American Board of Emergency Medicine

**General ABEM MOC**  
**FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQs)**

1. **Who should participate in ABEM MOC?**  
   ABEM Maintenance of Certification (ABEM MOC) is required for all diplomates who wish to maintain their certification. The ABEM MOC Program is explained in more detail on the ABEM public website under the heading Stay Certified.

2. **I became certified prior to the start of ABEM MOC. Do I wait until after I renew my current certification before I begin participating in ABEM MOC?**  
   All diplomates, regardless of when their certification expires, should be participating in ABEM MOC now.

3. **What are my requirements for ABEM MOC? Do I have to do anything before I renew my certification?**  
   All current diplomates have ABEM MOC requirements. Your individual ABEM MOC requirements depend upon when your certification expires. To find your ABEM MOC requirements:
   - Sign in at the upper right corner of the ABEM home page, [www.abem.org](http://www.abem.org). If you do not have your User ID or Password, click the “Need User ID or Password?” link and provide the requested information. If it matches the ABEM database, you will be asked for your email address, and then your User ID will appear on the screen. Your Password will be sent to the email address you provided.
   - After signing in, you will be directed to your ABEM MOC Personal Page.
   - View the requirement grid for each ABEM MOC component.
   A summary of all your ABEM MOC requirements can also be found on the ABEM home page. Under the ABEM MOC header, click on “ABEM MOC Requirements.”

4. **What ABEM MOC requirements will I have after I renew my certification?**  
   Diplomates who renew certification will begin a full, new set of requirements they will need to meet to maintain their certification.

5. **How does my level of clinical activity affect my ABEM MOC requirements?**  
   Improvement in Medical Practice (IMP) is designed for diplomates who are caring for patients. Clinically active diplomates must complete IMP requirements to maintain certification.
   
   Diplomates who are not seeing patients, and who indicate that they are clinically inactive do not have IMP requirements. However, they must participate in the other three components of ABEM MOC: Professionalism and Professional Standing, Lifelong Learning Self-Assessment, and Assessment of Knowledge, Judgement and Skills.

6. **Are there some ABEM MOC requirements I do not have to meet to renew my certification when it expires?**  
   During the phase-in of the ABEM MOC Program, diplomates may not have all ABEM MOC requirements during their current certification. Check your individual requirements to see what you must complete to renew certification.
Diplomates who do not see patients and notify ABEM that they are clinically inactive do not have an Improvement in Medical Practice (IMP) requirement.

See FAQ 4 for information about checking your ABEM MOC requirements online.

7. **Can I renew my certification early?** Beginning in 2013, passing the ConCert™ Examination no longer renews your certification. You must meet all of your ABEM MOC requirements as of your certification expiration date in order to renew your certification, including Improvement in Medical Practice requirements, if you are caring for patients and therefore are clinically active. See FAQ 6 for information about clinical activity status. If you have fulfilled all of your ABEM MOC requirements by your certification expiration date, your new certificate will start immediately after your current certificate expires. If you complete all of your ABEM MOC requirements before your certification expiration date, your certification will not expire until the end date on your current certificate.

8. **I’ve met all my MOC requirements. Why does my ABEM Personal Page still indicate my certification expires at the end of the year?** If you renew your certification early, your current certificate will be valid until its current expiration date; your new certificate will renew on January 1 the year after your current certificate expires and be valid for ten years. You will not see any change on your MOC Personal Page until your new certification cycle begins, and you will receive your new certificate near the end of the calendar year in which your current certification expires.

9. **What is the difference between the LLSA tests and the ConCert™ Examination?** ABEM MOC includes two different testing elements:

   (1) The Lifelong Learning Self-Assessment (LLSA) tests are annual, online, unproctored, 20- to 30-question, self-assessment tests based on the articles from the LLSA reading lists ABEM posts each year. Each LLSA test corresponds to the reading list of the same year. LLSA tests may be taken on any computer from which you can access the ABEM MOC Online website, and may be accessed as many times as you wish for as long as they are available to you. The tests are not timed and can be taken repeatedly.

   (2) The Continuous Certification (ConCert™) Examination is a proctored, 5.25-hour examination of approximately 205 multiple choice questions. Physicians must take this examination every ten years as one of the requirements to renew their certification. The ConCert™ Examination is offered once a year, in the fall, over a series of specified days, at over 200 computer-based testing centers located throughout the United States and Canada. LLSA questions do not appear on the ConCert™ Examination.

10. **My certification has expired. What are my options to regain certification?** If it is less than five years since the date your certificate expired and you missed four or fewer LLSA test requirements while you were certified, you may regain certification by making up missed requirements.

    If it has been longer than five years since your certificate expired or you missed more than four LLSA test requirements while certified, you must pass the ConCert™ Examination and then the Oral Certification Examination to regain certification.
Review the Policy on Regaining Certification for more details. Former diplomates who are in the process of regaining their certification must also be in compliance with the Policy on Medical Licensure.
OTHER QUESTIONS

1. **Where do I find the Model of Clinical Practice of Emergency Medicine?** The Model of the Clinical Practice of Emergency Medicine serves as the basis for the content specifications for all ABEM examinations, and can be downloaded from the ABEM public website. To find this document, click the link above or go to the ABEM home page, www.abem.org, and click on the “EM Model” button in the Quick Links list on the right side of the screen. You can also click on “Publications” then “EM Model” on the left side of the screen.

2. **How do I correct or update personal information on my ABEM MOC Personal Page?** From your Personal Access Page you may click the “Update Personal Information” button on the left side of the screen. Once you are on the Profile Information page you can update your contact information.

Some personal information, such as your name, date of birth, and date of medical school graduation cannot be changed online. To correct these items, scroll to the bottom of the Personal Information page and click on the link, “Update Permanent Information Mail-in Form.” Print the form, make the appropriate correction, sign the form, and then mail or fax the form to ABEM using the address or fax number provided on the form.

To change your name with ABEM, you must also submit the following with the form:

1. Your date of birth, and

2. EITHER
   (a) A copy of a court-issued document indicating the name change, OR
   (b) In the case of a change due to marriage or divorce, a copy of the marriage license or divorce decree AND a copy of a government-issued document (such as a driver's license or passport) showing that you are using the new name.

3. **How do I update my address with ABEM?** You may update your address, phone, and email information from your Personal Access Page. See FAQ 2 for information.

4. **Is the ABEM MOC Online website secure?** Yes. The ABEM MOC Online website is digitally certified through VeriSign with a Secure Socket Layer (SSL) digital certificate. This includes the “padlock” icon indicating that the entire ABEM MOC Online site is in a secure, encrypted format.

**October 2018**