

AMERICAN  
PSYCHIATRIC  
ASSOCIATION

A woman with long, curly brown hair is sitting at a desk, looking down and writing in a notebook with a white pen. She is wearing a dark blue blouse with white polka dots. The background is a blurred office setting.

# A Psychiatrist's Guide to **MOC**

## What Is Maintenance of Certification?

Maintenance of Certification is an initiative of the American Board of Medical Specialties (ABMS), an organization of 24 approved medical specialty boards including the American Board of Psychiatry and Neurology (ABPN). APA is continuously working on behalf of members to reform MOC, advocate against additional requirements, and ensure a fair process for psychiatrists that accurately demonstrates ongoing learning and improvement. The purpose of this guide is to help our members understand and meet the ABPN requirements that are currently in place.

### The ABPN MOC program is currently comprised of four components:

**Part I: Professional Standing (Licensure)**  
Licenses must be kept up-to-date in your ABPN Physician Folios account

**Part II: Self-Assessment and CME**

- Self-Assessment activities are a specific type of CME activity that assist physicians in recognizing their current knowledge base in order to identify specific topics for gaining further knowledge. ABPN now recognizes some non-CME Self-Assessment activities toward fulfillment of the requirement.
- Starting in 2016 includes one-time Patient Safety Course requirement

**Part III: Cognitive Expertise Exam (ABPN MOC Exam)**

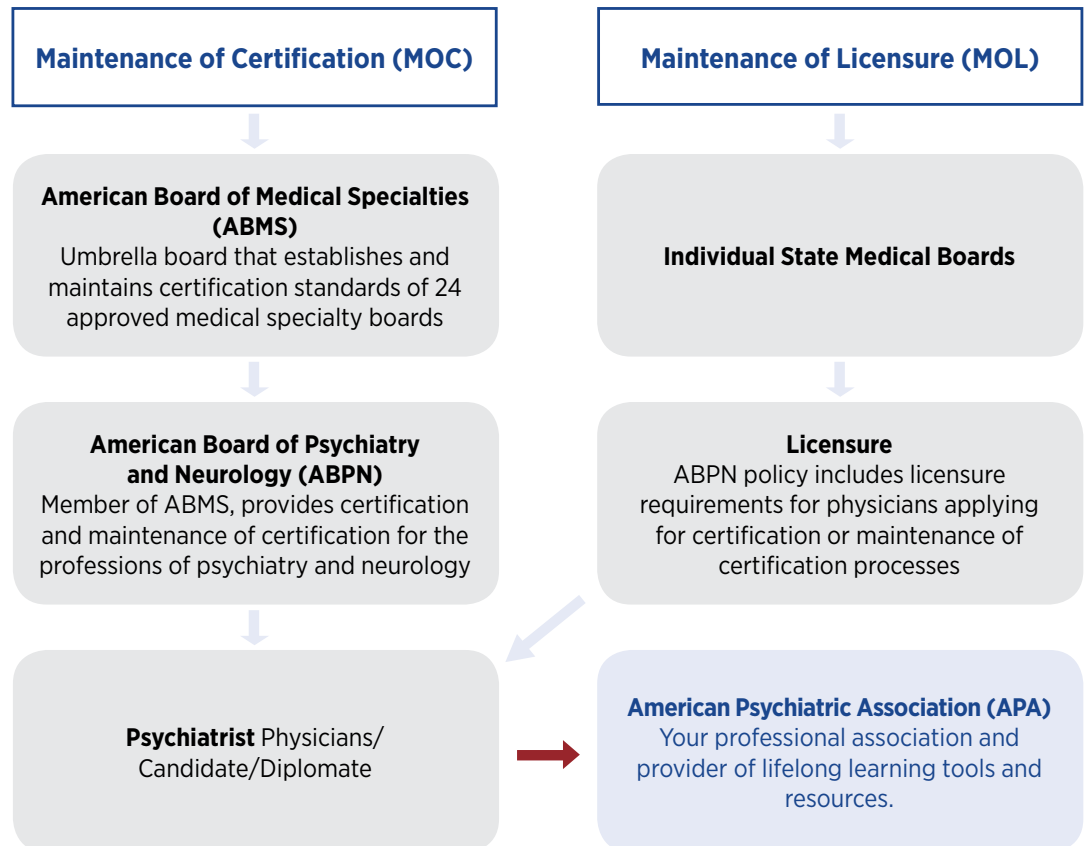
**Part IV: Improvement in Medical Practice (also known as Performance in Practice or “PIP”)**

- New in February 2016: Diplomates now choose either a Clinical Module OR Feedback Module to complete the PIP. This quality improvement exercise is designed to identify and implement areas for improvement based on the review of one’s own patient charts (Clinical Module) OR feedback from peers or patients via a questionnaire/survey (Feedback Module).
- ABPN now recognizes additional options for fulfilling the Improvement in Medical Practice(PIP) requirement.

*All certificates issued by the ABPN after October 1, 1994, are time-limited certificates. Diplomates must pass a recertification exam every 10 years and satisfy the MOC requirements to maintain their certification.*

## Who’s Who in MOC and MOL

The APA provides 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 (PIP) requirements.



## How Can the APA Help with MOC?

The APA provides 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 (PIP) requirements.

### Part II: Self-Assessment and CME Resources

- APA Learning Center, <http://education.psychiatry.org/>, provides members the ability to earn and track CME/MOC credit activities and certificates as part of your Transcript (my portfolio).
- FOCUS Journal and Self-Assessment Exam. Physicians can earn up to 44 *AMA PRA Category 1 credits*<sup>TM\*</sup> (The annual FOCUS Self-Assessment Examination provides 24 SA CME credits.)
- Annual Meeting (MOC sessions available) \*
- IPS: Mental Health Services Conference
- Annual Meeting on Demand
- FOCUS MOC Workbooks provide physicians and physician assistants with an opportunity to earn up to 12 (Self-Assessment) *AMA PRA Category 1 credits*<sup>TM\* \*\*</sup>

### Part III: Cognitive Expertise

- *FOCUS: The Journal of Lifelong Learning in Psychiatry* covers the ABPN recertification examination topic outline in four year cycles
- *FOCUS: Psychiatry Review* workbooks – available at APA Publishing – are useful resources when preparing for the recertification exam
- APA Learning Center, <http://education.psychiatry.org/>, provides 200+ online CME activities

### Part IV: Improvement in Medical Practice (also known as Performance in Practice and/or “PIP”)

- APA **PIP Clinical Modules**: Free for APA members at APA Learning Center.
- Psychiatrists can earn up to 20 *AMA PRA Category 1 credits*<sup>TM</sup> for the completion of each 3-stage module. Available modules include: \*\*
  - Physician Practice Assessment Tools for Assessment and Treatment of Adults at Risk for Suicide and Suicide-Related Behaviors \*\*
  - Physician Practice Assessment Tool for the Care of Patients with a Diagnosis of Schizophrenia \*\*
  - Physician Practice Assessment Tool for the Care of Patients with Major Depressive Disorder \*\*
  - Physician Practice Assessment Tool for the Care of Patients with Posttraumatic Stress Disorder \*\*
  - PIP: Clinical Module for the Assessment and Treatment of Adults with Substance Use Disorder \*\*
  - PIP: Clinical Module for Screening Adult Psychiatric Patients for Substance Use Disorders \*\*
- Applying the Integrated Care Approach: APA Learning Collaborative participation.\*\*\*

#### PIP Feedback Component

- Use an **ABPN-approved PIP feedback form**
- Get **ABPN approval for a feedback form** you're already using

\* Approved for Self-Assessment | \*\* Approved for PIP

## APA LEARNING CENTER

The APA's convenient online resource for completing and tracking CME, Self-Assessment, Performance in Practice(PIP), and professional development activities.

- Enter your non-APA activities/credits and upload documentation
- Download and print APA CME certificates and transcripts

**Note:** The APA 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., **ABPN Physician Folios** account.

## MOC Roadmap

When Were You Last Certified?	MOC Program	Program Breakdown		
<b>A</b> January 1, 2007 - December 31, 2011	<b>10 YEAR MOC PROGRAM</b>	<b>Part</b>	<b>Requirement</b>	<b>Deadline</b>
		CME	300 Credits	10 Years
		Self-Assessment	24 Credits	10 Years
		PIP	1 Module: Clinical OR Feedback	10 Years
		MOC Exam	1 Test	10 Years*
<b>Note:</b> Once you recertify (2017-2021) you will move to the 2016+ Continuous MOC Requirements (Row C).				
<b>B</b> January 1, 2012 - December 31, 2015	<b>CONTINUOUS MOC PROGRAM</b>	<b>Part</b>	<b>Requirement</b>	<b>Deadline</b>
		CME	90 Credits	3 Years
		Self-Assessment	24 Credits	3 Years
		PIP	1 Module: Clinical OR Feedback	3 Years
		MOC Exam	1 Test	10 Years*
<b>C</b> January 1, 2016+	<b>CONTINUOUS MOC PROGRAM</b>	<b>Part</b>	<b>Requirement</b>	<b>Deadline</b>
		Patient Safety	1 Activity	1 Time**
		CME	90 Credits	3 Years
		Self-Assessment	24 Credits	3 Years
		PIP	1 Module: Clinical OR Feedback	3 Years
		MOC Exam	1 Test	10 Years*
		<b>Note:</b> Once the 3 year cycle is complete, begin the Continuous MOC Program again.		

\*\* The patient safety activity is a one-time requirement. For more details, see [apapsy.ch/abpn-moc](http://apapsy.ch/abpn-moc).

\* View your ABPN Physician Folios account for your MOC requirements and timeline.

**The APA Patient Safety Activity is available in the APA Learning Center.**

For more information on MOC activity requirements, [abpn.com/maintain-certification/moc-activity-requirements](http://abpn.com/maintain-certification/moc-activity-requirements)

For a copy of the ABPN exam schedule, [abpn.com/wp-content/uploads/2015/10/exam-schedule.pdf](http://abpn.com/wp-content/uploads/2015/10/exam-schedule.pdf)

Need to recertify in a subspecialty as well? Take a Combined MOC Exam to save on cost and time.

## Take Advantage of your Member Benefits to meet MOC

### Maintenance of Certification

More than 90 free courses to members in the Learning Center.

PIP and Self-Assessment credits are automatically reported to ABPN and not subject to audit.

### 2017 Annual Meeting

Receive steep discounts to the 2017 Annual Meeting in San Diego, CA.

[psychiatry.org/annual-meeting](http://psychiatry.org/annual-meeting)

### Members' Course of the Month

Enroll in your free Members Course of the Month for world-class content on trending topics.

[psychiatry.org/memberscourse](http://psychiatry.org/memberscourse)

### FOCUS: The Journal of Lifelong Learning in Psychiatry

Access your online subscription to FOCUS to stay up to date and meet MOC and MOL requirements. Free for ECPs and steeply discounted for General Members. Call 888-357-7924 to activate your subscription.

## Need to renew?

Visit [psychiatry.org/paydues](http://psychiatry.org/paydues) or call 888-357-7924.