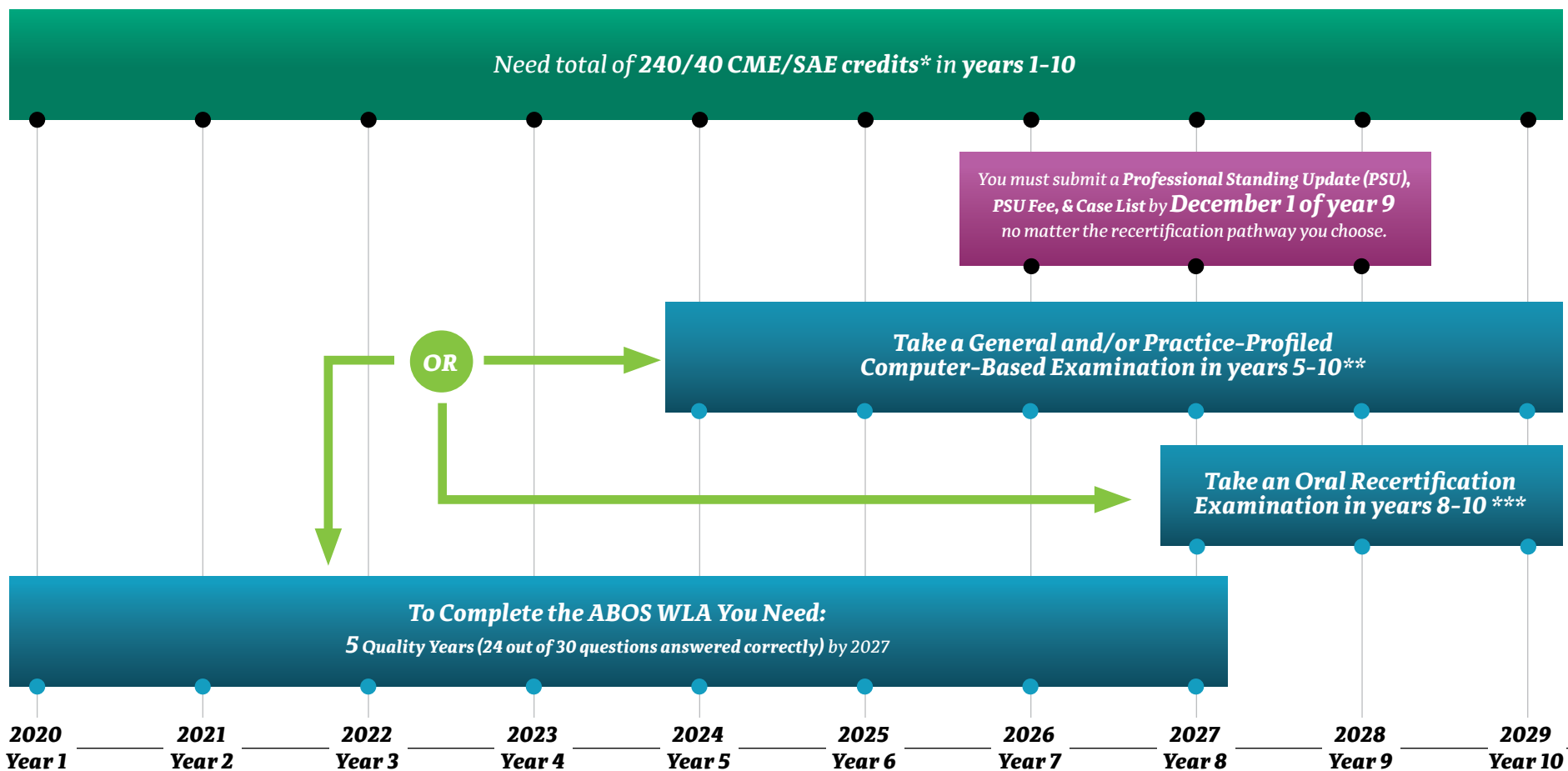


# American Board of Orthopaedic Surgery (ABOS)

## Maintenance of Certification

### Certificate Expiring in 2029



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.

\*\* The General Orthopaedic Surgery Computer Examination is offered every year while Practice-Profiled Examinations are offered in alternating years (see page 2 for more information).

\*\*\* Must have approved PSU before you can sit for an Oral Recertification Examination.

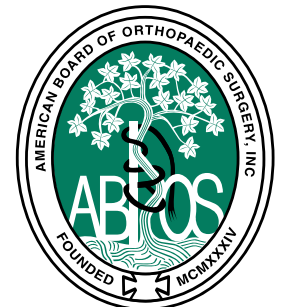
# Alternating Years for ABOS Practice-Profiled Examinations

- The General Orthopaedic Surgery Computer Examination is offered every year.
- Practice-Profiled Examinations are offered in alternating years.

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

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

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# Four Parts of Maintenance of Certification

*All Diplomates are required to complete all four parts of 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

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

## Part II – Evidence of Lifelong Learning

Diplomates must earn 240 CME credits, 40 of which are SAE credits by the **end of their 10 year MOC cycle.**

## Part III – Evidence in Cognitive Expertise

Every Diplomate must complete one ABOS Knowledge Assessment Pathway 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). Each year, Diplomates receive an email letting them know which Knowledge Assessment(s) they are eligible for that year and Diplomates can indicate which--if any--they would like to participate that year.

## Part IV – Evidence of Performance in Practice

Diplomates must submit a Professional Standing Update (PSU), PSU Fee, and Case List by **December 1 of Years 7, 8, or 9** no matter which Knowledge Assessment Pathway is chosen. The Case List is **available in January** and the PSU is **available in March each year.**

Diplomates who are recertifying will begin collecting cases with the first surgical case of the calendar year for which they are the primary surgeon 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.

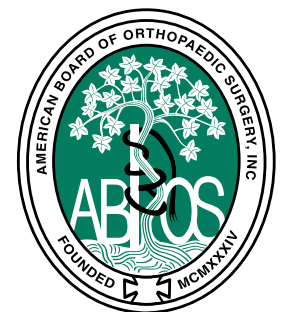
*Diplomates who are not currently operating should contact the ABOS to discuss their requirements to maintain their ABOS Certification.*

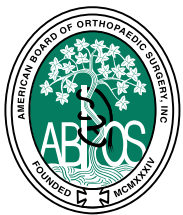
### American Board of Orthopaedic Surgery

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## American Board of Orthopaedic Surgery **Maintenance of Certification Update**

**The Board of Directors of the American Board of Orthopaedic Surgery (ABOS), after careful consideration and in keeping with its mission and vision, has modified the ABOS Maintenance of Certification (MOC) Program.**

*The changes will be effective beginning January 1, 2024, and are meant to provide an ABOS MOC Program that is meaningful and valuable to ABOS Diplomates. The modifications will help to advance the ABOS' mission to ensure the safe, ethical, and effective practice of orthopaedic surgery for the benefit of our patients and the public. In addition, these changes meet new Standards for Continuing Certification from the American Board of Medical Specialties (ABMS).*

### **What's Not Changing**

- The ABOS MOC Program for Board Certification will continue to be on a 10-year cycle
- Diplomates will still need to maintain an unrestricted medical license
- Diplomates will still submit 240 CME credits, of which 40 are SAE credits, for each 10-year ABOS MOC cycle
- Diplomates will still submit an Application, now called a Professional Standing Update and Case List once every 10 years
- Diplomates will still be able to choose from the same Knowledge Assessment Pathways (ABOS WLA, Computer-Based Recertification Examination, Oral Recertification Examination)
- Diplomates can still take an ABOS Computer-Based Recertification Examination in years 5-10

### **What's New**

- The ABOS is working with the ACCME, AAOS, and other CME providers to automatically transfer CME credits to the ABOS—there will be no need to remember to save and upload CME certificates
- The Application will be called the Professional Standing Update and will be submitted with a Case List in years 7, 8, or 9
- Diplomates can take an ABOS Computer-Based Recertification Examination prior to submitting their Professional Standing Update
- Diplomates can submit their Professional Standing Update prior to meeting the CME/SAE requirements
- Diplomates earn ABOS Recertification after all aspects of the ABOS MOC Program are complete during their 10-year MOC cycle. Separating these requirements will allow for greater flexibility to complete each step in a timeframe that works with each Diplomate's unique circumstances.

### **What's New**

**(Diplomates whose ABOS Board Certification expire in 2031 or later)**

- Diplomates must earn half of their CME credits (120 CME credits, of which 20 are SAEs), by December 31st of year 5 (earned in the first 5 years of the 10-year cycle)
- Diplomates who do not meet the requirement by December 31 of year 5 will have their ABOS Board Certification revoked
- Diplomates must earn the remaining half of their CME credits by December 31st of year 10 of the 10-year cycle or their ABOS Board Certification will be revoked
- CME/SAE collection is no longer cumulative. Diplomates must earn 120/20 CME in years 1-5 AND 120/20 in years 6-10

*The ABOS Board of Directors has decided to keep ABOS Board Certification on a 10-year cycle. Moving the CME/SAE requirement to the end of year 5—which is currently being met by a majority of ABOS Diplomates by the end of year 3—will help to distribute continuing medical education throughout the 10-year cycle and will allow the ABOS to meet the new ABMS Standards. These changes emphasize the ABOS mission of protecting the public. The automatic transfer of CME credits to the ABOS from the ACCME as CME credits are earned will streamline this process for ABOS Diplomates.*