



EMERITUS CERTIFICATION

Eligibility is limited to:

1. any Diplomate who meets all of the requirements for an ABPS member in “good standing” and,
2. whose certification maintenance fees are current and paid in full during the year in which he or she applies, and,
3. who is completely retired from the active practice of medicine in the specialty in which he or she is certified.

The benefit of becoming Emeritus is a reduced certification maintenance fee (CMF) and the waiving of the requirement to recertify and to earn CME for ABPS purposes. This waiver does not suspend CME requirements by State Medical Boards for State Medical Licensure.

A Diplomate must apply by completing an ABPS Emeritus Status Application Form. After the application is received and approved, the Diplomate will be required to return his/her original certificate. The Diplomate will then be issued a new board of certification certificate denoting the medical specialty along with the designation of “Emeritus Certification.”

- Any request for verification of certification will be officially responded in writing to as follows: Dr. (Name) was initially certified by the American Board of Physician Specialties through the Board of Certification in (Specialty) in (Month/Year.) Dr. (Name) was awarded certificate number (XX-XX). Dr. (Name) remained actively certified until 12/31/whatever year, and then elected to secure Emeritus Certification. Dr. (name) is a Diplomate in good standing of the American Board of Physician Specialties.”

Diplomates who apply for Emeritus certification remain indefinitely certified only in that medical specialty provided they continue to meet three criteria on an annual basis:

1. Remain completely retired from the active medical practice in the specialty in which he / she was originally certified.
2. Remit on a timely basis the annual Emeritus certification maintenance fee.
3. Retain a full, unrestricted license to practice medicine.

A Diplomate who desires to return to active certification **before** his / her current certification date expires may do so by:

1. Remitting the difference between the Emeritus fees paid and the Certification Maintenance fees that would have accrued and,
2. By acquiring the appropriate amount of CME's (to be determined by current ABPS requirements) to recertify at the appropriate time.

“EXAMPLE” OF POLICY IN ACTION:

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1. Dr. Jones is approved as Emeritus in 2008. His certification expires on 12/31/2010. Dr. Smith remains active, but her certification also expires on 12/31/2010.
2. For the sake of easy math, let's say the EMF fee is \$75 while the full CMF fee is \$100.
3. Dr. Jones pays an Emeritus certification fee of \$75 in 2008.
4. Dr Jones pays an Emeritus certification fee of \$75 in 2009, for a total of \$150.
5. Meanwhile Dr. Smith pays a Diplomate certification maintenance fee of \$100 in 2008.
6. Dr. Smith also pays a Diplomate certification maintenance fee of \$100 in 2009, for a total of \$200.
7. Dr. Smith has thus paid \$50 more than Dr. Jones to have the same privileges in 2010.
8. Therefore, Dr. Jones must contribute an additional \$50 before he is allowed to recertify.
9. At the time Dr. Jones turns in his recertification application, he must report the total number of CME required to recertify.

A Diplomate who desires to return to active certification within two (2) years AFTER his / her certification date expires **will have to apply for Recertification and meet the eligibility requirements for Recertification.**

A Diplomate who desires to return to active certification more than two years AFTER his / her certification date expires **will have to apply for a complete new certification** which will require the completion of written, oral, and any other current ABPS examination procedures that new applicants will be required to complete for successful board certification.



EMERITUS CERTIFICATION APPLICATION

Applies to any Diplomate who retires completely from the active practice of medicine in the specialty in which he or she is certified. Eligibility is limited to any Diplomate who is in good standing (certification maintenance fee current) during the year in which he or she applies.

All Information Must Be Typed or Printed

Name: _____

Home Address: _____

City: _____

State/Country: _____

Zip/Postal Code: _____

Telephone: _____ Fax: _____

E-Mail: _____

Retired from Specialty: _____

I hereby attest that I am completely retired from active medical practice in the specialty listed above, and I wish to change my status to Emeritus Certified. If I resume any practice in the above specialty, I will advise ABPS of such in writing.

Signature: _____

Date: _____

[PLEASE MAIL TO: ABPS CERTIFICATION OFFICE, 5550 WEST EXECUTIVE DRIVE, SUITE 400, TAMPA, FL 33609](#)