



AMERICAN BOARD
OF RADIOLOGY

Two-year IR/DR IMG Alternate Pathway for those who completed DR IMG Pathway

Approved: Board of Governors Meeting March 28, 2024

Policy:

Candidates who have completed the Diagnostic Radiology International Medical Graduate (IMG) Alternate Pathway, who would have qualified for the Interventional Radiology/Diagnostic Radiology (IR/DR) IMG Alternate Pathway, and who are eligible for ABR diagnostic radiology certification, may pursue IR/DR certification through the two-year IR/DR IMG Alternate Pathway.

Prerequisites

1. Successful completion of a diagnostic radiology residency program and a dedicated subspecialty or specialty training program of at least one year's duration in interventional radiology outside the U.S. or Canada.
2. Documentation verifying the applicant's ability to practice interventional radiology independently in the country of training or board certification in the applicant's country (if applicable).
3. If trained in India, the applicant must have the following degrees MBBS + DNB and/or MD.
4. Successful completion of the ABR Diagnostic Radiology IMG Alternate Pathway.

Requirements

1. Complete a two-year IR alternate pathway in a single institution with an IR training program approved by the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME).
 - a. The IR experience requirement for this two-year pathway must be above and beyond any IR training completed during the ABR Diagnostic IMG Alternate Pathway.
 - b. The training may consist of two years of IR faculty service or a combination of IR residency and IR faculty service. Up to one year of IR residency may qualify for inclusion in the pathway. However, two years of IR residency does not qualify for the ABR two-year Alternate Pathway, as that is the standard training pathway.
 - c. Up to one year of IR experience immediately preceding the date of the application submission may be credited to meet the pathway's two-year requirement.
 - d. Two years of training must be completed within four years of the training start date.

- e. Part-time appointments working ≥ 0.5 FTE are allowable, as long as the equivalent of two years of training as a 1.0 FTE is completed within four years from the training start date. For example, a candidate could train year one as a 1.0 FTE and years two and three as a 0.5 FTE to meet the requirement of two years as a 1.0 FTE. Please contact an ABR certification manager at information@theabr.org for details.
2. Pass the oral component of the ABR IR/DR Certifying Exam: [click here](#) for more information.
 3. Provide proof of valid state or provincial medical license: for those in training, a valid training license is acceptable.
 4. Demonstrate high moral and ethical principles. The American Board of Radiology expects candidates for initial certification to uphold fundamental moral and ethical principles.

Application

The Board will assess an applicant's status relative to ABR policies and the IMG Alternate Pathway to Board Certification **only after receiving** the following documents:

1. Two-Year Interventional Radiology/Diagnostic Radiology IMG Application Form
2. Current, detailed curriculum vitae with specific dates of all training
3. Verification of the following:
 - Medical school training
 - Clinical training
 - Radiology residency training
 - Interventional radiology certification (if applicable)
 - *NOTE: The Board accepts copies of diplomas or letters from training institutions as verification. If original documents are not in English, an English translation must accompany them.*
4. Copy of Educational Commission for Foreign Medical Graduates (ECFMG) certificate or Licentiate of the Medical Council of Canada (LMCC) certificate
5. Sponsoring Department Agreement (SDA), outlining the applicant's two-year plan.
 - The SDA is intended to be a prospective two-year training plan. Candidates may only use up to one year of retrospective training (prior to submission of the application) as part of their SDA.
 - Any changes in the above requirements carried out without the written consent of the ABR will be considered as grounds for termination of the individual's participation in the Alternate Pathway.

Candidates will be notified when to submit the application fee.

This policy is subject to change and modifications at any time. All changes must be approved by the ABR Board of Governors.

