



American Board of Medical Genetics and Genomics

2026 CERTIFICATION EXAM
BULLETIN OF INFORMATION

Check out our website <https://www.abmgg.org> or follow us on social media.





Questions remaining after review of this document may be addressed to credentials@abmogg.org.

ABMGG Staff

Azra H. Ligon, PhD

Chief Executive Officer

Darrel Waggoner, MD

Associate Chief Executive Officer

Stacie Miller, MS, CAE

Chief Administrative Officer

Matt Glaser, MS, CAE

Manager of Certification & Assessment

Tamika Edaire

Communications & Diplomates Relations Specialist

Dia Pellerin

Administrative Coordinator

Main office:

6120 Executive Blvd., Suite 525

Rockville, MD 20852

Telephone: (301) 634-7315

Email: abmogg@abmogg.org

<https://abmogg.org>

Table of Contents

GENERAL INFORMATION	5
Training Requirements.....	5
Requirements for International (Foreign) Medical Graduates	5
Recognition of Training by the Canadian College of Medical Geneticists (CCMG).....	6
Description of the Examinations.....	6
Candidate Responsibility.....	6
EXAM DATES	7
EXAM REQUIREMENTS.....	8
General Training Requirements for Certification.....	8
Specialty Training Requirements for Certification.....	8
APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS.....	9
Requirements for First-Time Applicants	9
Requirements for Diplomates Seeking Additional Certification	10
Requirements for Re-Examinees	10
RESULTS OF APPLICATION REVIEW.....	10
Active Candidate Status	10
Logbook.....	11
Endorsement Evaluation Form Submission Deadline.....	11
Verification of Completion of Training Forms submitted by the Program Director	11
SCHEDULING THE TEST SITE.....	11
Register for a Seat / Schedule Exam Appointment.....	12
Confirmation	12
Withdrawal	13
TESTING PROCESS	13
Examination Length	13
Primary Certification and Subspecialty Certification Attempts	13
On Exam Day	14
DEADLINES	15
CERTIFICATION EXAMINATION FEES.....	16
Payment options: ACH/Credit Card	16
Withdrawal and Refunds	16

EXAMINATION SCORING	17
Scoring the Examination	17
Reporting of Scores.....	17
Integrity of Scores	17
CERTIFICATES	18
Participation in Continuing Certification Program.....	18
Status	18
Status at ACMG	18
Revocation of ABMGG Certificates	18
POLICIES	19
FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS.....	20
Degree/Training Requirements	20
Logbooks	20
Board Eligibility and Active Candidate Status	21
Dates, Deadlines, and Fees	21
Where to Find More Information	22
Portal Profile	23
Studying for the Exam.....	23
After the Exam	23

The *Bulletin of Information* provides all the necessary information for qualified individuals interested in taking the initial certification examinations of the American Board of Medical Genetics and Genomics (ABMGG). The policies, fees, and procedures described apply to all aspects of ABMGG examinations for 2026. Since the policies and procedures of the Board evolve over time, candidates must comply with those in effect at the time of their application.

GENERAL INFORMATION

The ABMGG offers certification examinations annually. The next offering will be August 12-15, 2026.

Training Requirements

Requirements for ABMGG certification, including those pertaining to doctoral degrees, medical training, medical genetics and genomics training, credentialing and certifying examinations reside exclusively with the Board of Directors of the ABMGG.

Individuals interested in pursuing ABMGG certification must successfully complete an ACGME-accredited laboratory fellowship or clinical genetics and genomics residency. Lists of accredited laboratory fellowships and clinical genetics and genomics residencies are available on the [ACGME website](#).

Program directors must attest to the successful completion of training (through the ABMGG portal) for each trainee planning to seek ABMGG certification.

A trainee is only eligible to apply for ABMGG certification in 2026 in specialties in which the necessary training will be completed by July 31, 2026.

Combined Program Requirements

Special agreements exist between the ABMGG and the American Board of Internal Medicine (ABIM), the American Board of Pediatrics (ABP), and the American Board of Obstetrics and Gynecology (ABOG), respectively, through which an applicant may fulfill the training requirements for both the ABMGG and one of these other certifying boards by completing a combined training program in four years. Programs must be accredited by the ACGME. Trainees are expected to complete all four years in the same combined training program unless otherwise approved by both boards.

An applicant in a combined program may not take the ABMGG certification exam until all four years of training have been successfully completed.

Requirements for International (Foreign) Medical Graduates

An individual interested in pursuing medical genetics and genomics training and then ABMGG certification, and who has received a doctoral degree and/or some or all graduate medical training outside of the United States, Canada, or Puerto Rico, may need to fulfill additional requirements for certification ([see International Doctoral Degrees and International Graduate Medical Training](#).)

Recognition of Training by the Canadian College of Medical Geneticists (CCMG)

The Canadian College of Medical Geneticists (CCMG) and ABMGG recognize the equivalency of the following programs:

- CCMG specialty “Genetics and Genome Diagnostics” to Laboratory Genetics and Genomics
- CCMG specialty “Laboratory Biochemical Genetics” to Clinical Biochemical Genetics
- CCMG subspecialty “Clinical Biochemical Genetics” to Medical Biochemical Genetics

The ABMGG recognizes equivalency of training in the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada (RCPSC) medical genetics and genomics residency programs. Note that this equivalency does not extend to CCMG clinical genetics fellowship training.

Description of the Examinations

For an applicant seeking initial certification in an ABMGG specialty, the examination process is comprised of two written examinations: (1) a general examination, and (2) an examination in the primary specialty(ies) for which the applicant is eligible. Candidates are not required to pass both the general and specialty examinations in the same year, however, **an examinee must pass both the general examination and at least one primary specialty examination to achieve diplomate status.**

The general examination and each specialty examination [Clinical Genetics and Genomics, Clinical Biochemical Genetics, Laboratory Genetics and Genomics] or subspecialty examination [Medical Biochemical Genetics and Molecular Genetic Pathology] is comprised of multiple-choice (single best answer) questions. These questions are designed to evaluate the candidate's knowledge, application of that knowledge, and evaluate judgment, skills, and reasoning required to perform in a medical genetics and genomics setting.

The general examination is the same for all candidates and focuses on information all medical geneticists, regardless of specialty, are expected to understand. The specialty and subspecialty examinations appropriately focus on specialty-specific information. The basic content covered in the examinations can be found in the [content outlines](#).

Candidate Responsibility

The process of certification by the ABMGG is voluntary. The ABMGG does not assume responsibility for contacting potential candidates about registering for the examinations. Each candidate is responsible for completing the application, submitting required materials, and paying the appropriate fees. After completing an application and until the examination cycle is complete, candidates must inform the ABMGG of any changes in contact information both by updating the profile in the ABMGG portal and notifying credentials@abmgg.org of the change(s). ABMGG strongly encourages candidates to list a second, alternate, email address in their profile.

EXAM DATES

ABMGG certification examinations for Clinical Genetics and Genomics, Laboratory Genetics and Genomics and the General exam may be taken on any of the following dates:

Wednesday, August 12, 2026

Thursday, August 13, 2026

Friday, August 14, 2026

Saturday, August 15, 2026

Clinical/Medical Biochemical Genetics will be offered during the 2027 examination cycle.

EXAM REQUIREMENTS

General Training Requirements for Certification

1. Individuals seeking ABMGG certification must fulfill all requirements for certification.
2. Individuals with a doctoral degree earned outside of the U.S., Canada, or Puerto Rico who are considering ABMGG certification must submit appropriate credentials for review. This review is performed to determine both equivalency of the doctoral degree and eligibility requirements to sit for ABMGG certification examinations.
3. Doctoral degree requirements for each genetics specialty are as follows:
 - a. Clinical Genetics and Genomics.....M.D., D.O., or equivalent
 - b. Laboratory Genetics and GenomicsM.D., D.O., or Ph.D.*
 - c. Clinical Biochemical Genetics.....M.D., D.O., or Ph.D.*

**Ph.D. must be in genetics, genomics, human genetics or a related field within the biological sciences as determined by the ABMGG.*

Specialty Training Requirements for Certification

Clinical Genetics and Genomics

The **Clinical Genetics and Genomics** specialty training requirements include:

Satisfactory completion of two (2) years of full-time training in an ACGME-accredited medical genetics and genomics residency following satisfactory completion of a minimum of one-year of full-time training in an ACGME-accredited residency (e.g., pediatrics, obstetrics and gynecology, internal medicine, etc.) that includes at least 12 months of direct patient care experience.

-OR-

Satisfactory completion of full-time training in a dual board-approved, combined residency program, including pediatrics/medical genetics and genomics, internal medicine/medical genetics and genomics, reproductive endocrinology and infertility/medical genetics and genomics, or maternal fetal medicine subspecialty/medical genetics and genomics. Upon successful completion of the requirements of the combined training, a trainee is qualified to apply for certification by the ABMGG and the other ABMS-member board for the second discipline. Applicants must satisfactorily complete the specific credentialing requirements of each board to be eligible to sit for the examination(s) of that board. Certification in one specialty is not contingent upon certification in the other specialty.

Laboratory Specialty

The clinical **laboratory specialty** (Clinical Biochemical Genetics and Laboratory Genetics and Genomics) training requirements include:

Satisfactory completion of full-time training in an ACGME-accredited, laboratory genetics postdoctoral training program in one of the clinical laboratory specialties.

For certification in the second laboratory specialty, an additional year (for Clinical Biochemical Genetics) or two years (for Laboratory Genetics and Genomics) of full-time laboratory-based training in an ACGME-accredited laboratory training program in that additional specialty is required.

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

Fellows and residents must complete all required medical genetics and genomics training NO LATER THAN July 31, 2026, to be eligible to apply for the 2026 certification examination. If the required training will be completed between January 1, 2026, and July 31, 2026, the trainee's program director must submit an attestation of ongoing training via the portal for the applicant to receive Conditional Active Candidate Status. At the conclusion of the training period, the program director must verify successful completion of training via portal.

Requirements for First-Time Applicants

- I. Complete the general application through the ABMGG portal
 1. Selection of examination(s)
 2. Confirm demographic and degree information
 3. Confirm contact information
 4. Complete attestations
 5. Training Information
 - a. Medical Genetics and Genomics training
 6. Curriculum Vitae
 - a. A current, dated CV, including dates and location of undergraduate education, doctoral education, post-doctoral training, medical genetics and genomics training, and professional employment
 7. Prior Residency Documentation (for applicants of Clinical Genetics and Genomics only)
 - a. Documentation of satisfactory completion of 12 months of ACGME-accredited residency training.
 - i. An original letter from the director of the ACGME-accredited residency program (other than clinical genetics and genomics) documenting satisfactory completion of 12 months of the ACGME-accredited residency training
 - AND/OR
 - ii. Documentation of board certification in an ABMS-recognized specialty
 8. [ADA accommodation request](#) indication (as applicable)
 9. Medical License (For applicants of Clinical Genetics and Genomics and Medical Biochemical Genetics subspecialty only)
 - a. A valid (current), unrestricted license to practice medicine in one of the states, districts, or territories of the United States or a province of Canada or unrestricted privileges to practice medicine in the United States Armed Forces or the jurisdiction in which the individual practices medicine.
 - i. The license must be valid on the date on which the ABMGG certifying examination is taken.
- II. Official final transcript of doctoral or medical degree (copies are not acceptable).
 - a. Transcripts must be sent via email (credentials@abmgg.org) directly from the school to the ABMGG Administrative Office and will not be returned to the applicant. The receipt of transcripts will be indicated in the portal.
- III. Payment of examination and review fees is due upon submission of the application.

IV. Endorsement Evaluation forms

- a. Applicants must submit three (3) names and email addresses of ABMGG or CCMG diplomates who have agreed to complete an online Endorsement Evaluation form as part of the general application. An electronic request and link to the form will be sent to these individuals via email for online submission. All endorsement forms must be completed by March 15, 2026, regardless of when training is/was completed.

V. Completion of Training form

- a. An attestation submitted by the program director confirming completion of training and meeting of program requirements. The program director submits this form directly to the ABMGG via the portal. The applicant is not responsible for, or involved in, the submission of this form.

Requirements for Diplomates Seeking Additional Certification

Diplomates who are seeking an additional certification must meet the same requirements outlined above, except:

- Transcripts are not required
- Only one (1) letter of endorsement is required

Requirements for Re-Examinees

Applicants who previously did not pass one or more examinations and are applying as a re-examinee must complete the same requirements outlined above, except

- Transcripts are not required
- Only one (1) letter of endorsement is required.

RESULTS OF APPLICATION REVIEW

The ABMGG Credentials Committee will notify each applicant through the portal and by email regarding active candidate status. **If further documentation is required and/or the application is in some manner incomplete, the applicant will be notified via the portal.**

Active Candidate Status

The ABMGG limits Active Candidate Status to individuals who have fulfilled the criteria for certification but have not yet taken the certification examination. Active Candidate status is granted for a single designated exam cycle, i.e., exam year.

Active Candidate Status Granted

Active Candidate Status is granted when all credentialing requirements have been satisfied in one or more specialties and all application review fees and examination fees have been paid. An applicant granted Active Candidate Status is eligible to sit for the certifying examination(s) only during the examination cycle for which they applied. In some circumstances, Conditional Active Candidate Status may be granted pending the fulfillment of certain requirements prior to the exam.

Active Candidate Status Denied

An applicant who has failed to satisfy one or more credentialing requirements will not be granted Active Candidate Status. Applicants who are denied Active Candidate Status may submit an appeal. Appeals of candidate status must be made in writing to the ABMGG Administrative Office within thirty (30) days of an applicant's receiving notice of the adverse decision. Appeals must include the appeal fee of \$300. [Only examination fees will be refunded if the application is denied; application review fees are nonrefundable.] To view the appeal process, click [here](#).

Note: Active Candidate Status expires once the results of the ABMGG certification examination are released. At that time, the candidate either achieves diplomate status or is not certified. If a candidate fails to achieve certification for any reason (including withdrawal from the examination process), the individual loses Active Candidate Status.

Logbook

Applicants are required to complete all logbook requirements by the training completion date. Applicants who do not complete training by March 15, 2026, must be making reasonable progress by the time the Continuation of Training form is due. Program Directors must provide an attestation through the ABMGG portal by March 31 indicating expectation of successful completion by the approved end of training date. Program Directors will attest that the logbook requirements are met at the end of training through the Completion of Training form. Logbooks may be audited by the review committee at any point.

The 2026 Logbook Requirements are posted [here](#).

Endorsement Evaluation Form Submission Deadline

Evaluation forms will be sent directly to the individuals whose names are provided by the applicant. Active Candidate Status will not be granted until all evaluations have been received. The final date for accepting endorsements is **March 15, 2026**. The administrative office will continue to send reminders to the reviewers until the form is submitted. To change the individuals selected for endorsement, please contact the administrative office.

Verification of Completion of Training Forms submitted by the Program Director

Program director verification forms for applicants who have completed training are due within six (6) weeks of completion of training. Note that exam results will not be released to candidates whose program director has not submitted the verification of training form.

For applicants who complete training between January 1, 2026, and July 31, 2026, verification of ongoing training forms must be submitted in the Portal by Program Directors no later than **March 31, 2026**. Final verification of completion of training forms are due in the portal within six (6) weeks of completion of training.

SCHEDULING THE TEST SITE

Once an application has been approved, ABMGG will notify eligible candidates of Active Candidate Status. Approximately three (3) months prior to the examination date, look for a second email with "Authorization-to-Test" in the subject line. This email provides instructions to proceed with scheduling the exam appointment. It is the responsibility of each candidate to ensure that the First and Last names on the Authorization-to-Test email exactly match the names on the government issued photo ID

presented during appointment check-in. If there is any discrepancy notify the ABMGG office at credentials@abmogg.org.

Examinations must be scheduled during an available time slot between August 12-15, 2026. While most examinees will be able to take their exams as scheduled, unanticipated center-specific circumstances may delay the start time on the scheduled date. Examinees are encouraged to build some flexibility into their personal schedules to account for this possibility. No special consideration will be given to examinees who experience delayed start times that do not compromise the total allotted time available to complete an exam.

Should difficulties at a test site prohibit an examinee from taking an examination on the scheduled date, the examinee must contact the ABMGG Administrative Office within 24 hours to report the problem.

Examination irregularities or other circumstances warranting special consideration will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis and at the sole discretion of the ABMGG. ABMGG must be notified within three (3) business days of the exam date.

Register for a Seat / Schedule Exam Appointment

Once the Authorization-to-Test email has been received, candidates may proceed with scheduling an examination appointment online or by phone. Scheduling online is encouraged, as long wait times may be experienced when calling Pearson VUE customer service.

Available dates, times, and locations will be identified upon scheduling. **Pearson Professional Centers (PPCs) are owned and operated by Pearson VUE and offer greater scheduling reliability and improved test experience.** Third party test centers, located on a college campus or a learning center are also available in areas where a PPC is not convenient.

- **Online:** Go to <https://www.pearsonvue.com/us/en/abmogg.html> and select <Create an account>. In Step 1 of the process, enter the same First and Last names and candidate number (PTI ID) as listed in the Authorization-to-Test email. *If the candidate already has a web account associated with the same PTI ID, do not create a new account (select <Log In> to proceed.* The candidate may schedule, cancel, or reschedule your exam appointment online.
- **Phone: 888-876-5064** in US/Canada (Monday to Friday 8 am to 8 pm Eastern Time). To locate a record, you **MUST** tell the agent **Professional Testing (PTI)** sponsors the exam (and then specify the exam name).

If you encounter any issues scheduling an appointment, email our test sponsor, Professional Testing, at pearson@proftesting.com. Include "**Schedule Assistance**" in the subject line to help expedite the request.

Confirmation

After the appointment has been scheduled, Pearson VUE will send an appointment confirmation email listing the test date, testing time, the address and phone number of the test center, and directions to the test center. *Be sure to verify the information is correct and read the Pearson VUE Testing Center policy at the bottom of your email confirmation.*

Pearson VUE will send an appointment confirmation email each time an appointment is scheduled, rescheduled or canceled. The Pearson VUE confirmation email is the only valid proof of the candidate's appointment status (i.e., taking a screenshot of an intended appointment is not valid).

An appointment reminder will be sent via email 3 days before your appointment.

Check your email frequently for any cancellation notifications due to extenuating circumstances such as inclement weather or a test center issue. Some notifications may be sent at short notice, so please check your email before leaving to travel to your appointment.

Withdrawal

Candidates who must withdraw or are unable to take the exams for any reason should review the following [policy](#).

TESTING PROCESS

Approved applicants will receive notification of Active Candidate Status through email and the portal. Scheduling of the examination will be available by Pearson VUE. The examination will be administered at Pearson VUE testing centers throughout the U.S. and at select international sites.

The ABMGG primary certification examination is comprised of two parts: (1) a general genetics examination for examinees who are not already diplomates, and (2) a specialty examination in at least one specialty or in a subspecialty for those who are already ABMGG diplomates. A candidate may only take the specialty examination(s) for which they have been credentialed.

ABMGG diplomates who are seeking certification in an additional specialty or subspecialty do not need to re-take the general examination. These individuals are only required to take the specialty examination(s) for which they have been credentialed.

To be certified by the ABMGG, active candidates must pass both the general examination and at least one specialty examination. *Failure to pass the certifying examination is not grounds for appeal.*

Examination Length

The general examination is 100 items. The examination is split into two testing blocks with 60 minutes to complete 50 items. Between each block, there is a 10-minute break.

Each specialty or subspecialty examination is 150 items. The examination is split into three testing blocks with 60 minutes to complete 50 items. Between each block, there is a 10-minute break.

Once a block has been completed, examinees will not be able to return to any items within that block.

With tutorial time and breaks, the general exam is approximately 2.5 hours and the specialty/subspecialty exams are 3.5 hours in length.

Primary Certification and Subspecialty Certification Attempts

- **Candidates must achieve board certification in the specialty or subspecialty for which they are board eligible within six (6) years of the completion of training in a particular specialty or subspecialty.** If a candidate fails to achieve certification in that specialty within this timeframe, they must regain eligibility before re-applying for certification. Details regarding board eligibility and active candidate status can be found [here](#).

- Individuals who do not pass the ABMGG certification examination, withdraw from the certification examination, or do not appear at the certification examination site **will not achieve ABMGG certification.**
- If an applicant passes only the general examination or only a specialty examination, but not both, only the failed examination will need to be re-taken in a future exam administration.
- If problems arise while at the test center, it is the candidate's responsibility to inform the on-site test administrator of any difficulties encountered at the examination site. If a problem arises that interferes with the ability to start or complete the examination, do NOT leave the testing site and contact the ABMGG Administrative Office immediately at 301-634-7415. In addition, candidates must inform the ABMGG Administrative Office in writing within one week of the examination of any other difficulties encountered at the examination site.
- The content of the certification examinations is proprietary and includes strictly confidential information. Applicants must sign an application statement agreeing that they will not disclose or share, either directly or indirectly, any question or any part of any question from the examination to any person or entity. The unauthorized receipt, retention, possession, copying or disclosure of any certification examination materials, including but not limited to the content of any examination question, before, during, or after the examination may subject the applicant to legal action. Such legal action may result in monetary damages and/or disciplinary action, including denial or revocation of ABMGG certification.

On Exam Day

Arriving at the Testing Center

Plan to arrive at the testing center 30 minutes prior to your exam start time.

What to Bring

Identification: At check-in, Pearson VUE staff will ask candidates to present two forms of identification (ID), including at least one government-issued ID with a signature and a recent photograph. The other form of ID must include a signature.

Please note: As stated above, the name that is listed on both forms of ID must match the name used while applying to the ABMGG for active candidate status.

Personal Belongings: Pearson VUE will provide a locker for storing personal belongings. Test centers are not responsible for lost, stolen, or misplaced personal items.

Certain items are not allowed in the Pearson VUE building and must be left at home or in a candidate's vehicle. These materials include textbooks, study guides, notes, etc.

Security Procedures

To protect exam security and ensure a fair experience for all candidates, Pearson VUE employs several security measures. Check-in procedures include the following:

- Palm vein pattern (scan) used for security and identity verification if the candidate leaves and returns to the testing room
- Digital signature

- Photograph
- Signature as proof of the candidate's understanding and acceptance of the examination rules
- Audio and video monitoring at all times

Check-in Procedures May Include

1. ID Check: Pearson VUE staff will ask for two forms of identification.
2. Signature: Proof of understanding and acceptance of rules established by the ABMGG.
3. Palm Vein Scan.
4. Security Check: Follow all security requirements. Candidates may be asked to turn pockets out to ensure that no prohibited items are being carried into the testing room.
5. Locker: Personal items should be left at home or stored in an assigned locker outside the testing area. Locker access will be provided only before and after the examination and during breaks.
6. Erasable Whiteboard: Before entering the room, candidates will be provided with an erasable whiteboard and marker for use during the exam. Candidates may not remove the whiteboard from the testing room at any time during the exam and must turn it in during breaks and after the exam is over. The whiteboard will be erased during scheduled and unscheduled breaks.
7. Workstation: Staff will log candidates into assigned computer workstations and verify the exam to be delivered.
8. Tutorial: Before the exam begins, candidates will complete a self-paced computerized tutorial to become familiar with the exam format and procedures for completing the exam. Time spent on the tutorial is not deducted from the time allotted for the exam; the system allows for up to 15 minutes to complete the tutorial.
9. Conduct Attestation: Candidates may be asked to review and sign a conduct attestation or similar form, acknowledging both understanding and compliance with testing center examination rules regarding security and conduct.

DEADLINES

The general application must be submitted by January 15, 2026.

Applications submitted between January 16, 2026, and January 31, 2026, will incur a late fee of \$400. The application will close on January 31, 2026. No applications will be accepted after the deadline.

Applicants will be able to view the progress and any decisions about their application on their portal profile page. It is the applicant's responsibility to ensure the on-time delivery of all required documents.

CERTIFICATION EXAMINATION FEES

Review Fees:

Application for 1 specialty	\$775
Application for 2 specialties	\$825
Application for re-examinees	\$525

Examination Fees:

General exam	\$1,050
Specialty and subspecialty exam	\$1,175

Note: Diplomates adding a specialty do not have to retake the general exam.

Additional Fees:

Late fee (applications submitted after deadline)	\$400
Request for Appeal	\$300

Payment options: ACH/Credit Card

Applicants will pay all fees at the time of submission of the application via ACH or credit/debit card. For credit/debit card payments, a 3% card processing fee will be added. Payments by ACH will not be subject to any additional fee.

- Please note that payments via ACH take 5-7 business days to process. The funds are withdrawn from the bank and it takes about a week from that point. During this time, the candidate's application and payment will show a pending status - no updates or a receipt are provided until the process is complete. If, after 10 business days, your payment has not processed please contact abmgg@abmgg.org
 - A late fee will not be assessed for an ACH payment that is made prior to Jan. 6 but processes after that date.
 - A candidate will be considered an applicant if the application and payment are submitted prior to Jan. 31 but the ACH payment does not process until after that date.

Withdrawal and Refunds

ABMGG understands that sometimes a candidate may need to withdraw from an examination. The following schedule applies to withdrawals and refunds:

- **All** refunds are subject to a \$250 administration processing fee.
- Candidates who withdraw their application **prior to March 1** will receive a full refund minus the processing fee.
- **After March 1**, application review fees will not be refunded.
- Between **March 1 - June 15** candidates will receive a refund of examination fees only, minus the processing fee.
- Candidates who withdraw after **June 15, or after scheduling a testing appointment**, forfeit all fees and must cancel testing appointments.

Applicants must notify the ABMGG of withdrawal in writing to credentials@abmgg.org.

EXAMINATION SCORING

Scoring the Examination

In this type of examination, no candidate is expected to know the correct answer to every question. Even if a candidate is unfamiliar with all aspects of a particular question, they should answer all questions, marking the choice that best answers the question. There is no additional penalty for a wrong answer. Blank responses will be counted as incorrect.

Based on reliable scoring and reporting techniques, with a variety of checks and verification procedures, the ABMGG is confident that the scores reported for each examinee accurately reflect the answers marked. Since this is a computer-based examination, we do not offer hand-checks of the answers.

The passing standard for each ABMGG examination is derived through a criterion-referenced standard-setting process through which content experts define minimum competency. Thus, a candidate who earns a passing score has demonstrated mastery of the knowledge, skills, and abilities associated with safe and effective patient care.

Reporting of Scores

Official notification of examination results will occur approximately 10-12 weeks after the examination is administered. In the interest of maintaining the confidentiality of examinee information, examination results are not given by telephone or via fax. When results are ready, a notification will be sent to the email on record in the ABMGG portal.

Integrity of Scores

The giving or receipt of unauthorized information or aid, as evidenced by observation or statistical analysis of answers, constitutes sufficient cause to invalidate a candidate's score and to take other appropriate action.

The integrity of the results reported to candidates for their performance on these examinations is protected by every means available. Any score that is deemed not to represent a reasonable assessment of the candidate's knowledge or competence as sampled by the examination shall be deemed irregular. All candidates' responses are monitored and may be analyzed statistically for the purpose of detecting irregular scores.

If evidence suggests a score irregularity, the ABMGG may withhold a candidate's report of results until a determination is made as to whether, in the opinion of the ABMGG, the performance of a candidate is a reasonable assessment of the knowledge or competency assessed by the examination. If the ABMGG determines that a score is irregular, it may invalidate the results and then notify the candidate the basis of its decision.

All candidates must acknowledge these regulations by signing a statement included in the online examination.

CERTIFICATES

Examinees who pass the general examination and at least one specialty examination will become diplomates of the ABMGG.

- Certificates will be mailed to diplomates within three months of score release.
- Certification status will become publicly available through the official ABMS Directory of Board-Certified Medical Specialists and in other authorized ABMS publications.

Certificates will be maintained as long as diplomates actively participate in and meet the requirements of the ABMGG's Continuing Certification Program.

Participation in Continuing Certification Program

The ABMGG began issuing time-limited certificates in 1993. All diplomates with time-limited certificates are required to meet all the requirements of the ABMGG Continuing Certification program or certification may be revoked. Participation in this program begins as soon as certification is granted, and newly certified diplomates are automatically enrolled. Program requirements are described under [Continuing Certification](#).

Status

Upon receiving the examination results applicants are no longer considered active candidates. At this point, an applicant is either a certified diplomate of the ABMGG or holds no status with the ABMGG. Candidates who do not achieve passing scores on the required examinations must reapply to regain Active Candidate Status.

Upon receiving passing scores on **both** the general examination and at least one specialty examination, the applicant becomes board-certified and is granted the title "Diplomate" of the ABMGG.

Guidelines for Stating Certification Status can be found [here](#). Note that the designation "DABMGG" is not recognized by the ABMGG.

Status at ACMG

All diplomates may apply to the American College of Medical Genetics and Genomics (ACMG) to become a Fellow of the ACMG. Only those accepted by the ACMG as Fellows may use the abbreviation "FACMG" (Fellow, American College of Medical Genetics and Genomics) after their name.

Revocation of ABMGG Certificates

Any certificate issued by the ABMGG shall be subject to revocation at any time should the ABMGG determine in its sole judgment that a candidate who received a certificate was in some respect not properly qualified to have received it or is in some respect not properly qualified to retain it.

POLICIES

The ABMGG has a number of policies that guide candidates, volunteers, and staff involved in the credentialing and certifying process. The policies listed below specifically apply to initial certification. Please read them carefully.

- [Board-Eligibility and Timeframe to Achieve Certification](https://www.abmgg.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/08/Board-Eligibility-Active-Candidate-Policy-2025.pdf)
<https://www.abmgg.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/08/Board-Eligibility-Active-Candidate-Policy-2025.pdf>
- [Licensure Requirements for Clinical Genetics and Genomics Candidates](https://www.abmgg.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/05/Licensure-Requirements-for-Clinical-Genetics-Candidates.pdf)
<https://www.abmgg.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/05/Licensure-Requirements-for-Clinical-Genetics-Candidates.pdf>
- [Leave of Absence and Vacations](https://www.abmgg.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/05/Leave-Policy-for-Residents-and-Fellows.pdf)
<https://www.abmgg.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/05/Leave-Policy-for-Residents-and-Fellows.pdf>
- [Applicants Unable to Sit for Scheduled Certification Examination Due to Special Circumstances](https://www.abmgg.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/05/ABMGG-Policy-on-Emergency-Exam-Withdrawals-5.21.2021.pdf)
<https://www.abmgg.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/05/ABMGG-Policy-on-Emergency-Exam-Withdrawals-5.21.2021.pdf>
- [Regaining Eligibility for Initial Certification](http://www.abmgg.org/pdf/Regaining%20Eligibility%20for%20Initial%20Certification.pdf)
<http://www.abmgg.org/pdf/Regaining%20Eligibility%20for%20Initial%20Certification.pdf>
- [Accommodation Request for Examinations](https://www.abmgg.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/05/ABMGG-Special-Accommodations-Instructions-Application.pdf)
<https://www.abmgg.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/05/ABMGG-Special-Accommodations-Instructions-Application.pdf>
 - Or the [Breastfeeding Parent Form](#)
- [Appeal Process for Adverse Decision Affecting Certification](https://www.abmgg.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/05/Review-and-Appeal-Process-Certification_reviewed-3.12_.pdf)
https://www.abmgg.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/05/Review-and-Appeal-Process-Certification_reviewed-3.12_.pdf

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Degree/Training Requirements

Q. What degree qualifications do I need to be considered for the ABMGG certification examinations?

A. Clinical Genetics and Genomics applicants: Must have a medical degree (M.D., D.O., or equivalent). Laboratory specialty applicants: Must have either a medical degree or a Ph.D. in genetics or a closely related field. If you are unsure whether your Ph.D. is in a closely related field, email credentials@abmgg.org and include a PDF of your transcript.

Q. I earned my medical (or doctoral) degree in another country. What are the requirements for eligibility to take the ABMGG certification exams?

A. If your medical or doctoral degree was earned outside the U.S., Puerto Rico, or Canada, you must submit a Credentials Review Request form. For more information, click [here](#).

Q. I completed a residency outside of an ACGME-accredited program; will it qualify?

A. ABMGG requires satisfactory completion of full-time training in an ACGME-accredited residency (e.g., pediatrics, obstetrics and gynecology, internal medicine, etc.) that includes at least 12 months of direct patient care experience.

Q. My doctoral or medical education was from a country in which English is not the primary language. What do I need to do?

A. Applicants for the certification examinations for the laboratory specialties who have earned their degree from a country other than the U.S., Canada, Great Britain, or Australia must take the TOEFL-iBT examination. **Applicants must have the official TOEFL-iBT examination scores sent directly to the ABMGG Administrative Office by the Educational Testing Service (www.ets.org).** Individuals who received their undergraduate or Master's degree in a country where English is the primary language but obtained a doctoral degree elsewhere are not required to take the TOEFL-iBT exam. Physicians with an ECFMG certificate are exempt from this requirement.

International applicants for the certification examinations in clinical genetics and genomics must hold an ECFMG certificate.

Logbooks

Q. Do I submit a logbook to the ABMGG?

A. No, logbooks are submitted to the Program Director upon completion of training. During credentials review, the ABMGG reserves the right to request individual logbooks for auditing purposes. Candidates should maintain a copy of approved logbook cases.

Q. I am a medical genetics and genomics resident in an ACGME program. Do I have to use the ACGME caselog site?

A. Yes. Both ACGME and ABMGG requirements must be met.

Q. When is my logbook due?

A. Logbooks are due at the completion of training and should be submitted to the program director. By the time of application, candidates must be making reasonable progress in the accrual of logbook cases.

Board Eligibility and Active Candidate Status

Q. What does "board eligible" Refer to?

A. A candidate is considered "board eligible" after satisfactory completion of an accredited training program and acceptance of an application to sit for the Board examination(s) and before successful certification by the ABMGG.

Q. For what period of time am I board eligible?

A. A candidate is considered Board Eligible for up to six (6) years after satisfactory completion of an accredited training program. For more information, please read the [Board-Eligibility and Timeframe to Achieve Certification policy](#).

Q. What if I do not achieve certification within six (6) years post completion of training?

A. Candidates are no longer eligible for certification in a specialty without fulfilling the requirements for regaining eligibility into the certification process. Such candidates may not use the term board eligible. Any violation of this rule will be considered a breach of ethical standards. View the policy on [Regaining Eligibility for Initial Certification](#).

Q. What is active candidate status (ACS)?

A. Active candidate status is the term used to recognize applicants who have fulfilled the requirements for ABMGG certification but who have not yet taken the certification examination. ACS is granted after all requirements have been met and formally approved by the ABMGG. The term ACS is valid only for a single designated examination cycle and terminates once the results of the examination are released.

Q. What is conditional active candidate status?

A. Conditional active candidate status recognizes applicants who have fulfilled requirements for ABMGG certification with the exception of: (a) a valid, unrestricted medical license, and/or (b) the completion of an approved training program in the intended specialty.

Dates, Deadlines, and Fees

Q. Where are the ABMGG examinations offered?

A. ABMGG certification exams are offered at Pearson VUE Test Centers worldwide. The cost of an exam seat is included in the examination fee.

Q. When must training be completed for one to be eligible to sit for the examinations?

A. Training must be completed by July 31, 2026.

Q. What is the deadline to apply for the certification examinations?

A. Deadline without late fee: January 15, 2026

Final deadline (with late fee): January 31, 2026

Q. How much does it cost to sit for the ABMGG certification examination?

A. The 2026 fees can be found [here](#). All examination fees must be submitted with the application. There are separate fees for

- (a) the review process
- (b) the general examination
- (c) each specialty or subspecialty examination
- (d) late fees (*if applicable*)

To discuss a payment plan, contact abmgg@abmgg.org.

Q. What do the exam fees cover?

A. The fees cover review of all documentation submitted for credentialing; determination of eligibility to sit for the examinations; costs of developing, administering, evaluating, and reporting the results of the examination; as well as other activities essential to the certification process.

Q. How do I withdraw from the exam?

A. A written notification must be sent to credentials@abmgg.org. More information about withdrawals and refunds can be found [here](#).

Where to Find More Information

Q. How do I apply and what documents are required to be submitted with the application?

A. The application is available on the ABMGG portal and consists of the following components:

- (a) general application
- (b) letters of endorsement
- (c) official transcript(s) of doctoral or medical degree
- (d) confirmation of completion of training program submitted by program director
- (e) examination fees

Q. I am applying for certification in Clinical Genetics and Genomics. Do I need to have a medical license to take the examination?

A. Applicants for the clinical genetics and genomics exam **are** required to have a valid and unrestricted medical license to achieve “Active Candidate Status”. Prior to holding a full medical license, an applicant may receive a status of “Conditional Active Candidate,” indicating they have met all other credentialing requirements; however, they must hold an unrestricted license at the time of the examination. Temporary or training licenses are not acceptable. For specific concerns about this requirement, contact the ABMGG at credentials@abmgg.org.

Q. I am not planning on practicing in the United States; do I still need to obtain a US license?

A. Applicants for initial certification who intend to exclusively practice abroad must submit a letter stating this fact. In addition, they must submit proof of licensure in the country in which they intend to practice in order to receive examination results.

Portal Profile

Q. How do I access my profile and application?

A. Trainees and board eligible individuals will receive an invitation to the portal (via email) when initially registered by the program director or ABMGG office administrator. If you are having trouble accessing the portal, please contact the ABMGG at abmogg@abmogg.org for assistance.

Q. How do I update my information?

A. All personal and contact information must be reviewed for accuracy and updated as necessary in the portal. Additionally, applicants must review and attest that their information is correct during the application process. If either a candidate's name or birthdate does not match that listed on the government-issued ID, then the candidate must submit a request to the ABMGG that includes a copy of your government-issued ID. Candidates may update an email address and other fields directly in the portal.

Q. My name has recently changed, how can I update my records?

A. If you have undergone a name change, please complete the [Change of Name Request Form](#) and return along with the required documents and so ABMGG records may be updated. Please remember that the name on the scheduling email must exactly match the name on the government-issued identification to gain entrance for the examination(s).

Studying for the Exam

Q. Does the ABMGG publish or recommend any preparation materials for the examination?

A. The ABMGG neither administers nor endorses review courses for the ABMGG certification examinations. Furthermore, the ABMGG does not provide content or guidance to organizations offering review courses. Board members do not participate as faculty in such courses nor are practice questions abstracted from previous Board examinations. Participation in review courses does not ensure successful completion of the certification examination.

Q. How do I know what will be on the exam and what should I study?

A. The content outlines and blueprints of the ABMGG certification examinations can be found [here](#).

After the Exam

Q. When are scores available?

A. Examination results will be sent to candidates approximately 10-12 weeks after the examinations are given.

Q. I did not pass the exam; now what?

A. Applicants have six years from the date of completion of training to become certified. If an applicant did not take an exam or failed to achieve a passing score on either the general exam, the specialty exam, or both exams, then they must reapply in order to take the failed exam(s) in a future cycle. Applicants who do not achieve certification within six (6) years, are no longer eligible for certification in that specialty without fulfilling the requirements for regaining eligibility for initial certification.

Q. Am I allowed to discuss or disclose questions that were on the exam?

A. **No**, the content of the examinations may be discussed or disclosed to anyone. Candidates sign an agreement when submitting an application stating that they understand that the content of the ABMGG examinations are proprietary and strictly confidential and that the unauthorized retention, possession, copying, distribution, disclosure, discussion, or receipt of any examination question, in whole or in part, by written, electronic, oral or other form of communication, including but not limited to emailing, copying or printing and reconstruction through memorization and/or dictation, before, during, or after an examination, is strictly prohibited. In addition to constituting irregular behavior, subject to disciplinary action, including but not limited to revocation of certification, revocation of eligibility for future certification, and disciplinary fines - such activities violate the ABMGG's proprietary rights, including copyrights, and may subject you to legal action resulting in monetary damages.