



Becoming Certified in Addiction Medicine through ABPM

ASAM Review Course

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Michael Weaver, MD, DFASAM

Sub-Board Director, ABPM

Disclosure Information



- Michael Weaver, MD, DFASAM
 - Commercial Interests: No Disclosures



+ Primary Specialty Certification

- American Board of Medical Specialties (ABMS) Member Board
- American Osteopathic Association (AOA)
- Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada (RCPSC)
- College of Family Physicians of Canada (CFPC)

+ Medical Degree

+ Medical License

- Current, unrestricted and valid in US or Canada; no license may be restricted, revoked, suspended, or currently under such notice

+ Training or Experience in Addiction Medicine

- Practice Pathway (through 2025)
- ACGME-Accredited Fellowship in Addiction Medicine

- + Eligible physicians have significant Addiction Medicine practice experience or training but who have not completed an ACGME-accredited Addiction Medicine fellowship to qualify for the certification exam**

- + Open through 2025 Exam Cycle**

+ 1,920 hours of relevant Addiction Medicine practice at the subspecialty level

- Completed over at least 24 months
- Must be completed within 60 months immediately preceding June 30 of the application year
- Need not be continuous

+ Broad-based, professional activity with significant addiction medicine responsibility

- Comprehensive approach to preventing diagnosing, and managing patients with various substance use disorders and addictions
- Minimum of 480 hours of direct patient care including prevention and treatment of individuals at risk for substance use disorders
- May include up to 1,440 hours of teaching, research and/or administration activities

+ Successful completion of an ACGME-accredited fellowship training

- At least 12 months in duration
- If fellowship is longer than 12 months of training, physicians must successfully complete all years of training for which the fellowship program is accredited

+ Addiction Medicine fellowship programs began ACGME accreditation process in February 2018

+ Beginning in 2026, ACGME-Accredited Fellowship Pathway will be the sole pathway to ABPM certification in Addiction Medicine

Examination Content, Questions & Timeline



- + Assesses ability to apply knowledge rather than to recall isolated facts**
- + Focuses on high-frequency and/or high-impact patient problems**
- + Emphasizes clinical situations and decisions arising in the experienced addiction medicine specialist's practice**

Core Exam Content Areas



Proportion	Content Area
25%	01 Definitions 02 Genetics 03 Pharmacokinetic and Pharmacodynamic Principles 04 Pharmacology 05 Neurobiology of Addiction
20%	06 Epidemiological Concepts 07 Epidemiological Trends of Substance Use Disorders 08 Prevention
40%	09 Screening, Assessment, and Brief Intervention 10 Overview of Addiction Treatment 11 Management of Inpatient and Outpatient Intoxication and Withdrawal 12 Pharmacologic Interventions for Addictions 13 Behavioral Interventions 14 Co-Occurring and Medical Disorders among Patients with Alcohol and Other Drug Use and Addiction 15 Co-Occurring Psychiatric Disorders among Patients with Alcohol and Other Drug Use and Addiction 16 Pain and Addiction
15%	17 Ethical, Legal, and Liability Issues in Addiction Practice

Exam Content by Substance/Addiction



Proportion of Exam	Substance/Addiction
15-20%	Alcohol
15-20%	Nicotine
10-15%	Opioids
7-10%	Sedatives
7-10%	Stimulants
7-10%	Cannabinoids
0.5-3%	Hallucinogens
0.5-3%	Dissociatives
0.5-3%	Inhalants
0.5-3%	Anabolic Steroids
1-3%	Other Substances
1-3%	Nonsubstance addiction
1-5%	General/All Substances Combined

+ Multiple-Choice questions

- **Recall:** specific important facts
- **Interpretation:** e.g., identify a fatal study flaw, diagnose a patient
- **Problem Solving:** e.g., judgment about clinical treatment, healthcare administration, study design, 2x2 tables, etc.

+ Single-best answer

+ Calculator, drug name list, and normal range values are provided

What is NOT on the Exam?



+ True/False questions

+ K-type questions

- Choose appropriate set of correct answers (e.g., “A and B” or “A,B, and C”)

+ Trick questions

+ “Experimental” questions

- + Attests that all requirements of Addiction Medicine certification have been met.**

- + Effective January 1 of the year following the exam.**
 - Subject to continuing compliance with Continuing Certification Program (CCP) requirements, Certificate will expire December 31, ten years after issuance.
 - E.g., for those passing the 2024 examination, certification is effective beginning January 1, 2025, through December 31, 2034.

- + All Addiction Medicine Diplomates certified by the ABPM are subject to the Annual Fee**

Important Dates



March 13, 2024	Application window opens
May 22, 2024	Exam registration opens
June 30, 2024	Application window closes
July 1, 2024	Late application window open (additional fee applies)
July 15, 2024	Late application window closes
September 13, 2024	Exam registration closes
October 14 – November 3, 2024	Exam administration
Late January 2025	Exam scores released to examinees



Questions?

+ www.theabpm.org

+ abpm@theabpm.org