



THE AMERICAN BOARD OF  
ANESTHESIOLOGY

A photograph of two anesthesiologists in an operating room. They are wearing blue scrubs, white surgical masks, and blue bouffant caps. The anesthesiologist on the left is pointing towards the left side of the frame. The background shows surgical lights and medical equipment.

**Congratulations, you are  
now board certified!**

# Information for Newly Certified Physicians



## THE AMERICAN MEDICAL ASSOCIATION (AMA) PHYSICIAN'S RECOGNITION AWARD PROGRAM

By completing the requirements for certification, you are eligible for either a three-year standard AMA PRA certificate or 60 AMA PRA Category 1 credits issued directly by the AMA. Information on the AMA PRA certificate and direct credit is available on the AMA website at [ama-assn.org](http://ama-assn.org).

All AMA PRA Category 1 CME can be applied to the MOCA cycle. However, please note previously existing credits, including those earned for gaining certification, do not apply toward your MOCA requirements. Your MOCA cycle begins the day after you were certified. To review your MOCA requirements, log in to your ABA GO portal account. For assistance, please contact our physician engagement team at [\(866\) 999-7501](tel:8669997501).



## NAME, ADDRESS AND EMAIL CHANGES

Please keep us informed of any changes to your name, email or mailing address. This will ensure that the directories maintained by the ABA and the American Board of Medical Specialties (ABMS) are current and will allow interested parties (e.g., patients, hospitals and licensing agencies) to verify your status as a board-certified anesthesiologist. Any changes to your name must be submitted with official documentation (e.g., marriage certificate, driver's license, court documents) stating exactly how the name should appear in the ABA database to us at [coms@theaba.org](mailto:coms@theaba.org) or faxed at [\(866\) 999-7503](tel:8669997503). You may update all other information, including your mailing address, email address and other contact information, in your [ABA GO portal](#) account.



## RESTRICTIONS ON MEDICAL LICENSES

You have the affirmative obligation to advise us of any and all restrictions placed on any of your medical licenses and to provide complete information concerning such restrictions within 60 days after their imposition. Such information shall include, but not be limited to, the identity of the State Medical Board imposing the restriction as well as the restriction's duration, basis and specific terms and conditions. Board-certified anesthesiologists discovered not to have made disclosure may be subject to sanctions on their diplomate status.

## Displaying Your Diplomate Status

### WHAT IS D.ABA?

D.ABA stands for Diplomate of the American Board of Anesthesiology (ABA). Board certification symbolizes that a physician has met the highest standards for their practice in a medical specialty. It is a professional distinction that is a source of pride for those who hold it. Board-certified anesthesiologists who wish to promote this distinction may display their D.ABA designation on their business cards, practice website, letterhead, LinkedIn account and other professional properties.

### HOW CAN I USE IT?

You may display your D.ABA designation much the way you do your Medical Doctor credential.

#### HERE IS AN EXAMPLE:

**John Doe, M.D., D.ABA**

Alternatively, you may wish to spell it out for use as a standalone element on business cards or letterhead, etc. Here are two examples of how this would display:

**Diplomate of the ABA**

or

**Diplomate of the American Board of Anesthesiology**

Finally, you may also use the ABA certification seal to display your diplomate status.



Using any combination of these displays is acceptable.

### REVOKED OR EXPIRED CERTIFICATES

In the event that your certificate expires or is revoked, you must remove D.ABA, Diplomate of the ABA and/or the certification seal from your business card, letterhead, website and anywhere else you have it displayed.

### QUESTIONS?

If you have questions about displaying your diplomate status, please contact our physician engagement team at [\(866\) 999-7501](tel:8669997501) or [coms@theaba.org](mailto:coms@theaba.org).

# MOCA Registration & Requirements

## MOCA REGISTRATION

To register, log in to your ABA GO portal account and click “Register for MOCA.” The annual fee is \$350 for the first certification upheld and \$100 for each additional certificate. You must register each year that you participate in MOCA, and you must complete all registration steps before you can access MOCA Minute.



To review the registration guide, visit:

[www.theaba.org/continue-certification/newly-certified/](http://www.theaba.org/continue-certification/newly-certified/)

## MOCA REQUIREMENTS

- Register for MOCA and pay \$350 every year to access MOCA Minute questions and submit Continuing Medical Education (CME) and Quality Improvement (QI) activities. If you are also subspecialty certified, you will pay an additional \$100 fee per certificate.
- Complete 125 Category 1 CME credits, including 10 credits of Category 1 ABA-approved patient safety CME, by the end of year five of your MOCA cycle.
- Answer 30 MOCA Minute questions per calendar quarter (120 per year by Dec. 31 at 11:59 p.m. ET) and maintain a MDT p-value of  $\geq 0.10$ . Access your practice profile to modify the question types you receive. You may review past questions and provide question feedback in your ABA GO portal at any time. You may answer up to 30 questions per day and should answer 120 questions each year to be considered “participating in MOC.”
- Attest to having completed 25 QI points by the end of MOCA year five. Ensure you have documentation of all QI activities in case you are audited.
- Complete clinical activity attestation in year four during annual registration.
- Maintain an unrestricted, unexpired medical license in the U.S. or Canada. All licenses held must be unrestricted.

## DASHBOARD

Once registered, you can view your MOCA progress at any time by logging in to your ABA GO portal account. The “My Progress Report” section of your dashboard will display your progress in each MOCA component. In the “Certifications” section, you will see your certifications, dates and statuses. You will also see “Participating in MOC,” which will be indicated by a green check mark if participating and a red (X) if not participating. Participating in MOC requires that you register for MOCA each year and complete your MOCA Minute questions and any other requirements due in a particular year. Not participating in MOC will not change your certification status unless your certificate expires and you have not completed the program requirements. You will earn a new certificate when you complete the program requirements.



All newly board-certified anesthesiologists will participate in the MOCA program. The program is designed to promote lifelong learning, encourage patient safety and improve public health. You can now log in to your ABA GO portal account and complete the annual registration process to gain access to MOCA Minute, the core of MOCA. Your participation this year is voluntary and free. However, you will need to register for MOCA next January, pay the annual fee and participate in MOCA Minute to keep your certification current. Below is a description of the MOCA program components.

To learn more, visit our website at [theaba.org](https://theaba.org).



## MEDICAL LICENSE

You should hold an active, unrestricted license to practice medicine in at least one jurisdiction of the U.S. or Canada. Furthermore, all U.S. and Canadian medical licenses you hold must be unrestricted.



## CONTINUING MEDICAL EDUCATION (CME)

Complete 125 Category 1 CME credits, including 10 credits of Category 1 ABA-approved patient safety CME credits, by the end of year five of your MOCA cycle.



## MOCA MINUTE

Answer 30 MOCA Minute questions per calendar quarter (120 per year by Dec. 31 at 11:59 p.m. ET) and maintain an MDT p-value of  $\geq 0.10$ . This interactive longitudinal assessment allows you to assess your knowledge, fill knowledge gaps and demonstrate your proficiency continuously throughout your five-year MOCA cycle. You will receive similar questions over time on some of the same topics to gauge whether you have learned information you did not previously know or retained information you did know.



## QUALITY IMPROVEMENT (QI)

Attest to completing 25 points of QI activities during your five-year MOCA cycle. Visit our website at [theaba.org](https://theaba.org) for a full listing of approved activities. The activities have been assigned points based on the time and effort associated with their completion. Complete a clinical activity attestation in year four during your annual registration.

## FEE

Register for MOCA every year and pay a \$350 **annual participation fee**. If you are upholding more than one certificate, you will pay an additional \$100 per certificate.