

AMERICAN BOARD OF EMERGENCY MEDICINE (ABEM)

PEDIATRIC EMERGENCY MEDICINE (PedEM) ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA FOR ABEM AND AOBEM DIPLOMATES

Pediatric Emergency Medicine is a clinical subspecialty that focuses on the care of the acutely ill or injured child in the setting of an emergency department.

Certification in the subspecialty of Pediatric Emergency Medicine is available to diplomates of the American Board of Emergency Medicine (ABEM) and the American Osteopathic Board of Emergency Medicine (AOBEM), who fulfill the eligibility criteria and pass the subspecialty examination. ABEM co-sponsors this subspecialty with the American Board of Pediatrics (ABP).

Physicians who are ABEM or AOBEM diplomates submit applications for certification to ABEM. Physicians who are diplomates of both ABEM and ABP may submit an application to the boards through which they wish to become certified in Pediatric Emergency Medicine.

The Pediatric Emergency Medicine eligibility criteria for ABEM diplomates were mutually determined by ABP and ABEM. These criteria cannot be appealed.

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

The general criteria for emergency physicians seeking certification in PedEM are as follows:

- The physician must be a diplomate of ABEM or the ABOEM. (For AOBEM diplomates, see Special Considerations for AOBEM Diplomates, page 2)
- The physician must be participating in the ABEM MOC or the AOBEM Osteopathic Continuing Certification (OCC) program at the time of application and throughout the certification process.
- The physician must fulfill the ABEM Policy on Medical Licensure.

Additionally, the physician must fulfill the eligibility criteria of the Fellowship Training or the Dual Certification pathway.

APPLICATION PATHWAYS

Fellowship Training

The applicant must have successfully completed at least two years in an ACGME- or RCPSC-accredited PedEM fellowship. For ABEM diplomates who complete their PedEM fellowship in a Pediatric sponsored program and are told they must complete all three years of the fellowship, they must complete the full three years prior to submitting an application.

ABEM will independently verify with the fellowship program director, the applicant's successful completion of the training and the applicant's clinical competence in PedEM.

The physician must successfully complete the fellowship training by the date of the examination.

Special Consideration for AOBEM Diplomates

AOBEM diplomates may apply for subspecialty certification if all their fellowship training occurs in an ACGME or RCPSC-accredited fellowship on and after July 1, 2015. This exception will be available to AOBEM diplomates who graduate from an ACGME- or RCPSC-accredited fellowship before July 1, 2022. The ABEM eligibility criteria do not allow AOBEM diplomates who were enrolled, or who graduated from, ACGME- or RCPSC-accredited fellowship programs before July 1, 2015, to apply for ABEM subspecialty certification.

Dual Certification

A physician who is certified by ABP and ABEM may apply via this pathway but only physicians who completed training to meet the certification requirements of ABP and ABEM before January 1, 1999 may apply via this pathway.

TIMING CONSIDERATIONS

Physicians seeking certification in more than one specialty or subspecialty may not apply the same postgraduate training period towards fulfilling the requirements of more than one specialty or subspecialty.

Physicians who expect to complete their fellowship training at least two weeks before the day of a Pediatric Emergency Medicine Certification Examination may submit an application during the application period for that examination.

CERTIFICATION

ABEM diplomates who have met the PedEM eligibility criteria and who pass the PedEM Certification Examination are recognized as being certified in the subspecialty of Pediatric Emergency Medicine. Certification is for a period of ten years.

Certificates are dated from the day the examination results are made available to the physician and expire December 31, ten years thereafter.

Physicians certified in PedEM are not required to maintain their Emergency Medicine certification but are required to participate in the PedEM Maintenance of Certification (MOC) program in order to renew their certification beyond ten years.

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