

## News Release

Contact: Frances M. Spring, Administrative Coordinator, Communications  
Phone: 517.332.4800 ext. 345  
Email: [fspring@abem.org](mailto:fspring@abem.org)

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### INCREASED NUMBER OF CME CREDITS AVAILABLE FOR ACHIEVING OR MAINTAINING ABEM CERTIFICATION

**East Lansing, Michigan, March 23, 2011**—Effective September 1, 2010, the American Medical Association (AMA) approved increasing the number of *AMA PRA Category 1 Credits™* for diplomates who successfully attain certification (by passing the Oral Examination) or renew certification (by passing the Continuous Certification Examination) through the American Board of Emergency Medicine (ABEM). Diplomates may now apply for 60 CME credits for attaining or renewing certification. Prior to September 1, 2010, diplomates could apply for only 25 credits. The cost of continuing medical education (CME) credits remains at \$30 for AMA members and \$75 for non-members. Diplomates may apply for CME credits for up to six years from the effective date on their certificate.

ABEM feels that this information could be helpful to some ABEM-certified physicians. ABEM President Mark T. Steele, M.D., states that, "The CME credit that is being offered by the AMA recognizes the educational value of board certification preparation and provides added worth to the certification process." Because of this potential benefit, ABEM has decided to spread this news to the Emergency Medicine community. ABEM is providing this notification for informational purposes only and has no financial interest in or gain from this voluntary activity.

Sixty-two medical boards in the United States and its territories require physicians to earn CME credits to renew their medical licenses.<sup>1</sup> Many of these governmental medical boards also require a certain percentage of the CME credits to be *AMA PRA Category 1 Credits™* or an equivalent. The increase in the number of credits diplomates may receive further elevates the value of ABEM certification.

Additional information about the credits, including a link to the appropriate form, can be found on the AMA Direct Credit page of their website [www.ama-assn.org/go/directcredit](http://www.ama-assn.org/go/directcredit).

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<sup>1</sup> American Medical Association, "Continuing Medical Education for Licensure Reregistration," *State Medical Licensure Requirements and Statistics, 2010*, American Medical Association Press, pp. 53-56, <http://www.ama-assn.org/ama1/pub/upload/mm/40/table16.pdf>.