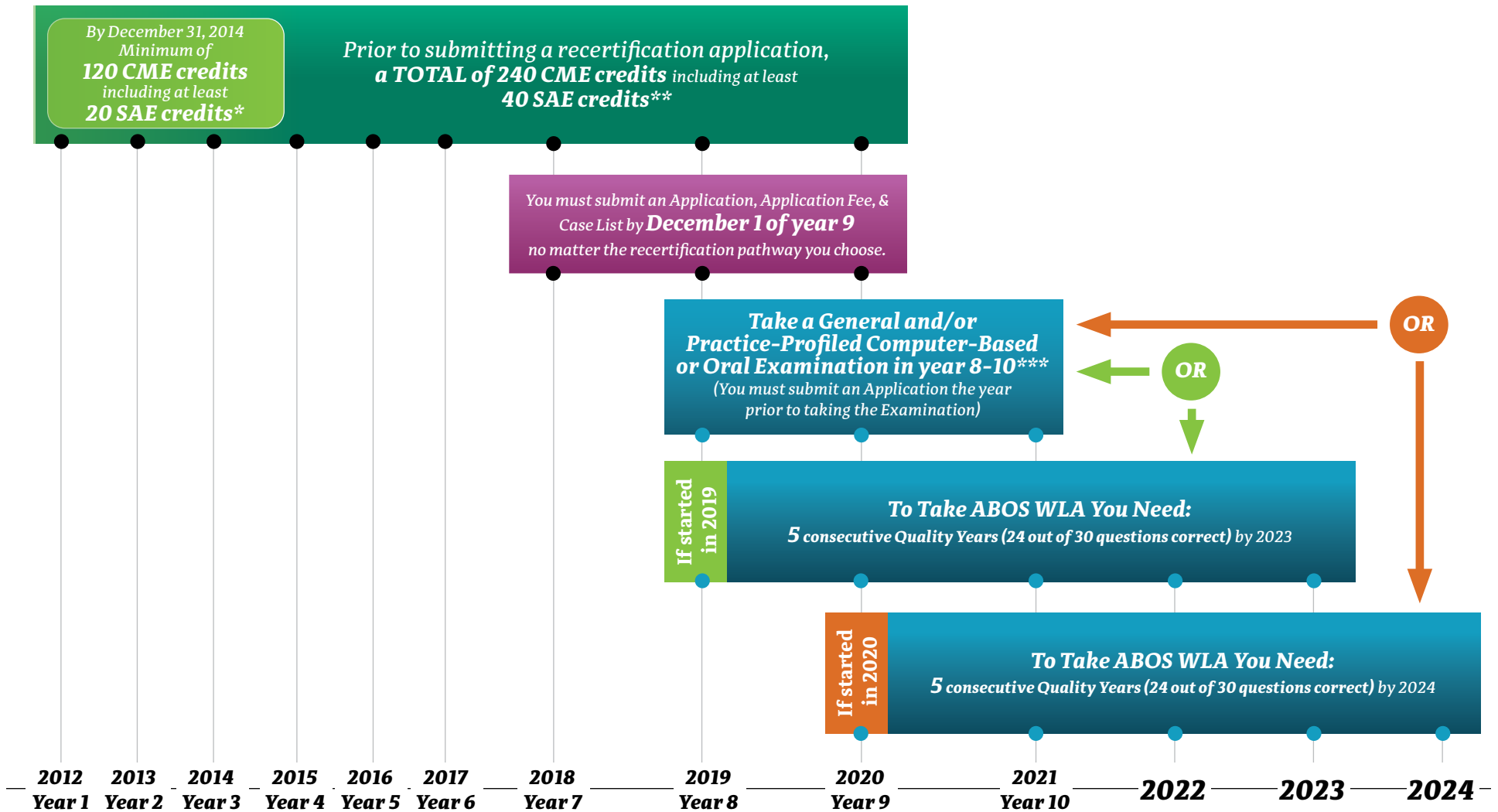


# American Board of Orthopaedic Surgery (ABOS)

## Maintenance of Certification

### Certificate Expiring in 2021



To see where you are, log into [www.ABOS.org](http://www.ABOS.org)

\* Credits are from scored and recorded Self-Assessment Examinations (SAE) or ABOS-approved practice improvement activities.

\*\* This includes the 120/20 needed to participate in maintain your status as "Participating in MOC."

\*\*\* Starting in 2023, the General Orthopaedic Surgery Computer Examination will continue to be offered every year while all the Practice-Profiled Examinations will be offered every other year (see page 2 for more information).

# New Alternating Years for ABOS Practice-Profiled Examinations

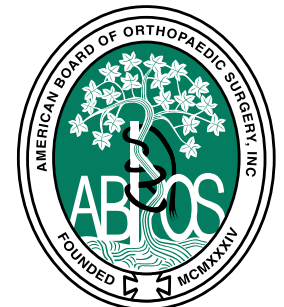
All examination options will be offered in **2022**. Starting in **2023**, the **General Orthopaedic Surgery Computer Examination** will continue to be offered every year while the **Practice-Profiled Examinations** will be offered every other year.

■ General Exam Available    
 ■ Group One Exams Available    
 ■ Group Two Exams Available

Examination	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	
<b>General Orthopaedic Surgery</b>										
<b>Group One</b>										
Foot and Ankle Surgery										
Orthopaedic Trauma										
Pediatric Orthopaedic Surgery										
Shoulder and Elbow Surgery										
Surgery of the Hand										
<b>Group Two</b>										
Adult Reconstruction										
Musculoskeletal Oncology										
Orthopaedic Sports Medicine										
Surgery of the Spine										

The ABOS wants to ensure that all Diplomates will still have three opportunities to pass an ABOS Computer-Based Recertification Examination if they so desire. To take advantage of that option for one of the Practice-Profiled Examinations offered every-other-year, **Diplomates will need to submit their Application and Case List in either year four or year five of their 10-year MOC cycle.** The Application was previously submitted in year seven at the earliest. Depending on the Examination you select, you will now be able to potentially take them starting in year five. Diplomates will still need to meet the Continuing Medical Education and Self-Assessment Examination requirements to submit an Application.

American Board  
of Orthopaedic Surgery  
[www.abos.org](http://www.abos.org)



# Four Parts of Maintenance of Certification

All Diplomates are required to complete all four parts to the ABOS MOC Program no matter what Knowledge Assessment Pathway they choose: Computer-Based Examination, Oral Examination, or ABOS Web-Based Longitudinal Assessment (ABOS WLA).

## Part I – Evidence of Professional Standing

You must have a medical license and hold hospital or surgical center privileges.

## Part II – Evidence of Lifelong Learning

In order to maintain your designation on the American Board of Orthopaedic Surgery's (ABOS) website as **"Participating in MOC: Yes,"** a minimum of **120 orthopaedic-related Category I Continuing Medical Education (CME) credits**, of which at least **20 credits are from Self-Assessment Examinations (SAE)** or ABOS-approved practice improvement activities, must be **submitted by the end of the third year** of your 10-year Maintenance of Certification (MOC) cycle.

Prior to submitting a recertification application, you will need a total of **240 CME credits**, **40 of which are SAE credits** or ABOS-approved practice improvement activities. This includes the 120/20 needed to maintain your status as **"Participating in MOC."**

## Part III – Evidence in Cognitive Expertise

Every Diplomate must complete an ABOS Knowledge Assessment Pathways in each 10-year MOC cycle. Diplomates have the option to complete a Computer-Based Examination (10 options), an Oral Examination, or the ABOS Web-Based Longitudinal Assessment (ABOS WLA).

## Part IV – Evidence of Performance in Practice

You must submit an Application, Application Fee, and Case List by **December 1 of Year 4-9**. If taking ABOS WLA, you still need to complete an Application, Application Fee, and Case List in **Year 4-9**. The Case List is **available in January** and the application is **available in March each year**.

Diplomates who are recertifying will begin collecting with the first surgical case of the calendar year and collect all consecutive surgical cases in that year up to the point where the Diplomate reaches 75 cases. Candidates may stop collecting cases when either:

- **They have collected 75 cases or**
- **On September 30, they have collected at least 35 cases.**

Those who are not able to reach the 35-case minimum from January 1-September 30 should contact the ABOS.

## ABOS WLA

The American Board of Orthopaedic Surgery (ABOS) offers a new Knowledge Assessment pathway that ABOS Diplomates may choose instead of an ABOS Computer-Based or Oral Recertification Examination to satisfy the Part III Requirement of ABOS's Maintenance of Certification (MOC) Program.

The Web-Based Longitudinal Assessment Program (ABOS WLA) allows Diplomates to answer questions relevant to their everyday practice at a time that works for them, using their own computer, in whatever location they prefer.

There are more than 200 Knowledge Sources from all areas of orthopaedic surgery on the ABOS website. These Knowledge Sources—journal articles, practice guidelines, AUCs, and other similar options—are chosen by practicing orthopaedic surgeons from across the country. Participating Diplomates pick 15 of these Knowledge Sources to study in-depth that are the sources for the ABOS WLA multiple-choice questions.

Each spring an assessment window opens to answer the 30 questions. For those who want to participate, there is a \$260 assessment fee for each year of participation (\$300 for those who hold a Subspecialty Certificate).

Diplomates have three minutes to answer each question and can answer as many questions in one sitting as desired, as long as all 30 questions are answered during the assessment window.

### American Board of Orthopaedic Surgery

400 Silver Cedar Court, Chapel Hill, NC 27514  
Phone: (919) 929-7103 • Fax: (919) 942-8988  
[www.abos.org](http://www.abos.org)

