

Alternative to the ConCert™ Examination FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQS)

CURRENT INFORMATION

The questions and answers below are based upon current Board decisions as of June 4, 2018. This information will be updated as the Board makes additional decisions regarding the ConCert modifications and the alternative.

- 1. My certificate expires in 2018. If I fail the ConCert this year, can I take it in spring 2019 without losing certification?** No. You must meet all requirements in place at the time your certificate expires to recertify. You could take the spring 2019 ConCert to regain your certification. See the [Policy on Required ABEM Maintenance of Certification Program Activity](#).
- 2. My certification ends in 2018. With ABEM offering an alternative to the ConCert, what do you recommend that I do?** The alternative will not be in place before your certification ends in 2018. ABEM suggests that you take the ConCert as you normally would. You must meet all requirements in place at the time your certificate expires to recertify.
- 3. My certification ends in 2018/2019. Will ABEM make any exceptions to extend my certification so that I can participate in the ConCert alternative?** No. ABEM does not extend certification dates. You must meet all requirements in place at the time your certificate expires to recertify.
- 4. My certification expires in 2019. If I don't pass the ConCert Exam, can I take the alternative assessments in 2020 to regain certification?** No. You must meet all requirements in place at the time your certificate expires to recertify. As the alternative will become available after your certification expires, it is not an option for you to regain your certification.
- 5. My certification expires in 2019. If I don't pass the ConCert in the spring, can I take it again in the fall?** Yes, you can take the ConCert during either or both of the 2019 administrations.
- 6. If I don't pass the ConCert Exam in spring 2019 and want to take it again in the fall, will I have to pay the same fee?** Yes, you will pay the same fee. It is anticipated that the fee will remain unchanged.
- 7. My certification expires in 2020. Should I take the ConCert early, or wait to take the alternative tests?** ABEM recommends that you take ConCert early. This provides the greatest protection for your certificate. Remember that there is no downside to taking and passing ConCert early.
- 8. My certification does not expire until 2022. I am planning on taking the ConCert this year. Will I have to take the alternative assessment**

beginning in 2020? No. If you take and pass ConCert early, you have no additional assessment requirements until your next certification cycle begins (in 2023).

ISSUES TO BE DETERMINED

The ConCert alternative is currently being developed in terms of content, length, frequency, cost, and the phase-in schedule. Decisions on these topics will be included on the ABEM website as they are finalized. The following questions and responses are current as of June 4, 2018.

- 9. My certification expires in 2020. Will I be able to recertify by taking the alternative assessments?** ABEM has not yet established the phase-in period or options for the alternative. Due to phasing-in requirements once the new alternative is available, it is possible that you will still need to take ConCert to recertify.
- 10. My certification expires in 2020. How many alternate assessments will I need to take to recertify?** The number of assessments has not yet been established. ABEM will post this information as it is determined.
- 11. If I recertify in 2018 or 2019, will I also have to take the alternative assessment(s) beginning in 2020?** ABEM is looking at the phase-in process for the new alternative. Requirements based on the end-date of your certification will be posted later.
- 12. How many tests will I have to pass to recertify?** At this time, ABEM is still examining how many and when the alternative assessments will need to be completed.
- 13. How many times can I re-take each alternative test?** The number of times you will be able to re-take an assessment is still being examined.
- 14. How much will the alternative assessments cost?** The cost of the alternative will depend, in part, on the final format of the assessment.

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