palette.
- Streamlined navigation.
- New resident resources section.
- Features ABFM Diplomates on home page .
- Increase awareness about board certification.
- Reinforces ABFM Board Certification as a Higher Standard.



Want To Get Involved? ABFM Volunteer Activities

- Certification Focus Groups
- Item Writers
- Share Your Story/Featured Diplomate on Website

Contact ABFM Support Center at

Thank You!
