

2025 APPLIED Exam Registration - Frequently Asked Questions

Why is the ABA converting from a continuous registration model to a designated registration window?

Switching to a designated registration window mirrors standard ABA protocol for all other exams and gives candidates a full month-long opportunity to have equal access to all exam weeks.

When does registration close for the fall 2025 APPLIED exam registration window?

Registration for the 2025 administration year will open Sept. 3 and remain open through Sept. 30.

How will I know if I am eligible to register?

Eligible candidates have received direct email communications from the ABA regarding registration. To be eligible to register for the APPLIED Exam, you will need a passing score for the ADVANCED Exam. If you have not received an email regarding the 2025 APPLIED Exam registration, please get in touch with us at coms@theaba.org to verify your candidate status.

What if I'm not able to get online as soon as registration opens?

Eligible candidates will have Sept. 3-30, 2024, to lock in their registration for the 2025 administration year, and there is no need to register as soon as registration opens. Registration timing will have no bearing on exam week assignments as this is not a first-come, first-served model.

Switching to a designated registration window gives candidates a full month-long opportunity to have equal access to all exam weeks. All eligible candidates who complete their registration for the 2025 APPLIED Exam during the September registration window will be guaranteed an exam appointment in the 2025 administration year.

What if I miss the registration window?

Eligible candidates will have Sept. 3-30, 2024, to lock in their registration for the 2025 administration year. All eligible candidates who complete their registration for the 2025 APPLIED Exam during the September registration window will be guaranteed an exam appointment in the 2025 administration year.

A second registration window will be open in early 2025 to allow eligible candidates, including those who pass the January ADVANCED Exam and 2024 Week 5 and 6 candidates who did not pass one or both components, to complete their registration for the 2025 APPLIED Exam administration year.

How will you prioritize exam week assignments based on rankings?

Registering candidates will be able to rank-order their preference for all six administration weeks. Registration timing will have no bearing on exam week assignments as this is not a first-come, first-served model.

Once the registration window closes Sept. 30, 2024, we will sort candidates' rankings into a system and exam week assignments will be randomized according to this data. While we will do our best to accommodate preferences, we cannot guarantee a candidate's top choices.

I'm registered. What's next?

Once your registration has been received, your submission is unable to be edited or resubmitted. You can view your registration submission at any time via the email provided to you upon registration.

Exam week assignments will be emailed to registered candidates in late November. Your official exam date and time will be emailed to you approximately two months before your assigned exam week.

Can I change my exam week once it's been assigned to me in November?

If you have a medical or military reason and can provide independent documentation to be approved by APPLIED Exam staff, you may request one exam week change, free of charge, pending availability. To request an exam week change, please email APPLIEDExam@theaba.org.

I'm taking the APPLIED Exam in the fall of 2024. If I don't pass a portion of the APPLIED Exam during the 2024 administration, will I have access to register for a 2025 exam week?

A second registration window will be open in early 2025 to allow eligible candidates, including those who pass the January ADVANCED Exam and 2024 Week 5 and 6 candidates who did not pass one or both components, to complete their registration for the 2025 APPLIED Exam administration year.

I'm a fellow. Will I be given priority on the spring dates to be board-certified so I can take my subspecialty exam?

Effective July 1, 2024, an exception will be made for candidates for ABA initial certification who are enrolled in an ACGME-accredited fellowship program and who are scheduled to take the APPLIED Exam in the year in which they are registering to take an ABA-administered (ACA, CCM, PA, PM) subspecialty certification examination. The results of a subspecialty certification examination taken under this policy exception will only be validated if the candidate is awarded ABA certification in the specialty of anesthesiology prior to their duration of candidate status expiring. For more information about this policy exception, click here to review section 5.10A of our Policy Book.

How do I request the use of medical devices, medicine or mobility devices during my exam?

If you are requesting the use of medical devices, medicine, or mobility devices (i.e. insulin pump, nitro glycerin pills, inhaler, hearing aids, medical bracelet, canes, wheelchairs, etc.), you will need to email APPLIEDexam@theaba.org at least two weeks prior to the first day of your assigned exam week with the specific medical device, medicine, or mobility device you will need during your exam.

I'm a nursing mother. How do I request accommodations?

If you are a nursing mother, you may request an additional 45 minutes of break time be added to the standard 15-minute break between components. This policy applies only to candidates who are taking both components of the APPLIED Exam.

If you need nursing mother accommodations, you will submit your nursing mother request between 90 and 120 days prior to the first day of your assigned exam week. You can view all nursing mother request deadlines on our website.