



Policy for Eligibility Reinstatement Pathway to Subspecialty Certification (for diplomates with lifetime certification and more than 10 years since completion of fellowship)

History: Approved in concept by the Subspecialty Committee at the October 2010 Board meeting; final review and approval given by the Subspecialty Committee via conference call on March 29, 2011.

Rationale: With appropriate demonstration of their commitment to continuous practice in subspecialty radiology, as well as to lifelong learning, it is in the public's best interest for these candidates to obtain subspecialty certification and then participate in Maintenance of Certification (MOC).

Qualifications: A candidate must have completed 12 months of either an ACGME-accredited fellowship OR a 12-month fellowship that was in place before ACGME began the accreditation process (nuclear radiology in 1988, neuroradiology and pediatric radiology in 1990, and vascular and interventional radiology in 1991).

Duration of Application acceptance: Applications will be accepted for a three-year period, beginning July 1, 2011, and ending June 30, 2014. The program application period is July 1 to December 31 each year.

Program Summary: This alternate pathway to Subspecialty Certification consists of a two-year pre-examination qualification period leading to admission to the ABR Subspecialty Examination in the fall of the second year of the program. If program requirements are met in a timely manner, the participant will be admitted to the examination and, if successful in its completion, will be granted ABR Subspecialty Certification upon completion of all program requirements at the end of year-2.

Requirements:

1. During the two years prior to application, at least 60 percent of the candidate's practice must have been in the subspecialty, as documented by the candidate's department chair or practice head.
2. During the two-year period following acceptance into the program, the candidate must complete the following requirements:
 - At least 20 CME credits per year in the subspecialty (total of 40 CME credits);
 - At least 2 SAMs per year in the subspecialty (total of 4 SAMs);
 - One Practice Improvement Project (PQI) project in the subspecialty.
 - If the candidate is applying for a ***VIR subspecialty certificate***, he/she also must submit a case log of procedures performed during the two years following acceptance into the program.

- Candidates are required to maintain active, current, valid, and unrestricted licenses relevant to all locations of practice during participation in this program.

Participants must complete all of the above program requirements by the end of the second program year. The participant must register for and take the examination offered in the fall of year 2. Failure to register for or to take this examination in year-2 constitutes a violation of the program requirements. No extensions will be granted.

Timeline:

1. **Alternate Pathway** applications will be accepted from July 1 to December 31 each year.
2. Registration for the fall examination must be completed by April 30 of year 2. Registration for any repeat examinations must be completed by April 30 of the examination year.
3. All program requirements and necessary documentation must be completed and submitted to the ABR by December 31 of the second program year.

Examination Process Completion: After a candidate has been approved to take the exam, the examination must be passed within three administrations. No waivers will be approved. Certificates will be issued only when the examination has been passed and the above requirements have been met.

Fees:

- (1) The candidate must submit an administrative fee of \$300 at the time of application to the program.
- (2) In order to take the ABR Subspecialty Examination, an examination fee must be submitted at the time of registration for the examination. Additional examination fees are applicable, if multiple administrations are necessary.

October 2010, revised December 2010, revised March 2011