



Policies and Procedures for the Certificate of Advanced Training in Bariatric Medicine

2011

April 6-7, 2011 ABBM Review Course
Baltimore, Maryland

June 15, 2011 Early Application Deadline
July 30, 2011 Final Application Deadline

September 10, 2011 - ABBM Certification Written Exam
September 24, 2011 Computer Based Testing Centers

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INTRODUCTION

The American Board of Bariatric Medicine (ABBM) is an independent medical specialty board responsible for certifying physicians in the field of bariatric medicine. The ABBM was originally organized as a committee of the American Society of Bariatric Physicians (ASBP) in 1970. Subsequently, in 1997 the ABBM was incorporated in the state of Colorado as an independent entity. Although the ABBM is not a medical specialty board of the American Board of Medical Specialties, our sister entity the ASBP was granted a seat in the AMA House of Delegates in 2001, which recognizes the ASBP as a specialty medical society.

Description of Bariatric Medicine

Bariatric medicine is the medical specialty involved in treating obesity and its related comorbidities. In 1985, the National Institutes of Health (NIH) convened a Health Consensus Development Conference on the Health Implications of Obesity and designated obesity as a specific disease entity requiring treatment by trained physicians.

Purpose of Certificate of Advanced Training in Bariatric Medicine

The purpose of the ABBM Certificate of Advanced Training in Bariatric Medicine is to provide assurance to the public and to other medical providers that a candidate Physician Assistant or Nurse Practitioner has successfully completed a minimum base of accredited bariatric educational programs. Candidates will have successfully completed a thorough evaluation of their fund of knowledge in bariatric medicine. Candidates must pass a written examination to show comprehensive knowledge in the treatment of obesity.

Physician candidates that have not completed a U.S. or Canadian medical residency or the equivalent training in a U.S. territory are also invited to apply for the Certificate of Advanced Training in Bariatric Medicine. Candidates must pass a written examination to show comprehensive knowledge in the treatment of obesity.

ABBM in no way claims to be capable of defining and does not intend to define who may or may not practice bariatric medicine. It is neither a source of censure nor an entity for the resolution of ethical or medico-legal problems. ABBM makes no representations about the value, character, quality or competence of certificants other than that they have met or exceeded the minimum requirements for certification by ABBM. ABBM is not responsible for how third parties interpret or evaluate the fact that an individual is or is not ABBM certified.

Function of the ABBM

The ABBM provides a Certificate of Advanced Training in Bariatric Medicine to Nurse Practitioners, Physician Assistants and Physician candidates without completion of U.S. or Canadian medical residency. Eligible candidates will receive a Certificate of Advanced Training in Bariatric Medicine after successfully completing the required continuing education credits and passing the written examination.

ABBM CERTIFICATE OF ADVANCED TRAINING IN BARIATRIC MEDICINE PROCESS OVERVIEW

Application for Certificate of Advanced Training in Bariatric Medicine

An application for the ABBM Certificate of Advanced Training in Bariatric Medicine can be found at the end of this booklet. Applications may also be downloaded from the ABBM web site at www.abbmcertification.org. An exam fee must accompany the completed application and supporting material upon submission to the ABBM office. **All support documentation must accompany the application.** No extensions will be provided, so be sure to allow enough time to complete your CME requirement.

Examination

The Examination is administered during an established two-week testing period on a daily basis, Monday through Saturday, excluding holidays, at computer-based testing facilities managed by PSI Computer Testing, Inc. PSI has several hundred testing sites in the United States, as well as Canada. Scheduling is done on a first-come, first-serve basis. To find a testing center near you visit: <http://www.ptcny.com/cbt/sites.htm> or call PSI at (800) 211-2754. Please note: Hours and days of availability vary at different centers. You will not be able to schedule your examination appointment until you have received an Eligibility Notice from PTC.

APPLICATION FOR ABBM CERTIFICATE OF ADVANCED TRAINING in Bariatric Medicine

2011 Qualifications for Certification

- A copy of each of the state, providence or jurisdictional Nurse Licensure or Physician Assistant Licensure in which the applicant currently practices medicine. Physician candidates that have not completed a U.S. or Canadian medical residency or the equivalent training in a U.S. territory are required to submit evidence of completed medical training as well as active licensure where the applicant currently practices medicine.
- A copy of the applicant's DEA registration certificate where applicable.
- A signed Declaration and Consent form which can be found on page 13.
- A minimum of one hundred (100) credit hours of continuing medical education (CME) are required. Fifty (50) of those credit hours must be in **Bariatric Medicine** involving education in the core-content of bariatric medicine as defined by the ABBM. The remainder fifty (50) credit hours may be fulfilled by **Obesity-related Co-morbidity CME** involving education on obesity-related topics as itemized in the ABBM Test Content Outline (<http://abmcertification.org/inc/assets/2010/TestContentOutline.pdf>). The one hundred (100) credit hours can be completed within the thirty six (36) months preceding the final application deadline (7/31/08 – 7/31/11). A copy of the applicant's CME certificates should accompany the application.

2011 ABBM Certification CME Requirement

A minimum of one hundred (100) credit hours of continuing medical education (CME) recognized by the following approved organizations are required for certification.

Sponsor (organization approving CME credit)	Credit Designation
American Academy of Physician Assistants (AAPA)	Category I
American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC)	Category I
American Osteopathic Association Council on Continuing Medical Education (AOACCME)	Category I
American Academy of Family Physicians (AAFP)	Prescribed Credit
Organizations accredited by the Accreditation Council on Continuing Medical Education (ACCME). The American Medical Association (AMA) is part of this group.	AMA PRA Category 1 Credit™

Fifty (50) of those credit hours must be in **Bariatric Medicine** involving education in the core-content of bariatric medicine as defined by the ABBM. **Bariatric Medicine** CME activities should deal directly with the treatment, diagnosis, or prevention of obesity. The remainder fifty (50) credit hours may be fulfilled by **Obesity-related Co-morbidity CME** involving education on obesity-related topics as itemized in the ABBM Test Content Outline (<http://abmcertification.org/inc/assets/2010/TestContentOutline.pdf>). The one hundred (100) credit hours can be completed within the thirty six (36) months preceding the final application deadline (7/31/08 – 7/31/11). A copy of the applicant's CME certificates should accompany the application.

Bariatric Medicine CME activities directly deal with the core content of bariatric medicine as defined by the ABBM. Credit may be issued from attending conferences or completing audio/video programs with accompanying post-test evaluation.

Obesity-related Co-morbidity CME activities involve education on obesity-related topics as itemized in the ABBM Test Content Outline (<http://abmcertification.org/inc/assets/2010/TestContentOutline.pdf>). In addition to covering core-content topics, these activities may also include those that focus on conditions or interventions strongly linked with obesity as a disease or obesity management (including educational activities on diabetes, metabolic syndrome, nutrition, etc).

Application Approval

The ABBM will notify applicants if they are, or are not, accepted as candidates for the Certificate of Advanced Training in Bariatric Medicine. ABBM, acting as a committee of the whole, reserves the right to deny or revoke certification if granting certification or permitting continuance of certification would adversely affect ABBM or is not in the best interest of patient health or public welfare or safety. If the applicant wishes to exercise the right to appeal this decision, the applicant must inform ABBM in writing of this intention within thirty (30) days of the date of receipt of written notification of the decision not to accept the application.

Any candidate whose license to practice medicine has been revoked, restricted or suspended in any way shall be ineligible for certification until such time as the encumbered license is reinstated in full. Should a license be revoked, restricted, or suspended following the submission of an application for certification, but prior to the notification of certificate status, the application and certification will be simultaneously invalidated.

It is the responsibility of the candidate to inform ABBM in writing immediately upon a change in licensure status. If the candidate fails to notify ABBM of any revocation, restriction, suspension, or probation within 60 days after the effective date, he or she shall be ineligible to seek certification for up to one year following the reinstatement of full and unrestricted licensure.

For purposes of ABBM certification, a medical license is considered to be restricted if it is currently subject to any adverse action by a state or provincial licensing agency which encumbers the ability of a physician to diagnose, manage, and/or treat patients. Questions about licensure should be presented to the ABBM in writing.

ABBM reserves the right to revoke certification erroneously granted to unqualified candidates, including certification granted as a result of clerical errors.

Appeals

Candidates whom ABBM has declared ineligible to sit for the certifying examination on the basis of qualifications may appeal such decisions by written request within 30 days of the date of notification of the Board's ruling.

WRITTEN EXAMINATION

The Examination is administered during an established two-week testing period on a daily basis, Monday through Saturday, excluding holidays, at computer-based testing facilities managed by PSI Computer Testing, Inc. PSI has several hundred testing sites in the United States, as well as Canada. Scheduling is done on a first-come, first-serve basis. To find a testing center near you visit: <http://www.ptcny.com/cbt/sites.htm> or call PSI at (800) 211-2754. Please note: Hours and days of availability vary at different centers. You will not be able to schedule your examination appointment until you have received an Eligibility Notice from PTC.

WRITTEN EXAM

The written exam is a one-day exam consisting of up to 250 questions designed to assess the knowledge base and the cognitive and deductive skills of the candidates.

I. Concepts of Obesity – (37%)

A. Age Factors

1. Child and Adolescent Obesity
 - a. Genetic
 - b. Behavioral/Environmental
 - c. Risk Factors
 - d. Prevention
 - e. Co-morbidities
 - f. Treatment
 - i. Dietary Recommendations
 - ii. Pharmacology
 - iii. 2007 Expert Committee Recommendations
2. Adult Obesity
3. Elderly Issues

B. Nutrition

1. Macronutrients
 - a. Protein
 - b. Carbohydrate
 - c. Fats and Oils
 - d. Calories/Gram of Macronutrient
 - e. Glycemic Index/Glycemic Load
2. Vitamins
3. Electrolytes, Minerals, and Water
4. Fiber
5. Trace Minerals
6. Nutritional Values
7. Nutrient Absorption
8. Vegetarian Issues

C. Related Factors

1. Genetics
2. Endocrinology Factors
 - a. BMI Grading
 - b. Cortisol
 - c. Cushing Syndrome
 - d. Diabetes
 - e. Growth Hormone
 - f. Hypothyroidism
 - g. Metabolic Syndrome
 - h. Polycystic Ovarian Syndrome
 - i. Sex Hormones
 - j. Neuroendocrine
3. Pharmacologic Causes
4. Psychological Disorders
 - a. Eating Disorders
 - i. Anorexia Nervosa
 - ii. Bulimia Nervosa
 - iii. Binge Eating Disorder
 - iiii. Night Eating Syndrome
 - b. Mood (affective) Disorders
 - i. Major Depressive Disorder
 - ii. Dysthymic Disorder
 - iii. Bipolar Disorder
 - iiii. Cyclothymic Disorder
 - c. Anxiety Disorders
 - i. Generalized Anxiety Disorder

- ii. Panic Disorder
 - iii. Post Traumatic Stress Disorder
 - iii. Obsessive Compulsive Disorder
 - iiii. Acute Stress Disorder
 - d. Body Dysmorphic Disorder
 - e. Attention Deficit Disorders
 - f. Borderline Personality Disorder
- 5. Physical Activity
- 6. Diet
- 7. Cultural and Ethnic Issues
- 8. Psycho-social Environment
- D. Health Consequences
 - 1. Sleep Apnea
 - 2. Heart Disease
 - 3. Coronary Artery Disease
 - 4. Stroke
 - 5. Pulmonary Dysfunction
 - 6. Adiposopathy
 - 7. Gallbladder Disease
 - 8. Alzheimer's Disease
 - 9. Diabetes
 - 10. Hypertension
 - 11. Fatty Liver Disease
 - 12. Metabolic Syndrome
 - 13. Endocrine Dysfunction

II. Patient Examination – (15%)

- A. Assess Readiness to Change
- B. Patient History
 - 1. Health and Medical History
 - 2. Weight and Dietary History
 - a. CDC Growth Charts
 - 3. Surgical History
 - 4. Family History
 - 5. Mental Health History
 - 6. Social History
 - 7. Allergy History
 - 8. Medication and Supplements Used
 - 9. Exercise and Activity Level
 - 10. Psychological Disorders
 - 11. Systems Review
- C. Physical Examination
 - 1. General appearance
 - 2. Height and Weight
 - 3. Cardiovascular
 - 4. BMI calculation
 - 5. Classification of Weight
 - a. Classes in Adults
 - b. BMI Growth Charts
 - 6. Measurements
 - a. Abdominal Circumference
 - b. Neck Circumference
 - c. Hip Circumference
 - 7. Vital Signs
 - 8. Neurological Functions
 - 9. Range of Motion
 - 10. Tanner Staging
- D. Diagnostic Testing
 - 1. Body Composition
 - 2. Laboratory

- a. Blood Chemistry
- b. Blood Glucose Test
- c. Metabolic Testing
- d. Insulin Testing
- e. Lipid Panel
- f. CBC
- g. Urinalysis
- h. Vitamin Levels
- 3. Other Testing
 - a. EKG
 - b. Stress Test
 - c. Sleep Study
 - d. Psychological
 - e. Physical Fitness

III. Treatments - Nonsurgical – (25%)

A. Weight Control Diets

- 1. Low Calorie
 - a. Calorie Deficit to Lose Pounds
 - b. Patient Education
- 2. Very Low Calorie
 - a. Patient needs
 - b. Medical changes
 - c. In Diabetics
 - d. Contraindications
 - e. Complications
 - f. Nutrient Needs
 - g. Indications
- 3. Ketogenic
- 4. Low Fat
- 5. American Heart Association Therapeutic Lifestyle Changes
- 6. Balance Deficit Diet

B. Physical Activity and Exercise

- 1. Benefits
- 2. Types
- 3. Risks
- 4. Role in Weight Loss
- 5. Physiologic Changes
 - a. Microscopic
 - b. Macroscopic
- 6. Muscles
 - a. Types
 - b. Structure
 - c. Fuel Source for Skeleton

C. Behavior Modification/Techniques

- 1. Interpersonal Therapy
- 2. Behavioral Therapy
- 3. Cognitive Therapy
- 4. Cognitive Behavioral Therapy
- 5. Motivational Interviewing

D. Pharmacology

- 1. Antidepressants
- 2. Anti-psychotics
- 3. Blood Pressure Medications
- 4. Diabetic Medication
- 5. Non-Stimulants
- 6. Controlled Substances for Weight Loss

IV. Treatments – Surgical – (15%)

A. Bariatric Procedures

1. Historical Procedures
 - a. Vertical Banded Gastroplasty
2. Current Procedures
 - a. Roux-en-Y (RNY) Gastric Bypass
 - b. Adjustable Gastric Band
 - c. Sleeve Gastrectomy
 - d. Biliopancreatic Diversion (BDP)
- B. Risk Factors
 1. Contraindications
- C. Indications for Surgery
- D. Pre-operative Preparations
- E. Complications
 1. Insufficient Weight Loss
 2. Vitamin Deficiency
 3. Mineral Deficiency
 4. Dumping Syndrome
 5. Internal Hernia
 6. Malabsorption
 7. Anastomotic Leaks
 8. Anastomotic Ulcer
 9. Hepatobiliary Factors
 10. Gastric Band Complications
 11. Roux-en-Y (RNY) Complications
 12. Weight Re-Gain
- F. Post Surgery
 1. Follow-up
 2. Diet Recommendations

V. Patient Management Issues – (8%)

- A. Initial
 1. Written consents
 2. Referrals
 3. Eating and Activity Plans
 4. Goal Setting
 5. Patient Education
 - a. Complications of Obesity
 - b. Eating Habits
 - c. Exercise
 - d. Behavioral Modification
 - e. Vitamins, Minerals, and Hormone Balance
 6. Group Sessions
 - a. Group Therapy
 - b. Group Education
 7. Diaries
 - a. Food Diary
 - b. Exercise Diary
 8. Follow-up Schedules
- B. Long Term/Maintenance
 1. Re-assess Goals
 2. Changes in Behavior
 3. Medications
- C. Medical/Legal Issues
 1. Regulatory
 - a. HIPAA
 - b. OSHA
 - c. Americans with Disabilities Act
 2. Bariatric Laws and Regulations
 3. Insurance Compliance
 4. Public Health

Scheduling Your Examination Appointment

Once your application has been received and processed, and your eligibility verified, you will be mailed an Eligibility Notice within 5 (five) weeks prior to the beginning of the testing window. **The Eligibility Notice plus current government issued photo identification must be presented in order to gain admission to the testing center.** A candidate not receiving an Eligibility Notice or other correspondence at least 3 (three) weeks before the beginning of the two-week testing period should contact the Professional Testing Corporation by telephone at (212) 356-0660.

The Eligibility Notice will indicate where to call to schedule your examination appointment as well as the dates in which testing is available. Appointment times are first-come, first-serve, so schedule your appointment as soon as you receive your Eligibility Notice in order to maximize your chance of testing at your preferred location and on your preferred date.

Special Needs

Special testing arrangements will be made for individuals with special needs. Submit the Application, Examination Fee, and a completed and signed Request for Special Accommodations Form, available from www.ptcny.com or by calling PTC at (212) 356-0660. Requests for special testing for individuals with special needs must be received at least EIGHT weeks before the testing period begins.

Additional Policies

- Absolutely no notes, textbooks, other reference materials, scratch paper or electronic devices may be taken into the written certification examination.
- No signaling devices, including pagers, cellular phones, wireless electronic devices, Personal Digital Assistants, and alarms may be operative during the examination.
- No questions concerning content of the examination may be asked during the testing period. The candidate should carefully read the directions that are provided on screen at the beginning of the examination session.
- ABBM reserves the right to conduct and report research studies of its examinations and its examination data for purposes of quality assurance, examination development, and benefit to the specialty.
- ABBM reserves the right to include in any examination certain questions or cases for the purpose of research and validation. Such items will not enter into the scoring for the purposes of certification.
- All examination materials are copyrighted as the sole property of the ABBM and must not be removed by the candidate from the test area or reproduced in any way. Any reproduction of the test booklet in whole or in part, is a federal offense and also may subject the candidate to immediate removal from the examination and other punitive and/or legal action.

A Tutorial and a Sample Demonstration Test can be viewed online at <http://www.ptcny.com/cbt/demo.htm>.

Report of Results

At the end of the examination, candidates will receive a printout that confirms their completion of the examination. Candidates will be notified in writing by PTC within six weeks of the close of the testing period whether they have officially passed or failed the examination. Scores on the major areas of the examination and on the total examination will also be reported.

Retesting

Applicants are entitled to retake the examination one time, upon payment of a retesting fee, without resubmitting evidence of compliance with the qualifications stated previously. The candidate must retake the exam the following time it is offered or forfeit this opportunity. Any additional retesting will require a reapplication for board certification.

Reapplication

ABBM declares void the application of a candidate who has failed to satisfy the examination requirement after two attempts. The candidate may reapply by submitting a new application. Such application shall be subject to the fees, rules, privileges and requirements that apply at the time of reapplication. Applicants whom ABBM determines meet existing eligibility requirements will be permitted to sit for the ABBM certification examination.

Irregular Behavior

ABBM acts to maintain the integrity of its examination and certification process and to ensure the equitable and objective administration of its examinations to all candidates.

All board examinations are supervised by proctors who are required to report any behavior which ABBM considers a violation of the integrity of its examination and certification process. Irregular behavior includes, but is not limited to, giving or obtaining unauthorized information or aid before, during, or after the examination as evidenced by observation or subsequent statistical analysis of answer sheets. Offering financial or other benefit to a proctor, employee, or agent of ABBM is forbidden.

The examination of a candidate whose conduct, in the Board's judgment, violates or attempts to violate the integrity of its examination and certification process will be invalidated and no results will be reported. In that event, the candidate would be informed of the reasons for the Board's actions and could request an opportunity to present information deemed relevant to the issue and to petition the Board to reconsider its decision.

Unforeseeable Events

In the event inclement weather, a natural disaster, war, government regulations, strikes, civil disorders, curtailment of transportation facilities or other unforeseeable events make it inadvisable, illegal or impossible for the ABBM to administer an examination to a candidate at the appointed date, time and location, or to conclude a candidate's examination, ABBM is not responsible for any of the expense the candidate may have incurred to be present for the examination, nor for any such expense the candidate may incur for any substitute examination.

DEADLINES AND FEES

ABBM is a non-profit corporation, and the fees from candidates are used solely for defraying actual expenses incurred in conducting examinations, and in carrying out the business of the Board. The directors of the Board serve without compensation.

In the event an application is not accepted, or the application is accepted and subsequently withdrawn by the candidate, fee(s) covering administrative services will be retained and the balance of any fees paid for the examination will be refunded according the schedule stated in this booklet. No fee will be refunded if the candidate's notice of withdrawal from the board certification process is received after the date of the 30th day prior to the examinations.

Reexamination fees will be charged to candidates whether they have failed a previous examination, canceled a scheduled appointment for examination in less than 30 days prior to the examinations, or failed to appear for any examination for which they were properly scheduled.

Applicants may pay fees by credit card, using either Visa or MasterCard, or by check. For applicants not using U.S. banks, the fee must be paid in U.S. dollars using one of the following: (1) money order, (2) cashier's check or (3) certified check. To be accepted for payment, these instruments must be payable through a U.S. bank.

After the ABBM has accepted an application, the applicant is expected to take the next certifying examination offered. However, an applicant may withdraw by submitting a written notice.

2011 FEES

DEADLINES	Application Deadline	Late Application Deadline
	6/15/11	7/30/11
NP/PA CANDIDATE FEES	\$500	\$700
RETAKE FEES	Written exam:	\$500

- Exam fee amount determined by the date the complete application is received by the ABBM office.
- The exam fee covers processing candidate applications, analyzing the exam results, marketing, administrative office costs, insurance and travel expenses for candidates' office inspections.



Application for

**CERTIFICATE OF ADVANCED TRAINING IN BARIATRIC MEDICINE
ABBM Written Examination in Bariatric Medicine - NP/PA - 2011**

Optional Information

Note: Information related to race, age, and gender is optional and is requested only to assist in complying with general guidelines pertaining to equal opportunity. Such data will be used only in statistical summaries and in no way will affect your certification.

Race:

- African American Hispanic White
 Asian Native American Other

Age Range:

- Under 25 30 to 39 50 to 59
 25 to 29 40 to 49 60+

Gender:

- Male Female

Candidate Signature

I have read the Policies and Procedures for the Certificate of Advanced Training in Bariatric Medicine (2011) and understand I am responsible for knowing its contents. I certify that the information given in this Application is in accordance with the Policies and Procedures instructions and is accurate, correct, and complete.

CANDIDATE SIGNATURE: _____ **DATE:** _____

2011 Qualifications for Certificate of Advanced Training in Bariatric Medicine

- 1 A copy of each of the state, province or jurisdictional Nurse Licensure or Physician Assistant Licensure in which the applicant currently practices medicine. Physician candidates that have not completed a U.S. or Canadian medical residency or the equivalent training in a U.S. territory are required to submit evidence of completed medical training as well as active licensure where the applicant currently practices medicine.
- 2 A copy of the candidate's DEA registration certificate where applicable.
- 3 A signed Declaration and Consent form.
- 4 A minimum of one hundred (100) credit hours of continuing medical education (CME) are required. Fifty (50) of those credit hours must be in **Bariatric Medicine** involving education in the core-content of bariatric medicine as defined by the ABBM. The remaining fifty (50) credit hours may be fulfilled by **Obesity-related Co-morbidity CME** involving education on obesity-related topics as itemized in the ABBM Test Content Outline (<http://abbmcertification.org/inc/assets/2010/TestContentOutline.pdf>). The one hundred (100) credit hours can be completed within thirty six (36) months preceding the final application deadline (7/31/08-7/30/11). A copy of the applicant's CME certificates should accompany the application.

EXAMINATION FEES

Amount of the examination fee is determined by the date the complete application is received by the ABBM office.

NEW CANDIDATE

Early Deadline Fee (6/15/2011) \$500
Final Deadline Fee (7/30/2011) \$700

RETAKE CANDIDATE

Written Examination: \$500

Applications received after July 30, 2011, will not be accepted for the 2011 ABBM Written Examination in Bariatric Medicine.

CREDIT CARD PAYMENT

If you want to charge your application fee on your credit card provide all of the following information.

Name (as it appears on your card): _____

Address (as it appears on your statement): _____

Charge my credit card for the total fee of: \$ [] [] [] [] [] []

Expiration date (month/year): [] [] / [] [] [] []

Card type: Visa MasterCard **3 Digit ID on back of Card:** [] [] []

Card Number: []

Signature: _____

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

Date

Fee: [] [] [] [] [] []

CC Check

[] [] [] [] [] []

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Candidate Declaration and Consent

Declaration

I, the undersigned, hereby make application to the American Board of Bariatric Medicine for the issuance to me of a certificate, and for examinations relative thereto, all in accordance with and subject to its rules and regulations, and the fees requested. I certify that all information contained in my application for ABBM certification is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge. I agree to denial for eligibility for certification, revocation or other limitation of my certification if any statement made on this application or hereafter supplied to ABBM is false or inaccurate or if I violate any of the rules or regulations of ABBM. I understand that if I receive ABBM certification, it will be my responsibility to remain in compliance with all ABBM requirements for certification as they presently exist and as they may be revised, to keep my certification current and to submit a valid renewal application and fee within sixty (60) days of my certification expiration date.

In addition, I hereby authorize ABBM, its officers, directors, committee members, employees, and agents (the "above-designated parties"), to review my application for eligibility for ABBM certification, and, if I receive ABBM certification, to initiate review of my continued eligibility for ABBM certification. I agree to cooperate promptly and fully in any such review, including submitting such documents and information deemed necessary to confirm the information in this application. I authorize the above-designated parties to communicate any and all information relating to any ABBM application and review thereof including but not limited to pendency or outcome of disciplinary proceedings to state and federal authorities, and others by means of newsletter or otherwise.

I understand that ABBM may use any score in psychometric analyses to confirm observations and reports of suspected irregularities in the conduct of an examination or review, and respond to any inquiry about my status in its examination or review system in accordance with its policy as then constituted. I authorize any and all repositories to grant access to or to produce copies for the American Board of Bariatric Medicine of all documents and records containing information and data pertaining to my practice of medicine.

I certify that I am the candidate whose signature appears below. Because of the confidential nature of the ABBM examination, I will not take any examination materials from the test site, reproduce the examination materials, or transmit the examination questions or answers in any form to any other person. I understand that I may only seek admission to sit for the ABBM examination for the purpose of seeking ABBM certification, and for no other purpose. I understand that ABBM reserves the right to refuse admission to any ABBM examination to me if I do not have the proper identification (valid acknowledgment card), or if administration has begun. If I am refused admission for any of these reasons or failure to appear at the test site, I will receive no refund of the application or examination fees and there will be no credit for future examinations or the onsite review. I authorize the proctors at my assigned test site to maintain a secure and proper test administration at their discretion. I acknowledge that in this capacity the proctors may relocate me before or during the examination. I will not communicate with other examinees in any way.

If I do anything which is not authorized or which is prohibited by ABBM in connection with any ABBM examination, I understand that my examination performance may be voided, and such activity may be the subject of legal action. In a case where my examination performance is voided, I will receive no refund of the application or examination fees and there will be no credit for any future examination.

I understand that review of the adequacy of the examination materials will be limited to computing any scoring correction. I waive all further claims of examination review and agree to indemnify and hold harmless the above-designated parties for any action taken pursuant to the rules and standards of ABBM with regard to this application and/or my certification.

By signing, I hereby certify that I have read and understand this information, and that I am in compliance and will remain in compliance with all of the Articles of Information and Bylaws of the American Board of Bariatric Medicine, as then constituted or as amended.

Consent

I, the undersigned, in connection with my application for certification by ABBM, hereby authorize the American Board of Bariatric Medicine, now and in the future, to request, procure and review any information regarding my medical practice, professional standing and character, including but not limited to any information related to any disciplinary action related to the practice of medicine by any state licensing agency or any institution in which I have practiced medicine and any information related to any history of alcoholism or illegal use of drugs and any treatment or rehabilitation related thereto.

I hereby authorize the American Board of Bariatric Medicine, now and in the future, to request and procure such information from any individual or institution, each of which shall be absolutely immune from civil liability arising from any act, communication, report, recommendation or disclosure of any such information even where the information involved would otherwise be deemed privileged so long as any such act, communication, report, recommendation or disclosure is performed or made in good faith and without malice.

I hereby authorize the American Board of Bariatric Medicine to supply a copy of this consent, which has been executed to me, to any individual or institution from which it requests information relating to me.

Name (Please Print) : _____ Signature: _____ Date: _____

NOTARY INFORMATION

STATE OF _____ COUNTY OF _____

Before me, the undersigned authority in and for said County and State, on this day personally appeared _____, known to me to be the person whose name is subscribed to the foregoing instruments, and acknowledged to me that he/she executed the same for the purposes and consideration therein expressed.

Given under my hand and the seal of this office on this ____ day of _____, 20 _____.

NOTARY PUBLIC _____ My Commission Expires: _____
Signature Name (printed)

EXAM PREPARATION: CME AND STUDYING

STUDY MATERIALS

Please refer to ABBM's website for the most up to date information on the following study materials. <http://www.abbmcertification.org>

- Certification Review Course on DVD
- Certification Review Course Syllabus
- Reference List
- Exam Content Outline

BARIATRIC CME OPPORTUNITIES:

Recommended Organization

American Society of Bariatric Physicians: www.asbp.org

Regional Obesity Course
Nutrition and Metabolism Symposium
Obesity and Associated Conditions Course
Bariatric Essentials Course
Bariatric Practitioner Course
Basic Medical Weight Loss Techniques Workshop

Recommended Courses

Harvard Practical Approaches to the Treatment of Obesity
University of New Mexico Annual Obesity Symposium:
Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons- Frontiers in Diabetes
Research Molecular Genetics of Diabetes and Obesity:
Continuing Education Inc – Internal Medicine: Obesity and the Metabolic
Syndrome
Keystone Symposia

- Molecular Control of Adipogenesis and Obesity
- Neuronal Mechanisms Controlling food intake, glucose metabolism and body weight

<http://hms.harvard.edu/public/disease/obesity/obesity.html>

<http://hsc.unm.edu/som>

<http://cpmcnet.columbia.edu/dept/ps>

<http://www.continuingeducation.net>

<http://www.keystonesymposia.org>

ONLINE CME SOURCES

Online CME provider sites may offer overweight- and obesity-related CME topics that could be used to satisfy the ABBM CME requirement for board certification candidacy. Please note that, because of the one-year "shelf life" of these programs, program offerings on each site are frequently updated and changed. Please note that this list is not inclusive of all sites that may contain applicable CME opportunities and that your best alternative is to do a Web search for online CME using a variety of search engines.

medscape.com
CMEcourses.com
CMEweb.com
medsite.com
cine-med.com
medconnect.com
ama-assn.org/cmeselec/courses.htm
aafp.org/cmeaafp.org/cme

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GENERAL INFORMATION

This booklet has been prepared to supply information concerning requirements for certification by the American Board of Bariatric Medicine. ABBM reserves the right to make changes in its policies, procedures and fees at any time, without notice. The provisions of this publication are not intended to be or in anyway imply a contract between any candidate and ABBM.

All queries concerning the requirements for certification, etc., should be directed to the executive director of ABBM. In view of the nature and significance of the decisions made, communications between the executive director and the candidates should be made in writing and sent to the following address:

American Board of Bariatric Medicine
2821 S. Parker Rd, Suite 625
Aurora, CO 80014
info@abmcertification.org

Reporting Changes of Address

Candidates and Diplomates must notify the office of the American Board of Bariatric Medicine of any change of address or name change within sixty (60) days of such change.

Deadline Policy

ABBM is not responsible for ensuring Candidates or Diplomates complete their certification applications, patient care reviews or recertification applications and exams by the stated deadlines. It is the responsibility of the Candidate or Diplomate to be aware of ABBM's deadlines and certification term. Any reminders sent to Candidates or Diplomates by ABBM are done as a courtesy.

NO EXCEPTIONS POLICY

ABBM will not allow any exceptions to the policies stated in this booklet, unless the request is based on actions of ABBM.

The Board's decision about a candidate's eligibility for certification is determined by the policies and procedures described in this booklet. This edition of *Policies and Procedures* supersedes all previous publications. The Board reserves the right to make changes in its fees, examinations, policies, and procedures at any time without advance notice. The Board also reserves the right, under extraordinary circumstances, to waive certain of its requirements. Admission to the Board's examinations will be determined under policies in force at the time of application. This document is not to be construed as a contract between a candidate and the American Board of Bariatric Medicine.

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