



Memorandum

Date: February 24, 2010
To: Credentialing Administrator(s)
From: The American Board of Pediatrics
Re: Change in ABP Certification Status Reporting

As of January 2010, the American Board of Pediatrics (ABP) began to implement new certification standards which specify that ongoing certification with the ABP is **contingent upon meeting the requirements of Maintenance of Certification (MOC)**. Once a diplomate's current, time-limited certification expires, these individuals are required to enroll in MOC and successfully complete numerous requirements throughout ongoing MOC cycles to maintain certification. Accordingly, the ABP no longer issues certificates with specific end dates to certification.

Utilizing an Annual Re-verification Date

The ABP recognizes that some entities may still require a certification end date to complete primary-source verification. To assist in this process, we encourage credentialers to utilize an annual re-verification date. For example, we suggest entering **January 1, 2010 as a re-verification date** for all diplomates who enrolled in MOC during 2009. Please note, this date is not necessarily reflective of individual MOC requirements, **nor does it indicate certification or MOC cycle end dates.**

ABP diplomate certification status will only change on January 1 of a specified year, unless a certificate is revoked for disciplinary reasons. Therefore, by **utilizing the first day of the following calendar year**, you will have accurate information about a diplomate's current certification status. In addition, diplomates now have the ability to download documentation regarding their current certification status via their online ABP portfolio.

Permanent Certification

Permanent certificate holders are not obligated to participate in MOC to remain certified by the ABP; however, those who have chosen to participate are designated as "meeting the requirements of MOC" on the verification section of the ABP Web site.

Primary-source verification of a diplomate's current board certification status can be accessed at no charge via the ABP Web site, www.abp.org. Please keep in mind that only diplomates who are currently certified will be listed on this site.

The American Board of Pediatrics

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February 24, 2010

Dear Diplomate,

As of January 2010, certification with the American Board of Pediatrics (ABP) is **contingent upon meeting the requirements of Maintenance of Certification (MOC) and your certificate no longer has an end date.** Your first 5-year MOC cycle began on January 1, 2010. All requirements and corresponding dates can be viewed by accessing your ABP portfolio at www.abp.org.

The ABP recognizes that some entities may still require a certification end date to complete primary-source verification. To assist in this process, we are encouraging credentialers to utilize an annual re-verification date which is detailed in the enclosed memorandum.

This annual re-verification date represents an interval of time during which your diplomate status will remain unchanged except as a result of disciplinary action. This date may not be reflective of individual MOC requirements, **nor does it indicate certification or MOC cycle end dates.**

Please provide the enclosed memorandum to your credentialing administrator(s) to ensure clarification of new ABP procedures regarding the verification of your current board certification status.

Sincerely,

James A. Stockman III, MD
President and CEO
American Board of Pediatrics