INFORMATION GUIDE ON ADDICTION MEDICINE CERTIFICATION AND TRANSITIONAL MAINTENANCE OF CERTIFICATION (MOC)

As of Jan. 2023, MOC will transition to Continuing Certification Program (CCP)
Background

- In 2016, the American Board of Medical Specialties (ABMS) recognized addiction medicine (ADM) as a new medical subspecialty of The American Board of Preventive Medicine (ABPM).
- Physicians certified by any of the 24 ABMS Member Boards can now apply for certification through the exam administered by the ABPM.
- ABMS recognition of addiction medicine as an official medical subspecialty has been a decade long journey. An addiction medicine exam was offered initially by the California Society of Addiction Medicine, then by the American Society of Addiction Medicine (ASAM), and most recently by an organization spun off from ASAM, the American Board of Addiction Medicine (ABAM). ABAM certified their final round of diplomates in 2015.
- ABPM offered its first addiction medicine certification exam in 2017, and in December 2018 determined MOC requirements.
- As the professional organization for addiction medicine professionals, ASAM is the education resource for certification, recertification, and MOC.
- The purpose of this guide is to provide you with an update on certification, MOC and available ASAM resources.

Addiction Medicine Certification through ABPM: Three General Requirements for Certification

- Medical License – An unrestricted and currently valid license(s) to practice medicine
- Medical Degree – Graduation from an accredited medical school in the United States or Canada
- ABMS Member Board Certification – Primary board certification is a core requirement

Starting with the 2021 application period, physicians trained in Canada who possess primary board certification by the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada (RCPSC) or the College of Family Physicians of Canada (CFPC) may be eligible for the subspecialty certification examination.

Pathways to Achieve Addiction Medicine Certification

- **ABAM Diplomate Pathway** – Applicants holding certification by ABAM must meet the medical licensure and ABMS certification requirements to be considered for the addiction medicine subspecialty examination. This pathway ends in 2021.
- **Practice Pathway** – Until 2025, applicants who complete minimum time in practice or a non-ACGME-accredited fellowship training will be considered for the addiction medicine subspecialty exam.
- **ACGME-Accredited Fellowship Pathway** – After 2025, it will be mandatory that physicians complete an ACGME-accredited addiction medicine fellowship in order to be eligible to apply to take the exam.
About the ABPM/ADM Certification Exam

- Application process open March 15 through June 30, 2021
- 2021 exam will be offered October through November 1, 2021, in multiple locations
- Detailed information about the exam, application process, and pathways on www.theABPM.org
- Determine your eligibility: https://www.theABPM.org/am-i-eligible

Special FASAM & DFASAM Credentials

- ASAM is the only organization offering the credential of Fellow of the American Society of Addiction Medicine (FASAM).
- The FASAM designation can only be used by certified addiction specialists who have been members of ASAM for two or more continuous years.
- Eligible addiction specialists are those certified by ABPM, ABAM, AOA or ABPN.

- Once the FASAM credential has been conferred, it may only be used by members who maintain their ASAM membership.
- ASAM members with the FASAM designation may have the opportunity to be selected for the elite designation of Distinguished Fellow of the American Society of Addiction Medicine (DFASAM).
- For more information about FASAM and DFASAM designations go to https://www.asam.org/membership/designations

ABPM/ADM Transitional Maintenance of Certification (TMOC)

- ABPM’s TMOC is the American Board of Medical Specialties (ABMS) board certification process for assessment of continuing competencies of physicians and encompasses recertification. All Member Boards of the American Board of Medical Specialties must provide MOC programs for their diplomates.
- Detailed information about the requirements and annual fees are available from the ABPM at https://www.theabpm.org/maintain-certification/transitional-moc-to-continuing-certification-program/

ABPM’s TMOC Requirements

In December 2019, the ABPM announced the requirements for its Diplomates to maintain ABPM certification during the transitional period from the current Maintenance of Certification (MOC) program to a new and innovative Continuing Certification Program (CCP). The transitional period began February 1, 2020 and will continue through December 31, 2022.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Transitional Maintenance of Certification: 2/1/2020 - 12/31/2022</th>
<th>Requirements</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Part 1:</strong> Professionalism and Professional Standing</td>
<td>Hold an active, valid, and unrestricted medical license in all states, US territories, or Canadian provinces in which the diplomate is licensed to practice medicine.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Part 2:</strong> Lifelong Learning &amp; Self Assessment (LLSA)</td>
<td>Earn a total of 75 AMA PRA Category 1 Credits™. Complete 1 hour of a patient safety course (PSC) by February 1, 2023.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Part 3:</strong> Assessment of Knowledge, Judgement and Skills</td>
<td>No MOC Exam</td>
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| **Part 4:** Improvement in Medical Practice                    | ABPM’s current requirements for MOC Part IV Improvement in Medical Practice (IMP) will remain unchanged, however:  
  - Credit for completion of IMP activities during the transitional period will also count toward your first CCP cycle.  
  - ABPM will neither track nor penalize Diplomates who not do complete IMP activities during the transitional period. |
Who's Who in Certification and Licensure

Note: ASAM is not a certifying board, and members are encouraged to contact their respective boards for the most up-to-date information on individual MOC requirements, i.e., your ABPM physician portal.

Transitional Maintenance of Certification (TMOC)  
American Board of Medical Specialties (ABMS)  
Umbrella Board that establishes and maintains certification standards of 24 approved medical specialty boards

American Board of Preventive Medicine (ABPM)  
Member of ABMS, provides certification and maintenance of certification for the subspecialty of addiction medicine, among others Addiction Medicine Specialist Physicians/Candidate/Diplomate

Addiction Medicine Specialist Physicians/Candidate/Diplomate

Maintenance of Licensure (MOL)  
Individual State Medical Boards  
Licensure  
ABPM policy includes licensure requirements for physicians applying for certification of maintenance of certification processes

American Society Of Addiction Medicine  
Your professional association and provider of lifelong learning tools and resources

How Can ASAM Help?

ASAM is the leading provider of quality information and resources to assist members in better understanding and taking the necessary steps toward meeting various CME, Self-Assessment, and Improvement in Medical Practice.

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<tr>
<th>TMOC Requirements</th>
<th>ASAM Resources</th>
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| Part 2: Self-Assessment and CME Resources | • All of ASAM’s approved LLSA activities are available on ABPM: [https://certification.theabpm.org/moc/llsa-lookup](https://certification.theabpm.org/moc/llsa-lookup)  
• ASAM Treatment of Opioid Use Disorder Course  
• ASAM Annual and Virtual Conferences  
• ASAM Criteria Course  
• ASAM Fundamentals of Addiction Medicine  
• ASAM State of the Art Course  
• ASAM Review Course in Addiction Medicine  
• JAM Articles: [https://elearning.asam.org/JAM](https://elearning.asam.org/JAM) |
# ASAM's Certification and TMOC Resources for ADM

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Resource</th>
<th>Duration</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Principles of Addiction Medicine, 6th Edition</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>Provides core knowledge of scientific principles with practical essentials of clinical management</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Essentials of Addiction Medicine, 3rd Edition</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>A quick reference to all addiction topics</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Journal of Addiction Medicine (JAM) Articles (New)</strong></td>
<td>1 hour each</td>
<td>Free to ASAM members! Editors' choice for the best of Journal-based CME</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Board Exam Study Tool (BEST)</strong></td>
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<td>A NEW online, self-paced tool with hundreds of boardstyle questions</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>The ASAM Review Course in Addiction Medicine</strong></td>
<td>18.5 hours</td>
<td>The essential two and a half day primer for physicians in addiction medicine</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Treatment of Opioid Use Disorder Course</strong></td>
<td>8 hours</td>
<td>Covers medication treatments for opioid use disorders</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Moving Beyond the Barriers of Treating Opioid Use Disorder</strong></td>
<td>2.5 hours</td>
<td>Addresses common barriers to implementing office-based treatment and patient care</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>The ASAM Patient Safety in Addiction Medicine Course</strong></td>
<td>1 hour</td>
<td>Learn strategies to prevent errors, learn from errors that do occur, and learn how to take initiative in building a culture of safety</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>The ASAM Criteria</strong></td>
<td>8 hours</td>
<td>Addresses patient-centered service plans, patient admission, continuing care, and transfer/discharge</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>ASAM Virtual.2021 Annual Conference</strong></td>
<td>22.5 live, 60-75 online hours</td>
<td>The premier conference in the addiction field with the latest scientific practice and innovations in addiction medicine</td>
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**e-Learning Center Resources**

ASAM has the largest existing online MOC catalog, offering hundreds of hours of diverse and comprehensive educational offerings for ABPM-certified addiction medicine specialists.

**Certification Exam Preparation and TMOC Resources:**

- ASAM's Board Exam Preparation resources: [https://elearning.asam.org/examprep](https://elearning.asam.org/examprep)
- ABPM's TMOC: [https://elearning.asam.org/abpm-moc](https://elearning.asam.org/abpm-moc)
- ASAM's publications including exam preparation texts: [https://www.asam.org/resources/publications](https://www.asam.org/resources/publications)

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**ASAM Offers CME and MOC Credits for These Primary Boards:**

ASAM Offers is CME & MOC Points for additional primary boards. You can claim CME & MOC Points for your primary board and addiction medicine at the same time. Make sure to update your ASAM profile with your date of birth and primary board numbers to ensure your MOC will be reported correctly.

**Explore All ASAM Certification & MOC**

[https://elearning.asam.org/certifications-and-moc-explore-all](https://elearning.asam.org/certifications-and-moc-explore-all)

- American Board of Anesthesiology
- American Board of Internal Medicine
- American Board of Family Medicine
- American Board of Pediatrics
- American Board of Preventive Medicine
- American Board of Psychiatry and Neurology
- American Board of Surgery
- American Board of Addiction Medicine