

Board Certification during Transition to Single GME Accreditation System

The chart below shows AOA and ABMS training eligibility requirements for specialty certification during the five-year transition period to a single graduate medical education accreditation system. The AOA provides a pathway for osteopathic physicians (be they AOA or ACGME trained) to sit for AOA board examinations in the areas for which it certifies. For AOA programs that achieve ACGME accreditation during the transition, all current osteopathic residents will receive AOA approval following completion of training, which will satisfy the AOA board training eligibility requirements. During the transition, the ABMS boards will offer certification to osteopathic physicians under specific circumstances (summarized below). Individuals seeking ABMS certification should monitor relevant ABMS board websites for any changes in policy.

Note that the rules for entering advanced ACGME training are established by the ACGME. Those rules may allow a trainee to enter advanced ACGME training, but do not guarantee the trainee would be eligible to sit for the ABMS board examination.

This is a general overview. There may be additional specific requirements - contact the specific certifying board for additional eligibility criteria.

AOA Board Certification Requirements		ABMS Board Certification Requirements	
Training Eligibility Criteria for Specialty Certification		ABMS Member Board Eligibility Criteria for Specialty Certification (Updated July 2017)	
AOA Member Board	Training Eligibility Requirements for AOA Certification	ABMS Member Board	Training Eligibility Requirements for ABMS Certification
Allergy and Immunology - Conjoint Examination	Completed an AOA-approved or ACGME-accredited training program.	American Board of Allergy and Immunology	Two full years in an ACGME accredited Allergy and Immunology training program AND must be eligible to take the certifying examination for either the American Board of Internal Medicine or the American Board of Pediatrics. In 2016, the ACGME approved Allergy and Immunology training programs accredited by the American Osteopathic Association to be approved for dual accreditation. Graduates of a dually accredited program are now eligible to apply for admission to the ABAI Certification Examination in Allergy and Immunology. Therefore, candidates with one year of training in an AOA accredited program and one year of training in an ACGME accredited program may be considered for admission to the A & I examination. Candidates who submit appropriate documentation will be reviewed by the ABAI Ethics and Professionalism Committee to ensure their training meets the requirements for admission to the examination.

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American Osteopathic Board of Anesthesiology	Completed an AOA-approved or ACGME-accredited training program.	American Board of Anesthesiology	The ABA grants a resident credit toward the CA 1-3 year requirements for clinical anesthesia training that satisfy all four of the following conditions: (1) The CA 1-3 years of training are spent as a resident enrolled with the ABA by no more than two ACGME-accredited anesthesiology residency programs in the United States or its territories. An ACGME-accredited program includes the sponsoring (parent) institution and major participating institutions (i.e., institutions that have an RRC-approved integration or affiliation agreement with the sponsoring institution). All three years of CA training must occur in programs that are accredited by the ACGME for the entire period of training. During the transition period to a single accreditation system, all physicians who graduate from an AOA approved anesthesiology residency program on or after the date the program receives full ACGME accreditation will receive ABA credit for the CA 1-3 years of satisfactory training in the newly accredited program.
		American Board of Colorectal Surgery	Not applicable. There are no AOA accredited training programs.
American Osteopathic Board of Dermatology	Completed an AOA-approved or ACGME-accredited training program.	American Board of Dermatology	Training program must achieve ACGME accreditation prior to completion.
American Osteopathic Board of Emergency Medicine	Completed an AOA-approved or ACGME accredited training program. ACGME training must be four years in length.	American Board of Emergency Medicine	Training program must achieve ACGME accreditation prior to completion

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American Osteopathic Board of Family Physicians	Completed an AOA-approved or ACGME-accredited training program.	American Board of Family Medicine	A minimum of the last two years of training in a fully ACGME accredited Family Medicine residency training program is required.
American Osteopathic Board of Internal Medicine	Completed an AOA-approved or ACGME-accredited training program.	American Board of Internal Medicine	Training program must achieve ACGME accreditation prior to trainee's completion of the program.
		American Board of Medical Genetics and Genomics	There are no AOA-accredited residency programs in Medical Genetics. However, a minimum of one year of GME training in either an ACGME-accredited program or a program in the ACGME pre-accreditation phase with 12 months of direct patient care is required prior to beginning the Medical Genetics residency.
American Osteopathic Board of Neurology and Psychiatry	Completed an AOA-approved or ACGME-accredited training program.	American Board of Psychiatry and Neurology	Training program must achieve ACGME accreditation prior to completion.
American Osteopathic Board of Neuromusculoskeletal Medicine	Completed an AOA-approved or ACGME-accredited training program.		
American Osteopathic Board of Surgery: Neurological Surgery	Completed an AOA-approved or ACGME-accredited training program.	American Board of Neurological Surgery	All 54 months of core Neurosurgery training must be in an ACGME accredited training program. For the 30 months of research or elective time, there is flexibility depending upon the quality of the clinical or research experience. It is not necessary for this experience to be in an ACGME accredited program.
American Osteopathic Board of Nuclear Medicine	Completed an AOA-approved or ACGME-accredited training program.	American Board of Nuclear Medicine	Not applicable. There are no AOA accredited Nuclear Medicine training programs.

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American Osteopathic Board of Obstetrics and Gynecology	Completed an AOA-approved or ACGME-accredited training program.	American Board of Obstetrics and Gynecology	Training program must achieve ACGME accreditation prior to completion.
American Osteopathic Board of Ophthalmology and Otolaryngology	Completed an AOA-approved or ACGME-accredited training program.	American Board of Ophthalmology	All training must be in an ACGME accredited training program
		American Board of Otolaryngology	All training must be in an ACGME accredited training program
American Osteopathic Board of Orthopedic Surgery	Completed an AOA-approved or ACGME-accredited training program.	American Board of Orthopedic Surgery	All training must be in an ACGME accredited training program
American Osteopathic Board of Pathology	Completed an AOA-approved or ACGME-accredited training program.	American Board of Pathology	Not applicable. There are no AOA accredited training programs in Pathology.
American Osteopathic Board of Pediatrics	Completed an AOA-approved or ACGME-accredited training program.	American Board of Pediatrics	All training must be in an ACGME accredited training program
American Osteopathic Board of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation	Completed an AOA-approved or ACGME-accredited training program.	American Board of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation	PGY-1 training can take place in an AOA accredited program. All training following the PGY-1 year must occur in an ACGME accredited training program for all remaining years
American Osteopathic Board of Preventive Medicine	Completed an AOA-approved or ACGME-accredited training program.	American Board of Preventive Medicine	PGY-1 year can take place in an AOA accredited program. Years 2 and 3 must be in an ACGME accredited training program.
American Osteopathic Board of Proctology	Completed an AOA-approved or ACGME-accredited training program.		
American Osteopathic Board of Surgery: Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery	Completed an AOA-approved or ACGME-accredited training program.	American Board of Plastic Surgery	All training must be in an ACGME accredited training program.

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American Osteopathic Board of Radiology	Completed an AOA-approved or ACGME-accredited training program.	American Board of Radiology	The resident must have at least 36 months of diagnostic radiology training after the program is accredited by the ACGME to be eligible for the ABR Core exam and subsequent Certifying exam.
American Osteopathic Board of Surgery	Completed an AOA-approved or ACGME-accredited training program.	American Board of Surgery	The final three years of the basic five year Surgery residency must be in an ACGME accredited training program.
American Osteopathic Board of Surgery: Thoracic and Cardiovascular Surgery	Completed an AOA-approved or ACGME-accredited training program.	American Board of Thoracic Surgery	The last 3 years of a surgical residency (PGY 3-5) must be completed in an ACGME-accredited program followed by completion of an ACGME-accredited thoracic surgical residency.
American Osteopathic Board of Surgery: Urological Surgery	Completed an AOA-approved or ACGME-accredited training program.	American Board of Urology	All training must be in an ACGME accredited training program.

Updated July 20, 2017