FAQ’s Resident In-training Examination

What is the ABPM In-training Examination?
The examination is administered on a voluntary basis as a self-assessment tool for all current residents in any year of residency and can be used at the residents' discretion as they prepare for the ABPM board qualification examination. The exam includes the following subject areas:

- BIOMECHANICS
- ORTHOPEDICS
- WOUND CARE
- MEDICINE
- SURGICAL CRITERIA

What are the Benefits of taking the In-training Examination?
The results from the current In-training Examination will be available on the Podiatry Residency Resource (PRR) website. The material may be accessed by program directors and residents and includes all 200 questions and correct answers along with suggested readings. This information may be utilized by directors for discussion with the resident(s) as a means of enhancing their education, and by residents as reference material for understanding the expectations of the ABPM with respect to their knowledge base in the areas relevant to ABPM certification process.

How is the In-training Examination administered?
The In-training Exam consists of 200 multiple choice questions. Your seat time is approximately 5 hours which includes an optional break. The examination is administered through Pearson VUE testing centers nationally.

How do I schedule my appointment for the In-training Examination?
You will receive scheduling information about 6 weeks before the exam that will allow you to go on line or call Pearson VUE to schedule your appointment. Once an appointment has been made, a confirmation e-mail will be sent to you directly from Pearson.

What are the Requirements to Achieve Board Qualification and Board Certification?

To Achieve Board Qualification:
Applicants for the qualification examination may apply ONLY at the conclusion of their residency training, or thereafter, as specified below.

A. For applicants completing their residency training in 2015 or thereafter:
Applicants MUST take the qualification examination (Part I) WITHIN 5 YEARS of completion of their residency training. Failure to attempt the qualification examination within the 5 year time period will render the individual INELIGIBLE to participate in the examination process thereafter.

Applicants who meet the above requirement but do not pass the qualification examination within the 5 year time frame will be granted an additional 5 years of access to the examination process, with the following stipulation:

Applicants in their second 5 year time frame MUST apply for full certification and pass both Part I (qualification examination) and Part II (certification examination) within the same examination year.

Applicants MUST ACHIEVE CERTIFICATION WITH THE ABPM WITHIN 10 YEARS FROM THEIR COMPLETION OF RESIDENCY TRAINING. Failure to achieve board certification within the 10 year time period will render the individual INELIGIBLE to participate in the examination process thereafter.
To Achieve Board Certification:
Applicants who meet these requirements, who pass Part I (qualification examination) and Part II (certification examination) must provide evidence of an active license to practice podiatric medicine to be granted board certified classification.

What are the dates of each examination?
- Part I Qualification Examination is offered on Friday, May 26, 2017
- Part II Certification Examination is offered on Friday, October 13, 2017

When are examination applications for Part I and Part II due?
All applications are due by March 15, 2017 and must be submitted electronically, along with appropriate fees.

What are the examination fees?
- Part I Board Qualification Exam: $400.00
- Part II Board Certification Exam: $1,600.00
- Part I and Part II: $1,750.00
(If your intent is to sit for both the qualification and certification examinations in 2016, you must choose and pay for both Part I and II with the submission of your application)

How do I apply for the examinations?
- A single application is present on the website that includes sections for Part I (qualification) and Part II (certification). The application must be submitted electronically. The applicant is to click on the section(s) applicable to the examination(s) selected.
- Each section includes a separate fee. For example, if you intend to sit for both Part I (qualification) and Part II (certification) and do not need to submit cases, the total amount due is $1,750.00
- All fees, application information must be received by board headquarters no later than March 15, 2017.

If I intend to attempt both Part I and Part II in the same examination year, can I pay for them separately (i.e. sequentially)?
No. Full examination fees must be paid at the time of application. If you are not successful in passing Part I (qualification examination) appropriate fees will be refunded for Part II (certification examination).

How are the examinations administered?
Examinations are administered through a network of national testing centers. ABPM will provide contact information to examination candidates on how to schedule their test-center appointment approximately 6 weeks prior to the examination date. Candidates are responsible for scheduling their own examination. Access to the test center location of choice is subject to a given center's availability.

What is the testing center environment like?
Test centers are designed to provide a consistent, standardized testing experience in a quiet, distraction-free environment. All centers are designed to provide candidates with the most comfort possible during the examination process. Special accommodations candidates may have additional accommodations available at the test centers.