

American Board of Emergency Medicine
**Online Medical Toxicology Cognitive Expertise
Examination FAQs**

The questions and answers below pertain to the implementation of the [online MedTox Cognitive Expertise Exam](#). They are based on information available as of July 29, 2020.

- 1. When in 2020 can I take the exam?** The 2020 MedTox Cognitive Expertise Exam will be administered November 2-8.
- 2. If I was already registered for the 2020 MedTox Cognitive Expertise Exam do I need to register again?** No. If you were already registered for the 2020 MedTox Cognitive Expertise Exam, you do not need to register again; plan to take the exam during the one-week testing window. ABEM will send you information approximately two weeks before the exam about how to access the exam, and a reminder when the testing window opens.
- 3. If I have not registered, when will I be able to register for the 2020 online administration of the MedTox Cognitive Expertise Exam?** Registration is open now through October 1, 2020.
- 4. Can I take the MedTox Cognitive Expertise Exam from home?** Yes, you can take the test online at a place of your choosing.
- 5. What resources can I use during the exam?** The exam is open book; you can use whatever resources you wish, except for colleagues and other fellow test-takers (see FAQ 6).
- 6. Can I ask a colleague for help?** No. The MedTox Cognitive Expertise Exam is a secure exam. You cannot ask others for help nor can you take the test in a group setting. ABEM is using security methods to detect unauthorized copying of questions or sharing of information externally. Cheating could result in lifetime revocation of your ABEM certification.
- 7. How long will I have to complete the exam?** You will have 8 hours to complete the exam. Actual testing time will be approximately 7 hours and 30 minutes with 30 minutes for other activities, such as an honor code attestation, test tutorial, and an optional end-of-exam survey. Relative to the current MedTox Cognitive Expertise Examination, this allows an additional 70 minutes of testing time for breaks and using external reference materials.
- 8. Do I need to complete the exam all in one sitting?** You should. When taking the MedTox Cognitive Expertise Examination, the Board's expectation is that it is taken in one sitting with short breaks. You should do your best to schedule a time while you will not be interrupted and create a distraction-free environment for yourself. That said, the Board has already increased testing time to account for breaks and allow for potential distraction introduced by taking the test at home. However, for anyone not able to take the examination in one sitting for whatever the reason, you can logout when you would like to stop and the exam timer will stop. When you want to continue,

log in and the test and timer will resume where you left off—just be sure to complete the examination in a timely manner as soon as you are able.

- 9. How many questions are on the exam?** The examination will contain 300 multiple choice questions.
- 10. Will there be a proctor observing my exam?** No, there is no proctoring for the online MedTox Cognitive Expertise Exam; ABEM is using different security measures. Physicians taking the exam will attest to an honor code. ABEM test questions are copyrighted. Any cheating could result in severe penalties, including lifetime revocation of your ABEM certification. ABEM will be monitoring the Internet for any illicit distribution of exam questions in violation of ABEM copyright.
- 11. How much will the exam cost?** *There is no added cost to taking the exam online.* The exam registration fee remains \$1,950.
- 12. When will I get my score?** Due to the change in the format of administration, physicians will receive their scores no later than 90 days from the last day of the administration.
- 11. My MedTox certification expires at the end of 2020. What if I take the fall exam but don't pass it?** Physicians whose board certification ends in 2020 who do not pass the exam will lose their certification.
- 12. My certification expires in 2025, and I have five-year requirements due at the end of 2020. When do I need to complete them and still be considered "participating in continuing certification?"** You have until June 30, 2021, to complete your LLSA and IMP activity requirements.
- 13. When will a Medical Toxicology version of MyEMCert be available to recertify?** ABEM and the Medical Toxicology Subboard are looking at alternate assessments for Medical Toxicology. MyEMCert for emergency Medicine will be piloted this year, and if successful it will be considered as a model for Medical Toxicology recertification.
- 14. Why doesn't ABEM remove the exam as a requirement?** To stay certified by ABEM, physicians must demonstrate that they are meeting a national standard in an ongoing way. The MedTox Cognitive Expertise Exam is a way that physicians can demonstrate that they are meeting that standard.

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