Test items are considered to be the intellectual property of the ABP. The ABP reserves the right to share these items with others for use under similar conditions. Various restrictions may apply such as the number of items to be shared and the time period when the items may be used. In general, test items fall under two classifications, active or retired, which will also govern how they may be shared.

- Active items (ie, those that may be used again in ABP examinations) will not be shared with individuals or with most organizations. Active items may be shared with other ABMS boards for use in secure examinations. However, sharing of active items will only occur in rare cases and will need specific approval by the President. Sharing of items does not include jointboard examinations.
- Retired items (ie, items that will not be used again in ABP examinations) may be shared with other organizations and individuals for use in secure examinations or other approved purposes consistent with the mission of the ABP.

All requests must be approved by the President.