

AMERICAN BOARD OF WOUND MEDICINE AND SURGERY (ABWMS)

GUIDELINES FOR RECERTIFICATION THROUGH THE ABWMS CONTINUOUS CERTIFICATION PROGRAM

Recertification through the ABWMS Continuous Certification Program is a continuation of its primary responsibility as a certifying medical body. The ABWMS has sought to design a program that is meaningful, relevant, and of value to practicing wound care physicians. At the same time, the program is responsive to the public and demonstrates that certified wound care physicians are lifelong learners.

There are 2 components to recertification:

1. Continuing Medical Education Requirement
2. Continuous Certification Examination

CONTINUING MEDICAL EDUCATION REQUIREMENT

To apply for recertification through continuous education, ten (10) continuing medical education (CME) hours per year (specifically addressing wound care) must be submitted before the current certification expires. All CME hours must have been completed during the ten (10) years prior to the diplomate's certification renewal date. Recertification is required every ten (10) years. Those who recertify in 2022 will report ten (10) hours of CME hours; those who recertify in 2023, twenty (20) hours, and so forth for each succeeding year. Diplomate's who recertify in 2031 will be required to report 100 CME hours accumulated over a ten (10)-year period. Only ABWMS diplomates in good standing are eligible for the Continuous Certification Program.

Record your CME activities on ABWMS website at: <https://www.abwms.org/>

CONTINUOUS CERTIFICATION EXAMINATION

Eligible diplomates are required to complete a test designed to be a learning experience by assessing continuing and up-to-date wound medicine knowledge. Applicants will not pass or fail but rather assess their knowledge. Incorrect answers to questions will generate the rationale for the correct answer.

Instructions will be sent after application and fees have been received.

ACCEPTED CONTINUING MEDICAL EDUCATION ACTIVITIES

These may include workshops, seminars, professional development offerings (see below), home-study courses, academic courses (undergraduate or graduate) webinars, online study, and state or national conferences. The continuing medical education offering must be provided by or approved by organizations accredited as a provider or an approver of continuing medical education, such as AMA PRA Category 1.

- An organization accredited as a provider or an approver of continuing physician education by the American Council on Continuing Education (ACCME) and/or by the American Osteopathic Association (AOA).
- A state medical society.

- Organizations that are accredited as a provider of continuing education for physicians by the State Licensing Board.

Additional activities may be accepted for Recertification through the ABWMS Continuous Certification Program. Though not specifically CME accredited, they will be considered equivalent to CME hours for reporting purposes. They are as follows:

- Publication writing: 5 CME hours per chapter
- Journal article writing: 5 CME hours per article
- Poster: 2 CME hours per poster
- Research abstract: 1 CME hours per abstract
- Textbook Editor: 10 CME hours per text
- Educational presentations: 2 CME hours per presentation

If credit is being requested for publication, journal article, multimedia/poster presentation, research abstract, textbook editor and/or education presentations, the following documentation must be provided here: [American Board of Wound Medicine and Surgery – Board Certification in Wound Medicine and Surgery \(abwms.org\)](http://www.abwms.org)

- *Publication or article:* author(s), title, site/journal of publication, volume/issue, date of publication. A standard citation would be acceptable, date of presentation
- *Poster:* author(s), title, where presented, date of presentation
- *Research Abstract:* author, title, where submitted, date submitted
- *Textbook Editor:* standard citation
- *Educational Presentation:* title, where presented, date of presentation

Please note that the applicant may be requested to show proof of the number of hours for each continuing medical education (CME) reported. All program information must be inputted on the ABWMS Self Report CME Form(<https://www.abwms.org/diplomate/admin/index.php>). Accredited CME hours reporting must include date, program title, provider or sponsor, type of accreditation, and number of CME hours awarded.

DEADLINES

All applications for CE recertification must be received by:

April 30th - for those who first certified or recertified in June

September 30th - for those who first certified or recertified in December

APPLICATION PROCESS

1. Record your CME hours on ABWMS website at: [American Board of Wound Medicine and Surgery – Board Certification in Wound Medicine and Surgery \(abwms.org\)](http://www.abwms.org)
2. Submit application and fee on PTC website at: [American Board of Wound Medicine and Surgery \(ABWMS\) | Professional Testing Corporation \(ptcny.com\)](http://www.ptcny.com)
3. Take the ABWMS Continuous Certification Examination. Instructions will be sent after application and fees have been received.

RECERTIFICATION BY EXAMINATION

Diplomates may opt to recertify by taking and passing the certification examination. The online examination application must be submitted, and the examination taken before the certification expiration.

Visit [American Board of Wound Medicine and Surgery \(ABWMS\) | Professional Testing Corporation \(ptcny.com\)](http://www.abwms.org) for examination dates, application deadlines, eligibility requirements, fees, and the online examination application.

DENIAL OF RECERTIFICATION

Recertification may be denied for failure to meet the criteria as outlined above in the first paragraph of these Guidelines, falsification or misrepresentation of information, failure to apply before the stated deadlines, or failure to verify information when proper documentation is requested. Recertification will be denied to any candidate who does not possess a current medical license.

AUDIT

All applications are subject to potential audit. Copies of certificates and/or transcripts will be requested. Applications will be randomly selected for audit and the candidate will receive written notice of the audit at the time.

APPEAL PROCESS

ABWMS provides an appeal mechanism for challenging the denial of recertification. It is the responsibility of the candidate to initiate the process in writing.

LAPSE

If certification has lapsed, a candidate must meet current eligibility requirements and take the Certification Examination for Wound Medicine and Surgery.

CONTACT

Applications for ABWMS Recertification through Continuing Education are available from Professional Testing Corporation, 1350 Broadway, Suite 800, New York, New York 10018, (www.ptcny.com) or (212) 356-0660.

COMPLETION OF APPLICATION

FEES

Application fee for Recertification of the ABWMS through continuing education:

ABWMS Diplomate \$450

Late administration fee for applications submitted after application deadline... \$100

Applicants are granted a grace period of three (3) months following the expiration of one's certification during which time an application for recertification may be submitted. However, such an application incurs a late fee. The total charge for an application submitted during this period is \$550.

CREDIT CARD: Complete the Credit Card Payment section under "Payment and Submission of Application".

NOTE: There will be no refunds of recertification application fees.