

ABPM (MOC) Questions and Answers

Why Four Parts?

MOC consists of four parts (components) designed to assess physician competencies on a continuous basis:

- Component 1 - Professional standing through maintenance of an unrestricted medical license.
- Component 2 - Lifelong learning through required continuing education.
- Component 3 - Cognitive expertise based on a self-assessment examination.
- Component 4 - Evaluation of performance in practice through tools such as outcome measures and quality improvement programs, literature review, focused education modules, publications, etc. This is further divided into categories:
 - 4A - Clinical workshop
 - 4B - Special interest presentation, literature review, publication, etc.
 - 4C - On-line ABPM self-evaluation clinical module
 - 4D - Case submission process

How Do I Enroll In The MOC Process?

The [enrollment form](#) is also available at ABPMed.org

When In My 10th Year of the current MOC cycle, What do I need to do for My Upcoming Cycle?

- Re-enroll in the MOC process (click [here](#))
- Component 4 (category D - case submission) is required in the first year of the upcoming cycle. (Click [here](#) for case submission information.)
- Components 1 and 2 are already being met on an annual basis by the Diplomate's licensing being verified annually by headquarters and the Diplomate reporting their CMEs.
- Component 3 needs to be completed in the 9th or 10th year of the upcoming cycle.-
- Categories A, B and C of component 4 are met at intervals (year 3 or 4 or 5, and again in year 6 or 7 or 8) of the 10 year cycle.

If I Hold A Time-Limited Certificate (i.e., Certified In 1994 Or Thereafter) When Do I Enroll Into The MOC Process?

Diplomates holding time-limited certificates must enroll approximately 6 months prior to the end-date of their current cycle.

Note, some Diplomates are required by their employers to be enrolled, and current, in a MOC program in their specialty at all times. Therefore, Diplomates concerned about a potential lapse may also enroll prior to the end-date of their current cycle. If enrolling prior to the end-date, the new end-date will be 10 years from the prior end-date (i.e. Diplomates are not penalized for enrolling early).

Timeline for Established Diplomate (Second 10-Year Cycle or Beyond)

- Within the first year of enrollment complete category 4D (case submission process) for ABPM peer review
- Within year 3, 4 or 5 of enrollment complete either category 4A (clinical workshop) or 4B (special interest presentation, literature review, publication, etc.) or 4C (on-line ABPM self-evaluation clinical module)
- Within years 6, 7 or 8 of enrollment complete another category (4A or 4B or 4C)
- Within years 9 or 10 of enrollment complete the ABPM self-assessment examination (component 3)

Sample Diplomate MOC cycle following enrollment:

(NOTE - Except for 4D, established Diplomates may vary from this as long as they remain within time parameters shown in the table above)

Component	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027
Professionalism	Maintain license	Maintain license	Maintain license	Maintain license	Maintain license	Maintain license	Maintain license	Maintain license	Maintain license	Maintain license
Lifelong Learning	30 CME	25 CME	20 CME	27 CME	20 CME	35 CME	40 CME	28 CME	22 CME	25 CME
Performance in Practice	Case submission (4D)			Workshop (4A)			Clinical module (4B)			
Cognitive Expertise										Self-assessment exam (component 3)

If I Hold A Lifetime Certificate (i.e., Certified In 1993 Or Prior) Am I Required To Enroll In The MOC Process?

No, Lifetime Diplomates are NOT required to enroll in the MOC program. They may continue to re-credential through a self-assessment examination taken in the 10th year of their current cycle. However, Lifetime Diplomates have the option of enrolling in the MOC program at any time of their current cycle and, if so-elected, they must then abide by the requirements set forth. If enrolling prior to the expiration of the current cycle the new end-date will be 10 years from the prior end date.

I Just Became Certified Last Year (and in my first 10-year cycle). Am I Obligated To Enroll Into The MOC Process?

Yes, enrollment into the MOC process is mandatory.

Timelines following enrollment (for Newly Certified Diplomate, First 10-Year Cycle)

- Within years 1-3 of enrollment complete either category 4A (clinical workshop) or 4B (special interest presentation, literature review, publication, etc.) or 4C (on-line ABPM self-evaluation clinical module)
- Within years 1-5 of enrollment complete category 4D (case submission process) for ABPM peer review
- Within years 6, 7 or 8 of enrollment complete another category (4A or 4B or 4C)
- Within years 9 or 10 of enrollment complete the ABPM self-assessment examination (component 3)

Sample Diplomate MOC cycle following enrollment (for Newly Certified Diplomate, First 10-Year Cycle)

Component	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027
Professionalism	Maintain license	Maintain license	Maintain license	Maintain license	Maintain license	Maintain license	Maintain license	Maintain license	Maintain license	Maintain license
Lifelong Learning	20 CME	30 CME	25 CME	18 CME	27 CME	35 CME	25 CME	20 CME	40 CME	18 CME
Performance in Practice		Workshop (4A)			Case submission (4D)		Clinical module (4B)			
Cognitive Expertise									Self-assessment exam (component 3)	

What If I Am In An Administrative Position With Limited Or No Patient Contact. Does This Exclude Me From The MOC Process?

Diplomates in alternative practice circumstances (e.g. medical administrator, research based, teaching) with little or no patient care activity are still able to meet the requirements of MOC. In such circumstances case documentation (4D) may not be an option and the Diplomate will confer with the board on a viable option with which to comply with the program.

How Do I Keep My Contact Information Current?

ABPM requires your current contact information, including your mailing address, e-mail address and telephone number. Please contact ABPM as soon as possible if any of your addresses change (mailing, email, etc.) as it is our primary means of communicating important information to you. You may update your address, phone number and e-mail online. Log in to the ABPM Member Profile Section (or click [here](#)) and Select "View or Update Member Profile."

What If I Change My Name?

Name changes in the system must be made by headquarters staff. Please notify ABPM Headquarters in writing (admin@ABPMed.org) for a name change. ABPM uses your full, official name in its records. ABPM requires a copy of the legal document indicating the change (e.g. marriage certificate, naturalization papers, court order of name change, etc.) to make any changes.

Contact board headquarters with any questions you may have. Specific policies regarding evaluation, reporting of certification status, confidentiality, etc. can be reviewed in the [ABPM Policy Manual](#).

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