



AMERICAN BOARD  
OF RADIOLOGY

## Exam Integrity Policy

**APPROVED BY BOARD OF Governors on: January 9, 2024**

### 1. Purpose:

This policy supports the maintenance of a sufficient level of exam<sup>1</sup> security to protect the integrity of American Board of Radiology (ABR) certification decisions. Maintaining security ensures that the exam results reliably reflect examinee attainment or maintenance of the standard of knowledge, skill, and understanding essential to the practice of diagnostic radiology, interventional radiology, radiation oncology, and medical physics.

Material used in ABR exams is confidential, the sole property of the ABR, and is protected by copyright law. Exam material may not be disclosed, published, reproduced, transmitted, or used in any manner without the ABR's express written permission.

### 2. Examinee Guidelines:

- a. Examinees are required to agree to the ABR Exam User Agreement before the start of their exam.
- b. Examinees are expressly prohibited from disclosing, publishing, reproducing, or transmitting exam content, in whole or in part, in any form or by any means, verbal or written, electronic or mechanical, for any purpose. Examples of unauthorized use include, but are not limited to:
  - i. Sharing recalled questions after the exam.
  - ii. Giving or receiving specific information regarding exam content at any time before, during, or after the exam administration. This does not preclude general discussions of either broad topics covered in the exam or the manner of exam administration.
  - iii. Possessing study materials or accessing electronic media during the exam.
  - iv. Copying (through electronic recording or otherwise) exam content.
  - v. Use of a hand-held calculator unless expressly permitted by the ABR.
  - vi. Use of a device that could access study resources or reference materials.
  - vii. Otherwise giving or obtaining unauthorized information or assistance.
  - viii. Other activities that might represent impermissible disclosure of the exam content.

### 3. Penalties:

- a. Staff recognition of a potential violation may result in a recommendation to the Executive Director to terminate an exam in progress, decline to score an exam, or decline to share results

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<sup>1</sup> For the purposes of this policy, "exam" is to be understood as any ABR cognitive assessment instrument used to attain or maintain board certification.

of a scored exam. Additional actions, if any, will be determined by either the Professionalism Committee, the Hearing Committee, or the Board of Governors, or a combination of these.

- b. In addition to lesser sanctions, actions for:
  - i. Candidates may include removal of (a) board eligibility status and/or (b) further opportunities for attainment of board certification.
  - ii. Diplomates may include a change in certification status to “not certified.”

For residents, the program may be notified if exam scores are invalidated or an investigation continues beyond the exam result release date. By registering for the exam, the resident consents to all such notifications as allowed by the ABR bylaws.

This policy is subject to change and modification at any time.