



## American Board of Psychiatry and Neurology, Inc.

A Member Board of the American Board of Medical Specialties (ABMS)

# ABPN Quarterly Update for Diplomates

November 2020



## In Memoriam: Stephen C. Scheiber, MD

It is with sadness and regret that I announce the death of Dr. Stephen C. Scheiber who passed away on June 20, 2020. Steve was the first full-time CEO of the ABPN, and he served in that role from 1986 to 2006. Steve made many important and lasting improvements to the structure and function of the ABPN. Prior to joining the ABPN, Steve had a distinguished career in academic psychiatry, including his work with the U.S. Public Health Service, and serving many years as a training director and professor at the University of Arizona. He had close personal and professional friends and colleagues in virtually every state in the country, and across the globe. While Steve will certainly be remembered for his

dedication to psychiatry and the ABPN, his professional integrity, and his warm and engaging personality, I believe he would agree that his most important achievements were as a loving husband, father, grandfather and great grandfather. He will be sorely missed by all who had the good fortune to know him.

See the [full obituary](#) for additional information.

Sincerely,

Larry R. Faulkner, MD  
President and CEO

## Coronavirus (COVID-19) and ABPN Activities

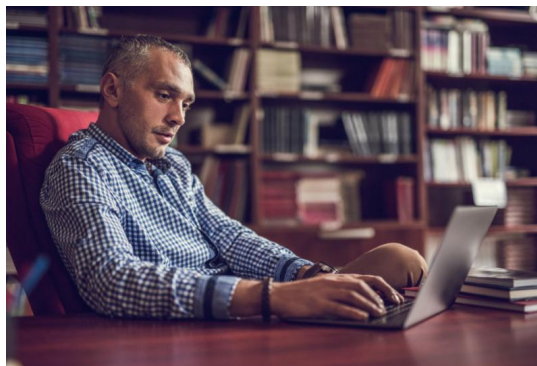
The ABPN has been actively monitoring the events and circumstances surrounding the spread of COVID-19 and the impact on our candidates, diplomates, and volunteers. We are providing [updates on ABPN activities](#) on a regular basis. Here is a recent post:

**New CME offerings from professional societies:** The ABPN is pleased to announce that all ABPN diplomates, regardless of areas of subspecialty certification or society membership, will now have access to additional self-assessment and CME options from select professional societies at either typical member pricing or at no cost.

Through unrestricted educational grants from the ABPN, these subspecialty societies have posted or will post additional information on how diplomates can access activities to earn additional credits. See [our website](#) for more information.

Earlier this year, the ABPN announced that the [American Psychiatric Association and the American Academy of Neurology will also provide additional CME offerings](#) through an unrestricted educational grant from the ABPN.

## Pilot Project Approved as Permanent Alternative to Traditional Continuing Certification/MOC Examination



In October, the ABPN announced that the American Board of Medical Specialties (ABMS) has approved the [ABPN Article Assessment Pathway](#) -- currently called the Pilot Project -- as a permanent alternative to the traditional, computerized Continuing Certification (CC/MOC) examination.

ABPN will offer the Article Assessment Pathway to all diplomates for all [ABPN-administered specialties and subspecialties](#) beginning in 2022. The traditional Continuing Certification (CC/MOC) examination will continue to be offered as an option for all ABPN specialties and subspecialties.

Since its introduction in 2019, the Pilot Project has offered greater flexibility to ABPN diplomates for meeting their CC/MOC Part III program requirements.

More details will be available in 2021. Please visit [our website](#), read the Quarterly Update newsletters, and check your emails from ABPN for the latest updates.

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## Neurocritical Care Certification Exam Offered in October 2021

The ABPN now offers a certificate in the subspecialty of Neurocritical Care. Neurocritical Care is devoted to the comprehensive multisystem care of the critically ill patient with neurological diseases and conditions. See below and [our website](#) for more details:

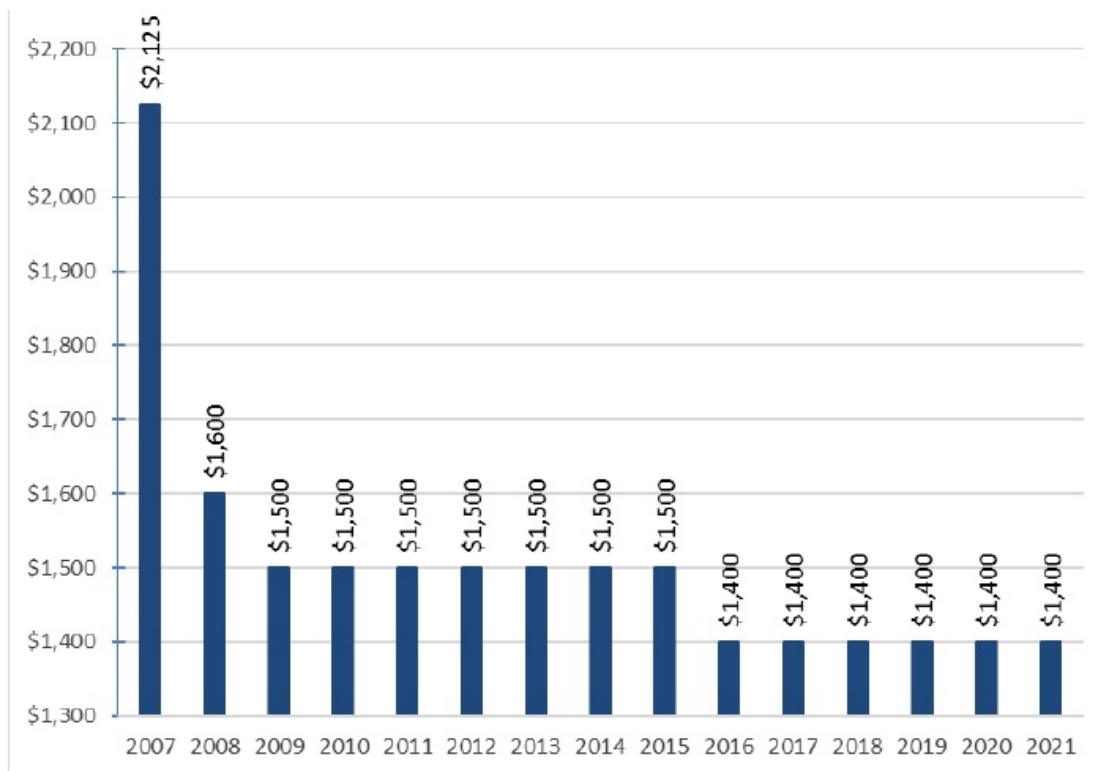
- The 2021 Neurocritical Care Certification Exam will be offered October 4-8, 2021.
- Applications will be available starting December 3, 2020.
- Applications are due April 6, 2021.
- Applications received after April 6, 2021 will incur a late fee.
- The final deadline for receipt of applications is April 27, 2021.
- Applications are made through [ABPN Physician Folios](#).

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## No Increase in Continuing Certification Exam Fees

The ABPN will continue with the same exam fee in 2021 for the continuing certification/MOC (CC/MOC) exams as it has had for the last six years. ABPN has lowered these CC fees by 38 percent since 2007. The current ABPN CC fees are approximately 41 percent below the average of other ABMS boards. See chart below.

### ABPN Continuing Certification/MOC Exam Fees



## Continuing Certification/MOC Part III Pilot Project Reminder

Diplomates participating in the 2020 Part III Pilot Project, who did not submit the 2020 Pilot Project application and payment, now have until December 15, 2021 to complete the article exams without a lapse of certification.

The 2021 Pilot Project applications open on May 21, 2021 and the deadline to submit an application is September 1, 2021.

## New Leave of Absence Policy for Resident Training Programs

ABPN now has a [new Leave of Absence policy](#) in accordance with ABMS recommendations:

The ABPN requires that all programs allow a minimum of four weeks of leave time (including vacation, sick time, maternity/paternity leave, etc.) during training per year. These four weeks should be averaged over the four-year training period. Leave or vacation time may NOT be used to reduce the total amount of required residency training or to make up deficiencies in training. Programs must allow a minimum of 6 weeks of time away from training for purposes of parental, caregiver, and medical leave at least once during training, without exhausting all other allowed time away from training and without extending training. Within ABPN and ACGME policy guidelines, it is up to the program director and the program clinical competency committee to determine whether a given resident has met training requirements or must extend their period of training. revised December 2, 2020

## ABPN Statement on Racism and Establishment of Diversity Committee

In June, the ABPN published a [Statement on Racism and Health Disparities](#). This statement was developed in response to the disproportionately severe effect of the COVID-19 pandemic on Americans of color and the reports of Black Americans being killed by the very people who are sworn to protect them. These and other events have drawn attention to longstanding

health disparities in our country and the many ways in which our society and its institutions have failed to uphold the highest ideals of equity, justice, and inclusion.

The ABPN has established a Board Diversity Committee, which has been charged with developing an official diversity policy and plan.

## ABMS Schedules Call for Comment for Draft Standards for Board Continuing Certification

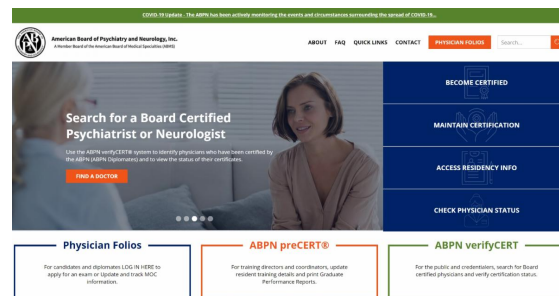
The American Board of Medical Specialties (ABMS) has scheduled a 75-day “Call for Comment” for the draft Standards for Board Continuing Certification to begin in December. The draft Standards reflect not only the recommendations from the Continuing Board Certification: Vision for the Future Commission’s final report, but also input from a wide variety of stakeholders. The “Call for Comment” will afford a wider group of stakeholders, including members of the public, the opportunity to offer feedback.

Additional communications regarding the opening of the Call for Comment is scheduled for Monday, December 7, 2020. See the [announcement](#) for more information.

## New Dynamic Design for ABPN Website

The ABPN had updated the design of its website [www.abpn.com](http://www.abpn.com) with:

- Bolder colors and simpler navigation to the most popular sections on the website
- Easy to find Deadlines and News sections
- Additional images representing diplomates at work and their patients
- A dynamic image rotator that emphasizes current issues and key interests of stakeholders



Watch for more website changes and improvements to come in 2021.

**ABPN Physician Folios - your source for personalized CC/MOC info**

**American Board of  
Psychiatry and Neurology,  
Inc.**

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