

## Board Eligible Periods and Transition Dates for ABMS Member Boards



American Board  
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The ABMS Board Eligibility Policy, which became effective January 1, 2012, limits the period of time that may elapse between a physician's completion of training and achievement of initial certification in a specialty. In implementing this policy, those ABMS Member Boards that did not have an existing Board Eligibility Policy in place were to establish a Board Eligible Period of three (3) to seven (7) years for candidates to achieve initial certification following the successful completion of accredited training, and in accordance with the corresponding Member Board requirements, plus time (if any) in practice required by the Member Board for admissibility to the certifying examination. A Member Board with an already existing Board Eligibility Policy was to ensure that its Board Eligible Period aligned with the principles of the established ABMS Board Eligibility Policy, but each such Member Board's transition dates could vary.

| ABMS Member Board                                      | Board Eligible Period<br>(+ practice requirement) <sup>1</sup> | Transition Date         |
|--------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| American Board of Allergy and Immunology               | 5 years                                                        | 12/31/2017              |
| American Board of Anesthesiology                       | 7 years                                                        | 1/1/2019                |
| American Board of Colon and Rectal Surgery             | 7 years <sup>2</sup>                                           | 12/31/2023 <sup>3</sup> |
| American Board of Dermatology                          | 5 years                                                        | 12/31/2016              |
| American Board of Emergency Medicine                   | 5 years                                                        | 12/31/2019              |
| American Board of Family Medicine                      | 7 years                                                        | 1/1/2019                |
| American Board of Internal Medicine                    | 7 years                                                        | 1/1/2019                |
| American Board of Medical Genetics and Genomics        | 7 years                                                        | 1/1/2019                |
| American Board of Neurological Surgery                 | 5 years                                                        | 12/31/2018              |
| American Board of Nuclear Medicine                     | 7 years                                                        | *                       |
| American Board of Obstetrics and Gynecology            | 7 (+1) years <sup>1</sup>                                      | 1/1/2017                |
| American Board of Ophthalmology                        | 7 years                                                        | 1/1/2019                |
| American Board of Orthopaedic Surgery                  | 5 years <sup>4</sup>                                           | *                       |
| American Board of Otolaryngology                       | 5 years                                                        | 1/1/2019                |
| American Board of Pathology                            | 5 years                                                        | 1/1/2019                |
| American Board of Pediatrics                           | 7 years <sup>5</sup>                                           | *                       |
| American Board of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation | 7 years                                                        | 1/1/2019                |
| American Board of Plastic Surgery                      | 7 (+1) years <sup>1</sup>                                      | 1/1/2019                |
| American Board of Preventive Medicine                  | 7 years                                                        | 1/1/2019                |
| American Board of Psychiatry and Neurology             | 7 years                                                        | 1/1/2019                |
| American Board of Radiology                            | 6 years                                                        | 1/1/2015                |
| American Board of Surgery                              | 7 years                                                        | 7/1/2022                |
| American Board of Thoracic Surgery                     | 7 years                                                        | *                       |
| American Board of Urology                              | 6 years <sup>1</sup>                                           | *                       |

\* The following Member Boards had Board Eligibility policies in place prior to the effective date of the ABMS Board Eligibility Policy, and therefore no future Transition Date is provided: ABNM, ABOS, ABPeds, ABTS, ABU

<sup>1</sup> The Board Eligible Period includes an additional practice requirement.

<sup>2</sup> Candidates for certification have seven (7) years to complete both written and oral examinations after application approved by ABCRS.

<sup>3</sup> Candidates for certification by ABCRS must pass ABS written examination before being admitted to the ABCRS examination process.

<sup>4</sup> Candidates for certification by ABOS have five (5) years to achieve certification after passing written examination.

<sup>5</sup> For those who completed their training prior to 2007, ABPeds' transition period ended on 12/31/2013. For those who completed their training in 2007 or later, ABPeds' Board Eligible Period is seven (7) years.

For more information, visit [www.abms.org](http://www.abms.org)

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