



ABP Corporate Policy

Honor Code: Professionalism, Moral and Ethical Principles

The American Board of Pediatrics (ABP) expects residents and fellows in training, candidates for certification, and its diplomates to adhere to and maintain certain fundamental professionalism, moral and ethical principles. As specified by The Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education and the American Board of Medical Specialties, residents, fellows, candidates and diplomates must demonstrate a commitment to carrying out professional responsibilities, adherence to ethical principles, and sensitivity to diverse patient populations.

VIOLATION OR MISUSE OF ANY OF THE ABP'S INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS

The materials developed by the ABP for its in-training, certification, and maintenance of certification examinations, including MOCA-Peds, are copyrighted and the sole property of the ABP and may not be reproduced, recorded, published, transmitted, misused, stolen or distributed – in part or in whole – in any way, without the ABP's permission. **Reproduction of copyrighted material, in whole or in part, may be a federal offense.** Irrespective of copyright, any attempt to reproduce, record, publish, transmit, misuse, steal or distribute ABP in-training, certification or maintenance of certification examinations, including MOCA-Peds, in whole or part, undermines the fairness of the certification process and may be considered unethical, unprofessional, and dishonorable, and will constitute grounds for the ABP to impose disciplinary sanctions pursuant to the ABP's Disciplinary Policy and/or take any other action deemed appropriate by the ABP and its legal counsel.

MISREPRESENTING BOARD STATUS

Falsely representing one's Board status undermines the integrity of the ABP's mission. The ABP will consider any individual claiming to be certified by the ABP in any specialty or subspecialty when the record cannot support the claim to be unethical, unprofessional, and dishonorable, and will constitute grounds for the ABP to impose disciplinary sanctions pursuant to the ABP's Disciplinary Policy and/or take any other action deemed appropriate by the ABP and its legal counsel.

Likewise, falsely presenting oneself as "Board Eligible" or making any representation of board eligibility after eligibility has expired will be considered unethical, unprofessional, and dishonorable, and will constitute grounds for the ABP to impose disciplinary sanctions pursuant to the ABP's Disciplinary Policy and/or take any other action deemed appropriate by the ABP and its legal counsel.

GROUND FOR THE ABP FINDING UNETHICAL, UNPROFESSIONAL AND/OR DISHONORABLE CONDUCT

Residents, fellows, candidates and diplomates must understand that unethical, unprofessional and/or dishonorable behavior including, but not limited to, the listing below may be sufficient cause for the ABP to impose disciplinary sanctions pursuant to the ABP's Disciplinary Policy and/or to take other appropriate action as deemed appropriate by the ABP and its legal counsel:

- a. Violation or misuse of any of the ABP's Intellectual Property Rights;
- b. Misrepresenting board status;
- c. Falsification of or assistance in the falsification of an ABP application in part or in whole;
- d. Misrepresentation or the assistance of misrepresentation in any ABP application;
- e. Submission of any falsified documents to the ABP, including falsification of data for maintenance of certification;



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- f. Use of any falsified ABP documents or the submission and/or transmission of such documents to other persons or entities;
- g. Giving or receiving of prohibited and/or inappropriate aid in any certification or maintenance of certification examinations and other certification activities, including MOCA-Peds as evidenced either by observation or information or by statistical analysis;
- h. Engaging in irregular or inappropriate behavior during the administration of any examination including MOCA-Peds, as evidenced either by observation or information or by statistical analysis.
- i. Unauthorized possession, reproduction, recording, discussion, reconstruction of content from memory, or disclosure of any materials, including, but not limited to, examination questions or answers, before, during, or after an examination;
- j. Offering of any financial or other benefit to any director, officer, employee, proctor, or other agent or representative of the ABP in return for any right, privilege, or benefit which is not usually granted by the ABP to other similarly situated candidates or persons.
- k. Violation of the ABP's Licensure Policy; and/or
- l. The finding, determination or stipulation of unethical, unprofessional and/or dishonorable conduct, whether final or not, by any entity or individual with authority over, control of, jurisdiction over, or regulation of an individual (e.g., state or federal prosecutors, state medical board, professional association, peer review boards or other health care governing bodies with the power to grant or restrict medical privileges), regardless of whether or not such finding is imposed by formal order, voluntary agreement and/or stipulation.