



THE AMERICAN BOARD OF ANESTHESIOLOGY

Advancing the Highest Standards of the Practice of Anesthesiology

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ANESTHESIOLOGY CRITICAL CARE MEDICINE (ACCM) ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA FOR ABEM DIPLOMATES

Certification in the subspecialty of Anesthesiology Critical Care Medicine (ACCM) is available to American Board of Emergency Medicine (ABEM) diplomates who fulfill the eligibility criteria and pass the ACCM subspecialty examination. ABEM co-sponsors this subspecialty with the American Board of Anesthesiology (ABA).

The ABA is the administrative board for the ACCM subspecialty. The ABA develops and oversees the administration of the subspecialty examination. ABEM diplomates submit applications for certification in ACCM to ABEM. ABEM reviews the applicant's credentials to determine eligibility, reports the results of the examination, and issues certificates to its candidates. All applicants are encouraged to review the FAQs for more details about the application process and eligibility criteria.

GENERAL ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

The general criteria for emergency physicians seeking certification in ACCM are as follows:

- The physician must have successfully completed an Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME)-accredited EM residency program (36 or 48 months in length).
- The physician must be an ABEM diplomate.
- The physician must be meeting the requirements of the ABEM MOC program at the time of application and throughout the certification process.

Additionally, the physician must fulfill the eligibility criteria of the Fellowship Training Pathway.

FELLOWSHIP TRAINING PATHWAY

These criteria pertain to ABEM diplomates who enter ACGME-accredited, ABA-approved, ACCM fellowship programs on or after **July 1, 2014**.

ABEM diplomates must meet all of the following requirements:

- Prior to entering an ACCM fellowship program, and during the ACGME-accredited EM residency, emergency physicians must have completed four months (or 16 weeks) of critical care training.
- Emergency physicians must successfully complete an ACGME-accredited ACCM fellowship program; **and**
- Complete an additional 12 months of ACCM training that have been prospectively approved by the ABA. This additional 12 months of training must occur at the same site as the ACCM fellowship program.

Physicians Starting ACCM Fellowship Training on or after July 1, 2014

ABEM diplomates starting ACCM fellowship training on or after July 1, 2014, for the purpose of seeking subspecialty certification in ACCM, must enter an ACCM fellowship program that includes the ACGME-accredited ACCM fellowship program and an additional 12 months of ACCM training. The program and its training design must have the **prospective approval** of the ABA prior to the entry of the emergency physician into that program. The program director must seek this approval from the ABA. Training completed in any program that does not have the prior approval of the ABA will not fulfill the training requirement.

VERIFICATION OF ACCM TRAINING, CCM PRACTICES, AND CLINICAL COMPETENCE

ABEM will seek independent verification of the physician's successful completion of the ACCM fellowship program from the ACCM fellowship program director.

ABEM will also seek independent verification of the ACCM practice a physician submits to fulfill the CCM practice requirement and the physician's clinical competence in CCM. ABEM will accept this verification from the program director of the ACGME-accredited CCM fellowship program affiliated with the hospital where the physician spends the majority of CCM clinical time. If an ACGME-accredited CCM fellowship is not present at this hospital, ABEM will seek verification by the Chief of Critical Care Medicine in the hospital where the physician spends the majority of CCM clinical time. Should the physician who is applying be the Chief of Critical Care, verification will be accepted from the Chief of Staff, Vice-President of Medical Affairs, or someone in a similar position.

CERTIFICATION

ABEM diplomates who have met the ACCM eligibility criteria and who pass the ACCM subspecialty examination are recognized as being certified in the subspecialty of Anesthesiology Critical Care Medicine. Certification is for a period of ten years.

Certificates are dated from the date of the examination results letter and expire December 31, ten years thereafter. The diplomate's emergency medicine certification must be valid in order for the subspecialty certification to remain valid.