The Practice Pathway will be available for the first five years the Addiction Medicine subspecialty examination is administered (through the 2021 application cycle). Beginning in 2022, all applicants for certification in Addiction Medicine must successfully complete an ACGME-accredited Addiction Medicine fellowship program.
ABAM DIPLOMATES

Current ABAM Diplomates may apply for subspecialty certification through the expedited "ABAM Diplomate" Pathway. These physicians must meet medical licensure and ABMS certification requirements; documentation of current ABAM status may be used in place of the required attestation of clinical competence and practice time.

2015 ABAM Diplomates

Physicians who have passed the 2015 ABAM examination, and meet medical licensure and ABMS board certification requirements must submit formal application through the "ABAM Diplomate" Pathway. Once reviewed and approved by the Board, the applicant's exam fee and requirement may be waived. Certification will be conferred following usual procedures, with an effective date of January 1, 2018.

LICENSE RESTRICTIONS

My state medical license was restricted for medical reasons when I entered an addiction treatment program required by my state medical board, and I have complied with all the requirements of my state medical board.

This would not prevent the physician from applying to ABPM for certification in Addiction Medicine. A physician who has voluntarily entered into a rehabilitation program for chemical dependency/addiction/substance use disorder or a practice improvement plan with the approval of a state medical board shall not be considered to have a restriction on his/her license to practice medicine for the purposes of applying to ABPM for certification in Addiction Medicine.

After I completed an initial addiction treatment program required by my state medical board for my impairment by abuse of opioid analgesics, the board allowed me to return to practice with special requirements that are still in effect. I have to complete additional training in the prescribing of controlled substances (beyond that required of all physicians for the maintenance of licensure) and have some of my patient charts reviewed by the board periodically.

This physician's application would not be accepted by ABPM due to a restriction on the medical license. A physician's license shall be deemed restricted if, as a result of final action by a state or other legally constituted medical board, the physician is subject to special conditions or requirements that are still in effect, regardless of whether the restrictions are imposed by the state medical board or the result of a voluntary agreement between the physician and the state medical board.