

Building Excellence in Emergency Medicine

We are what we repeatedly do. Excellence, therefore, is not an act, but a habit. Excellence is never an accident. It is always the result of high intention, sincere effort, and intelligent execution. It represents the wise choice of many alternatives – choice, not chance, determines your destiny.

~ Aristotle

Making excellence a habit is a worthy goal in the practice of Emergency Medicine not only for ourselves but also for the patients we serve as it can lead to consistent, high-quality performance in many aspects of our lives. But what does it take to cultivate excellence as a habit for board-certified emergency physicians?

[Read more](#)



Annual Fee

If you certified or recertified after 2021, you now have an annual fee. The annual fee payment:

- **is not an additional fee**; it replaces any individual activity fee (LLSA fees, MyEMCert module costs).

- is the only fee you pay after your initial certification exams and covers all the necessary costs for your continuing certification (other than optional CME).
- may be paid annually or in one lump sum.
- avoids any interruption to certification.

A late fee will be assessed for annual fees not paid within the allowed timeframe.

[Learn more](#)

[5-year Certification Cycle and Annual Fee FAQs](#)



ABEM-certified physicians complete 4 MyEMCert modules over 5 years. Modules are organized by content area, allowing you to select, learn, and retain information related to specific clinical topics. [Sign in and take a module!](#)

Change to Inactive Period

The time in which the MyEMCert modules will be unavailable has changed from early January/February to spring 2024. This allows modules to include the most relevant and current knowledge.

NEW! Key Advances

[Febrile Infants](#)

[Improving Pediatric Readiness in the Emergency Department](#)

[Emergency Department Evaluation and Management of Pregnancy-Induced Hypertension](#)

[Outpatient Treatment for Pulmonary Embolism](#) **NEW!** [Osmosis video](#)

[Video-Assisted Intubation for Adult Patients in the Emergency Department](#)

[Access MyEMCert Resources](#)

New Modules Available to Help You Meet DEA Requirements

ABEM has launched two new modules that will assist physicians meet the DEA CME requirement for the treatment and management of patients with opioid or other substance use disorders: Substance Use Disorder and Opioid Use Disorder. Low-cost CME, available from either AAEM or ACEP, is available when registering through your [ABEM portal](#).



To use these modules to meet the DEA CME requirement, you must register for the optional CME credit when you register for the free module. You will receive a digital badge for successful completion of each module!

An infographic titled "It's easy math with ABEM MEET YOUR DEA REQUIREMENT FOR CME!". It shows a list of modules: "2 CME Hours MyEMCert Social and Behavioral Health Module", "4 CME Hours Substance Use Disorder Learning Module", and "2 CME Hours Opioid Use Disorder Learning Module". Plus signs are between the first two and the last two. A horizontal line separates the last two from the total: "8 CME hours and requirement met". A QR code is next to the total. A calculator graphic with "= DONE!" is overlaid on the right. The ABEM logo is in the top right corner.

[Learn more](#)

[Learning Resources](#)

[Sign in and take a module!](#)

The MyEMCert Social and Behavioral Health Module is available only to ABEM-certified physicians.

Additional Learning Opportunity: Resuscitation Module

ABEM-certified physicians can take the Resuscitation module as an additional learning opportunity for free, and add the option for low-cost CME. A digital badge will be provided for successful completion of the module!

[Learn more](#)

[Download Study Points](#)

[Sign in and take the module!](#)

A promotional graphic for the "NEW RESUSCITATION Module". It features a woman in a blue denim shirt sitting at a desk, looking at a laptop. The text "NEW RESUSCITATION Module" is in green and white. Below it, a list of bullet points: "Additional learning opportunity", "Free registration", "Low-cost CME available", and "Not a requirement". The MyEMCert logo is at the bottom left. A "Sign in to start today!" button is at the top right.

Why Does ABEM Have an Oral Certification Exam?

Updates on the Becoming Certified Initiative

The Oral Certification Exam is an important part of ABEM certification. It [measures unique competencies that are not measured on the Qualifying \(written\) Exam](#) and has been [shown to be a valid and reliable examination](#). Most importantly, the Oral Exam differentiates ABEM-certified

physicians from other providers.

The Becoming Certified Initiative was launched in 2021 to explore all facets of the process for emergency physicians to become certified. During the course of examining all aspects of initial certification, participants of the Becoming Certified Task Force heard opinions about what ABEM should assess for initial certification. They conducted focus groups with program directors, leadership from EM societies, employers, and many other stakeholders; issued multiple surveys to these same groups as well as emergency physicians; and convened a summit of stakeholders. What they learned during this process is that **ABEM should maintain high standards for certification and create an assessment that is more relevant to practice and adaptable to changes in medicine.** ABEM also needs to better assess competencies such as:

- Team management/leadership
- Task switching
- Prioritization
- High-stakes communications/difficult conversations
- Procedural skills

ABEM looks forward to presenting a new vision for ABEM initial certification that best meets the needs of and provides value to the specialty of Emergency Medicine in the next few months.

[Learn more](#)

Does Your EM Certification Expire in 2023 or 2028?

If so, you have requirements due to remain certified or to meet requirements to be "participating in continuing certification." Click [here](#) to see if you have completed all of your requirements.

Questions? Contact staycertified@abem.org or 517-332-4800, option 2.

How do I check my requirements?

[✓ ABEM Reqs](#)

[Sign in to view your individual requirements](#)

Upon meeting all continuing certification requirements, a physician's certificate will renew on the day following their current certification expiration date.

Congratulations Newly Certified Physicians!

Congratulations to the 1,000 physicians who attained ABEM certification this fall! Your certification shows that you have met the rigorous training and assessment standards necessary to uphold ABEM's mission: *To ensure the highest standards in the specialty of Emergency Medicine.*

Bravo!

[Verify a Certification](#)



From the **Front Lines**

The Work You Do Matters

We believe your board certification and accomplishments should be more widely recognized, so we are working hard to promote you! Your certification signifies that you are ready to deliver the highest standard of emergency care when people need it most. [Learn more](#)

**In an emergency,
trust board-certified
emergency physicians.**



American Board of
Emergency Medicine



Updates Subspecialty & Focused Practice Designation

Medical Toxicology

MyToxCert Webinar

MyToxCert modules will launch in 2024! Get updates on the Medical Toxicology continuing certification process and the new modules during our upcoming webinar.

November 22

11:45-12:45 Eastern

[Registration Required](#)

[Learn more](#)

[MyToxCert Module Content](#)

[MyToxCert FAQs](#)

[5-year Certification Cycle and Annual Fee for MyToxCert FAQs](#)



WEBINAR MyToxCert

22
NOV
2023
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ANDREW STOLBACH, M.D.
CHAIR, MEDTOX SUBBOARD

Subboard Meets

The Medical Toxicology Subboard held their virtual business meeting October 18.

[Learn more](#)

Updates to Medical Toxicology Sponsoring Boards

The American Board of Preventive Medicine (ABPM) is moving forward to no longer serve as a co-sponsoring board for certification in Medical Toxicology. This means that ABEM will be issuing new certificates in MedTox to physicians certified by the ABPM as well as physicians from other member boards. The American Board of Pediatrics (ABP) is also considering a similar move and will be deciding on this change soon. As a result of these changes, ABEM will be updating and modifying policies including those related to Subboard governance. It is expected that the transition will be completed in 2025. If you have any questions, please contact ABEM CAO Kathleen C. Ruff, M.B.A., at kruff@abem.org.

Health Care Administration, Leadership, and Management

The first HALM Certification Examination will be administered November 11-24, 2024, as an online, proctored exam. If you would like to receive information about when the application period will open, sign up to receive email updates [here](#).

[Additional Information](#)

AEMUS Application Cycle Now Open

The deadline to request an application to take the 2024 AEMUS FPD Exam is December 1, 2023. Exam dates: March 11-16, 2024.

[Learn more](#)

[Request an application](#)

Emergency Medical Services

IMPORTANT Information for Physicians Certified in Both EMS and EM

For EMS-certified physicians who are also maintaining their EM certification, the two following MyEMCert modules can count toward both EMS and EM recertification: *Trauma and Bleeding*, and *Abnormal Vital Signs and Shock*. To provide you the greatest benefit and ease to maintaining your EMS certification, you should take only one of these modules every 5 years. If you have ANY questions, please contact ABEM at 517-332-4800 option 2, or staycertified@abem.org.

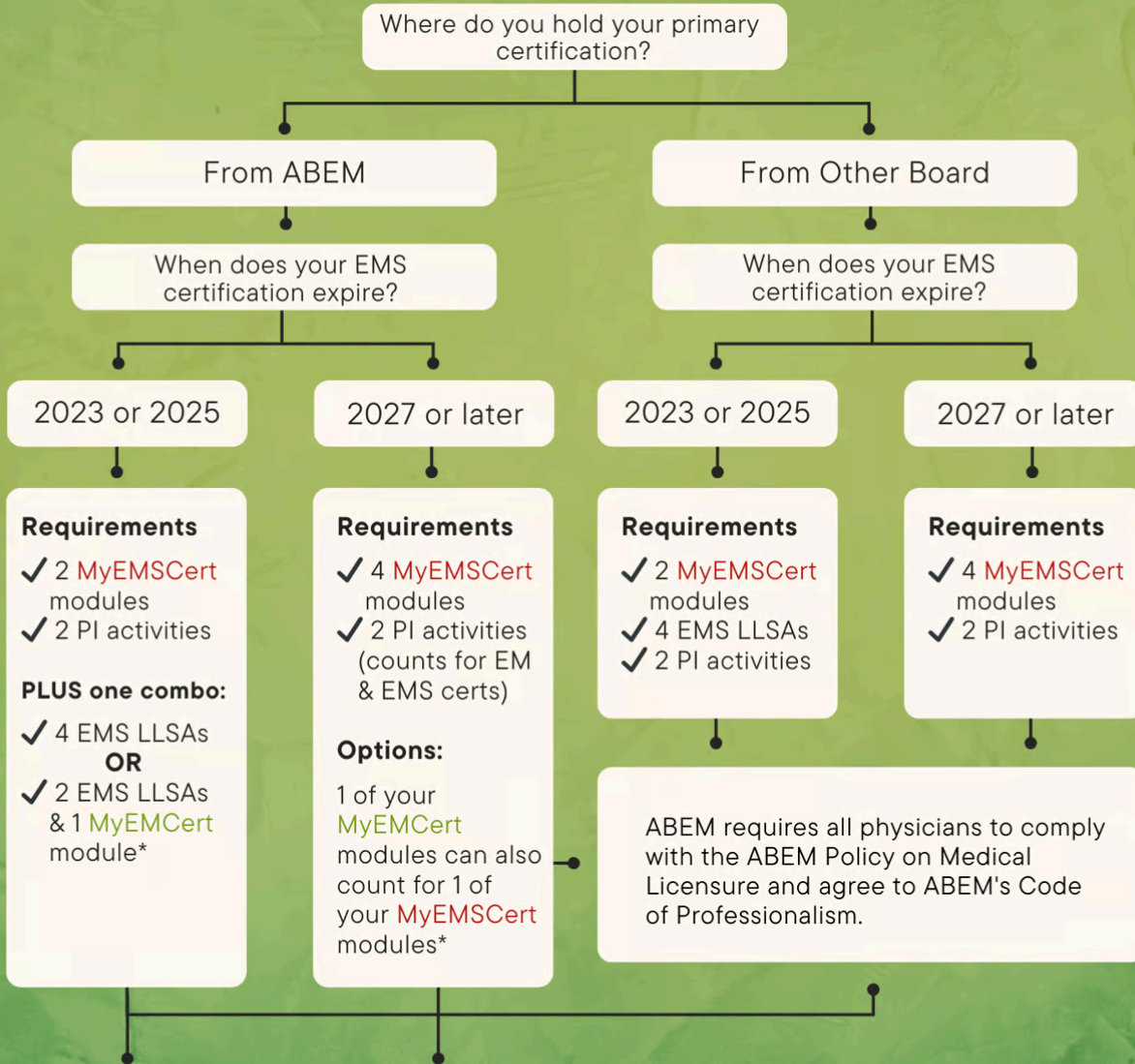
Modules Available Now!

[Module content](#)

[Knowledge Advancement reading list](#)

Please note that requirements vary. If you have any questions, please contact ABEM at 517-332-4800 option 2 or subspecialties@abem.org.

What are my EMS Continuing Certification Requirements?



* The only MyEMCert modules that can also count for your EMS requirements are "Trauma & Bleeding" and "Abnormal Vital Signs & Shock"



Call for Nominations: ABEM Board of Directors

ABEM is seeking nominations for two physicians to serve on its Board of Directors, with terms beginning July 2024. ABEM encourages diverse nominations from across the Emergency Medicine community.

Information about nomination criteria, the application form, and where to submit your materials is available [here](#). **All materials must be submitted by Friday, November 17, 2023.**

ABEM Selected for ACGME DEI Award



ABEM was recently selected as a recipient of the 2024 Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME) Barbara Ross-Lee, D.O., Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Award. The ACGME recognized the Dr. Leon L. Haley, Jr., Bridge to the Future of Emergency Medicine Academy for its innovation and excellence to mentor pre-resident learners into the field of medicine and biomedical research.

"It is a tremendous honor to be recognized for our efforts to build a pathway for developing future physicians from backgrounds that are underrepresented in medicine," stated Ramon W. Johnson, M.D., M.B.A., ABEM President. "This furthers our goal of setting the highest standard in Emergency Medicine by increasing the diversity of our physician workforce to better care for the diverse communities in which we work."

[Read more](#)

The Search is On for a New Executive Director

ABEM has begun the search process for a new Executive Director. Earl J. Reisdorff, M.D., who has served in that position since 2010, will step down at the end of 2024. The Board of Directors has retained WittKieffer as the search firm to seek a physician to serve as Executive Director, Professional and Clinical Affairs. If you are interested in learning about the process, contact Kathleen C. Ruff, M.B.A., Chief Administrative Officer at kruff@abem.org

Recent Research

Two recently published research papers highlight the value that board certification provides to emergency physicians, and two others about the value of the Oral Certification Examination.

Board Certification Associated with Higher Physician Income

In "[Factors Associated with Emergency Physician Income](#)" the authors identified income disparities

associated with gender, practice setting, fellowship completion, and ABEM or AOBEM certification. Female physicians earned less than their male counterparts, fellowship training was associated with lower income, and working at a for-profit institution earned higher incomes. Notably, board-certified emergency physicians earned \$43,267 more per year than non-board-certified physicians.

Reisdorff EJ, et al. Factors associated with emergency physician income. J Am Coll Emerg Physicians Open 2023 Apr;4(2):e12949. doi: 10.1002/emp2.12949

Board-certified Emergency Physicians Exhibit Greater Career Resiliency

In "[Attrition from the US Emergency Medicine Workforce During Early Stages of the COVID-19 Pandemic](#)," results showed that board-certified physicians had lower attrition rates (7.6%) than their non-board-certified counterparts (10.6%). This indicates a greater career resiliency among certified physicians during the pandemic. Possible reasons cited for the lower rate were the disproportionate economic impact of COVID-19 on rural hospital finances caused reduced emergency department staffing, leading to attrition; and that board-certified emergency physicians are more likely to be employed within larger, more financially stable health care systems in urban environments.

Gettel CJ, et al. Attrition from the US emergency medicine workforce during early stages of the COVID-19 pandemic. Ann Emerg Med 2023 May 2:S0196-0644(23)00176-2. doi: 10.1016/j.annemergmed.2023.03.002 Online ahead of print.

The Oral Exam Measures Skills Not Included on the Qualifying Exam

Finally, "[The Correlation Between Performance on the American Board of Emergency Medicine \(ABEM\) Qualifying and Oral Certifying Examination](#)" finds that the Qualifying (written) Exam and the Oral Certifying Exam used for initial certification are moderately correlated, but that the Oral Exam measures additional competencies that are necessary for the competent practice of emergency medicine. In other words, the Qualifying Exam and Oral Certification are related but different examinations.



volunteer corner

Thank you, Oral Examiners!

Thank you to all of the Oral Examiners who helped with another successful Oral Exam! Your dedication to the specialty of Emergency Medicine helps propel it forward.

Spotlight On: Key Advance Panel

We would like to give a big shout out to the Key Advance Panel (KAP). The panel is comprised of thought leaders from a variety of backgrounds who select, develop, and maintain the topics and synopses of the [Key Advances](#). Key advances are an important element of the MyEMCert modules. They facilitate learning, amplify medical discoveries so you can use them to improve

patient care, leverage the most popular aspects of the current LLSA tests, and highlight some of the most clinically relevant emerging literature. The expert panel includes a medical librarian who conducts literature reviews on the topics periodically to support the panel's activities.

Current members are:

KAP and MyEMCert Editors

Samuel M. Keim, M.D.

Marianne Gausche-Hill, M.D.

John Marshall, M.D.

Ernest Wang, M.D.

KAP Authors

Benton R. Hunter, M.D.

Brit J. Long, M.D.

Stephen J. Wolf, M.D.

Sean Fox, M.D.

Technical Editors

Christopher R. Carpenter, M.D.

Stephen Hayden, M.D.

Clinical Pharmacy Editor

Christopher J. Edwards, PharmD



Happy Birthday, ABEM!



ABEM's DEI Efforts



ABEM 2022-2023 Annual Report



A Resident's Guide to the In-service Exam



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