

# Certification in Addiction Medicine

Applicants must meet each of the following six criteria in order to sit for the ABAM certification examination in 2010:

1. Graduation from a medical school in the United States or Canada approved by the Liaison Committee on Medical Education (LCME), or the Committee of Accreditation of Canadian Medical Schools (CACMS), or from a school of osteopathic medicine approved by the American Osteopathic Association (AOA). If the applicant is a graduate of a medical school outside the United States or Canada, the applicant must have a currently valid standard certificate from the Educational Commission for Foreign Medical Graduates (ECFMG); or have passed the Medical Council of Canada Evaluating Examination (MCCEE).

2. A valid license to practice medicine in the state, territory, commonwealth, or possession of the United States; or in a Province of Canada in which the applicant practices: valid at the time of application and at the time of the examination. A valid medical license is a certificate to practice medicine which is issued by the appropriate agency and which certifies that a physician is allowed to practice medicine within that country, province or state. ABAM considers a medical license to be valid even if there have been stipulations/conditions placed on the license. ABAM does not consider a license to be valid if it has been suspended, revoked, or surrendered.

3. Good standing in the applicant's medical community as evidenced by at least one letter of recommendation by an ABAM or ASAM-Certified Physician.

4. This requirement must be completed by June 30, 2010. Certification by a Member-Board of the American Board of Medical Specialties (ABMS), or certification by the American Osteopathic Association (AOA), or successful completion of a residency training program in any medical specialty.

Residency programs must be accredited by one of the following:

In the United States:

- The Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME);
- The post-doctoral training committee of the American Osteopathic Association (AOA).

In Canada:

- Professional Corporation of Physicians of Quebec;
- College of Family Physicians of Canada;
- Royal College of Physicians & Surgeons of Canada.
- Residency programs accepted by any Member Board of the American Board of Medical Specialties as qualifying to sit for that Member Board's certification examination will be accepted as qualifying to sit for the ABAM Certification Examination.

Outside the United States/Canada: All of the following Members of the Royal College of Physicians:

- United Kingdom (MRCP-UK);
- South Africa (MRCP-SA);
- Ireland (MRCP-I); Australia and New Zealand's Fellow of the Royal Australasian College of Physicians (FRAACP).
- South Africa's Member of the Royal College of Physicians (MRCPSA)
- Ireland's Member of the Royal College of Physicians (MRCPI)
- Residency programs accepted by any Member Board of the American Board of Medical Specialties as qualifying to sit for that Member Board's certification examination will be accepted as qualifying to sit for the ABAM Certification Exam.

5. This requirement must be completed by June 30, 2010. One year's full-time involvement or one full-time equivalent (1 FTE) in the field of alcoholism and other drug dependencies in addition to, and not concurrent with, residency training. One Full time equivalent is equal to at least 1920 hours over the last 10 years in teaching, research, administration, and clinical care of the prevention of as well as treatment of individuals who are at risk for or have a substance use disorder. At least 400 of these hours should have been spent in direct clinical care of patients.

6. 50 hours of Category I Credit toward the AMA Physician Recognition Award. Credits must have pertained to the diagnosis and treatment of persons with alcoholism and other drug dependencies and must have been accrued over the two years immediately prior to the date of the examination. (Canadian or osteopathic equivalent accepted.) The next exam will be December 11, 2010.