On Jan. 1, 2010, the ABA began transitioning from the current subspecialty recertification programs to Maintenance of Certification in Anesthesiology Program for Subspecialties (MOCA-SUBS). MOCA-SUBS allows diplomates who were certified or recertified in a subspecialty after Jan. 1, 2010 to maintain their certification while demonstrating continual professional development and practice improvement. These diplomates are automatically enrolled in MOCA-SUBS after subspecialty certification is awarded. MOCA-SUBS requirements are available on diplomates’ portal accounts on our website at www.theABA.org.

ABA diplomates may choose to maintain only their subspecialty certification; however, we strongly encourage diplomates to also maintain their primary certification. Diplomates who choose to maintain both primary and subspecialty certification will benefit from overlapping program requirements for Part 1: Professionalism and Professional Standing, Part 2: Lifelong Learning and Self-Assessment and Part 4: Improvement in Medical Practice. We are aligning the MOCA and MOCA-SUBS cycles, making it easier for these diplomates to complete all of the program requirements during the same 10-year period. Additional information regarding specific MOCA-SUBS requirements will be sent to diplomates who hold subspecialty certification.

Diplomates whose subspecialty certification expires on or before Dec. 31, 2019, can complete the subspecialty recertification program once more before enrolling in MOCA-SUBS. Diplomates can take a subspecialty recertification examination no sooner than 7 years after their most recent certificate was issued. The last time to register for subspecialty recertification examinations is in 2016.

After 2016, MOCA-SUBS is the only option for ABA diplomates who wish to maintain subspecialty certification. We automatically enroll diplomates in MOCA-SUBS upon their subspecialty certification, subspecialty recertification or maintenance of certification in the subspecialty. The first MOCA-SUBS examinations will be administered in 2017.

Contact us with your Questions
The American Board of Anesthesiology
coms@theABA.org
(866) 999-7501
MOCA-SUBS Detailed Requirements

Part 1: Professionalism & Professional Standing

Hold an active, unrestricted medical license in the United States (US) or Canada. Furthermore, all US and Canadian medical licenses must be unrestricted and unconditional.

**Action Item:** Annually review & update your medical license information on your portal account.

Part 2: Lifelong Learning & Self-Assessment

Continually seek to improve the quality of your clinical practice and patient care through self-directed professional development.

**Your total requirement for MOCA is 250 credits of CME activities.**

- All 250 credits must be Category 1 credits. (ACCME/AMA PRA-approved)
- From 2006 to 2012, no more than 70 credits may be completed in the same calendar year. Effective as of 2013, no more than 60 credits may be completed in the same calendar year.
- At least 90 credits of ABA-approved Self-Assessment CME.
- At least 20 credits of ABA-approved Patient Safety CME.
- Some of the CME credits must be related to each subspecialty certification being maintained.

**Action Item:** Submit your CME activities on your portal account for any activities completed since the day after you were certified.

Part 3: Assessment of Knowledge, Judgment, & Skills

Demonstrate your core knowledge by passing an ABA exam for each certification being maintained. All exams consist of 200 multiple-choice questions.

**Examination prerequisites:**
- Satisfactory Part 1 (medical license)
- At least 125 CME credits for Part 2
- One satisfactory Part 4 activity

**Action Item:** Between Years 7 to 10, pass the MOCA-SUBS Examination.

Part 4: Improvement in Medical Practice

**Case Evaluation:** A four-step quality improvement project to assess your practice and improve the quality of care provided.

**Simulation:** A contextual learning opportunity to assess and improve your practice in areas such as crisis management in a simulation setting at an ASA-endorsed center.

**Attestation:** We will solicit references to verify your clinical activity.

**Action Items:**
- These requirements are the same for diplomates maintaining only subspecialty certification, maintaining both anesthesiology and subspecialty certifications, or maintaining multiple subspecialty certifications.
- Diplomates must complete one Case Evaluation in anesthesiology or the subspecialty.
- Diplomates must complete one Simulation Education Course in anesthesiology or the subspecialty.*

One activity must be completed between Years 1 to 5, and the second between Years 6 to 10. Both activities must be completed in the 10-year cycle.

- Diplomates must complete the Attestation in Year 9.

*Diplomates enrolled in MOCA-SUBS for Hospice and Palliative Medicine or Sleep Medicine are not required to complete a simulation course. These diplomates have the option to complete either two Case Evaluations or one Case Evaluation and one Simulation Education Course, as well as an Attestation.

Contact us with your Questions

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