



ABP Corporate Policy Licensure Policy

Certification and maintenance of certification is contingent upon medical licensure and in compliance with all applicable Board policies, rules and codes. Physicians must hold a valid, unrestricted allopathic and/or osteopathic medical license in at least one jurisdiction in the United States, its territories, or Canada. If more than one license is held in these jurisdictions, all licenses must meet the requirement of being unrestricted. Should any medical license become restricted at any time, the Board may undertake proceedings consistent with due process to declare the individual ineligible to apply for any ABP certification, revoke any previously issued certificate(s) and/or take other actions against the physician. Physicians are responsible for immediately notifying the ABP of any restriction placed on any medical license held. Upon successful reinstatement or remedy of the encumbered medical license(s), and upon the ABP being notified of such by the physician, and subsequent verification by the ABP of general eligibility to apply for and hold an ABP certificate, certification may be attained pursuant to the ABP's Reinstatement Policy found within the ABP's Disciplinary Policy.

A physician's license may be deemed "restricted" for purposes of this policy if, as a result of action by a State or other legally constituted Medical Board (hereafter "State Medical Board"), the physician:

1. has had his/her license revoked or surrendered his/her license in lieu of revocation or as part of a settlement of a disciplinary action;
2. has had his/her license suspended or placed on probation;
3. has had special conditions or requirements placed on his/her license (such as, but not limited to, supervision, chaperoning during the examination of patients, additional training beyond that required of all physicians for the maintenance of licensure), and regardless of whether or not such conditions or requirements are imposed by order of the State Medical Board or are the result of a voluntary agreement and/or stipulation between the physician and the State Medical Board.

At the sole discretion of the ABP, the ABP may review instances of licensure actions to determine whether such actions constitute a restriction in violation of this policy.

Beginning in 2019, applicants for the initial general pediatrics certifying examination or an initial pediatric subspecialty certifying examination must provide proof of a current, unrestricted medical license in the US or Canada. The option to fulfill the licensure requirement using a non-US or non-Canadian license will no longer exist for applicants for the 2019 initial certifying examinations or any initial certifying examination thereafter.

Diplomates practicing exclusively abroad, i.e., who are not practicing in the US or Canada, and who do not continue to hold a US or Canadian license after initial certification, must provide proof of licensure in the country in which they practice in order to meet requirements for the Professional Standing and Licensure component of Maintenance of Certification.

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*Last Revision Approved by the Board of Directors/Executive Committee: 03/18
(Effective for the 2018 initial certification examinations)*