



Staying Certified in Addiction Medicine: ABPM's Continuing Certification Program

Michael Weaver, MD, DFASAM

Mia Katzenberger



Speaker Disclosures



- **Michael Weaver, MD, DFASAM**
 - Member of ABPM's Board of Directors
 - Nothing to disclose



- **Mia Katzenberger**
 - Manager, Continuing Certification & Item Development, ABPM
 - Nothing to disclose



Learning Objectives

- **Identify the benefits of continuing certification for physicians in practice**
- **Discuss ABPM's transition from maintenance of certification (MOC) to an innovative and flexible Continuing Certification Program (CCP)**
- **Recognize the requirements to stay certified in Addiction Medicine through ABPM**





About ABPM

Specialties, Subspecialties, Board and Staff

Specialties & Subspecialties

ACGME-Accredited Residency



Specialties

- Aerospace Medicine
- Occupational & Environmental Medicine
- Public Health & General Preventive Medicine

ACGME-Accredited Fellowship



Subspecialties

- Addiction Medicine
- Clinical Informatics
- Health Care Administration, Leadership & Management
- Undersea & Hyperbaric Medicine



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- Karen Studer, MD, MPH
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ABPM Staff

- **Christopher J. Ondrula, JD**

- CEO
- condrula@theabpm.org

- **Marzena Marciniac**

- Administrative Director
- mmarciniac@theabpm.org

- **Mia Katzenberger**

- Manager, Continuing Certification & Item Development
- mkatzenberger@theabpm.org

- **Clare Foreman**

- Manager, Communications & Stakeholder Engagement
- cforeman@theabpm.org

- **Lizz Anderson**

- Manager, Initial Certification
- landerson@theabpm.org

- **Nina Resnick**

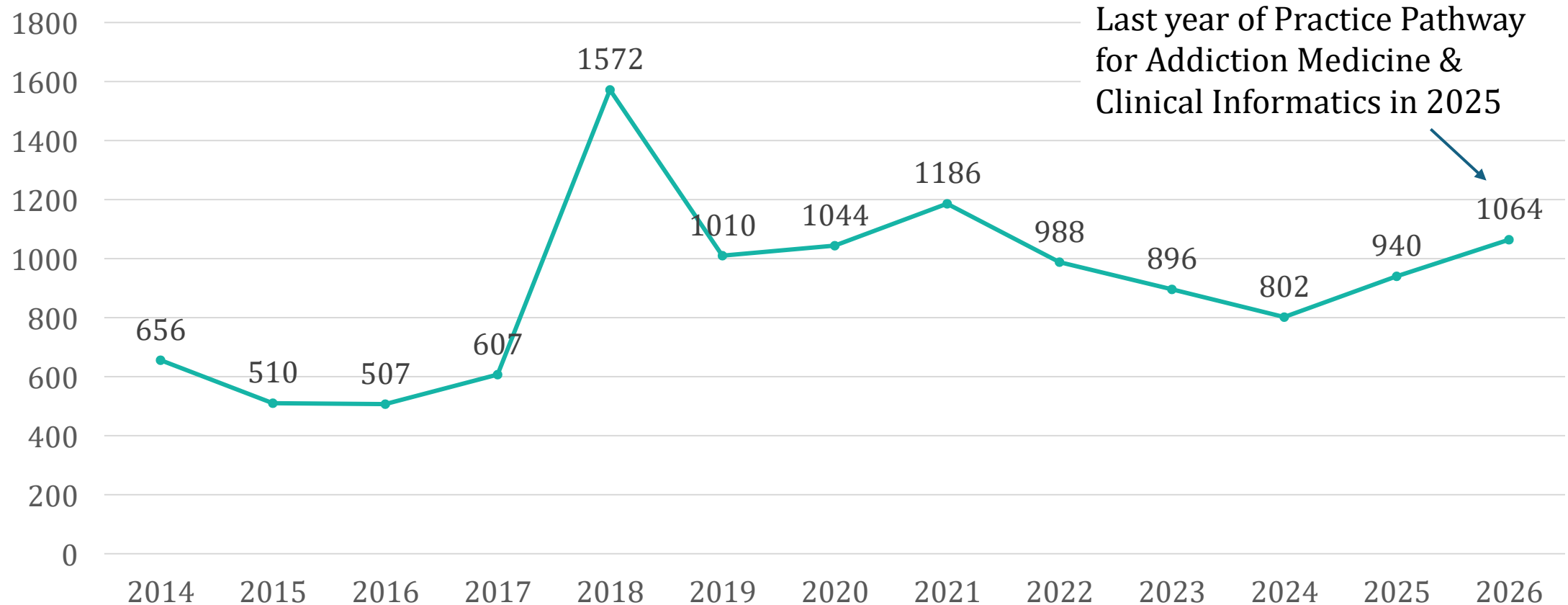
- Administrative Assistant
- nresnick@theabpm.org



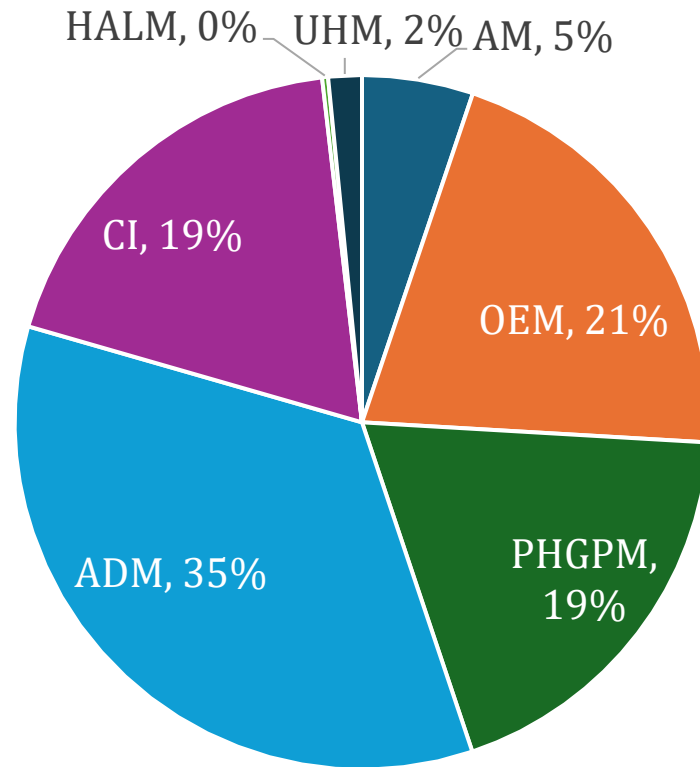


Diplomates & Certificates

New Certifications, 2014-2026



Specialty/Subspecialty Certificates as a Proportion of all ABPM Certificates



- **Specialty certificates** make up 45% of all ABPM certificates and 32% of all time-limited ABPM certificates
- **Subspecialty certificates** make up 55% of all ABPM certificates and 68% of all time-limited ABPM certificates





Why CCP?

The Benefits of Participation

Why Transition to Continuing Certification?

Focus on ongoing learning and growth

- Shift from requirements over 10 years to annual engagement

Emphasis on real-world knowledge and skills

- Questions written by practicing specialists/subspecialists
- Focuses on “walking-around” knowledge

Increased flexibility for physicians

- Diplomates may choose CME courses that best align with their needs and interests
- LAP can be completed online, anytime each calendar year

Alignment with modern medical practice

- Diplomates encouraged to use books, websites, and other resources to help them answer LAP questions



MOC Exam v. LAP

Traditional MOC Exam Model

- Secure, proctored exam once every 10 years
- High-stakes, single-point-in-time assessment
- Significant preparation and time burden



Longitudinal Assessment Model

- Periodic delivery of shorter question sets over time
- Open-book, reflecting real-world clinical practice
- Immediate feedback and references provided
- Continuous demonstration of knowledge



What LAP Means for Diplomates

- **Greater flexibility in when and how assessments are completed**
- **Reduced test anxiety compared to single high-stakes exam**
- **Reinforces learning through regular engagement**
- **Encourages knowledge retention rather than short-term memorization**
- **Complies with ABMS standards while modernizing certification experience**



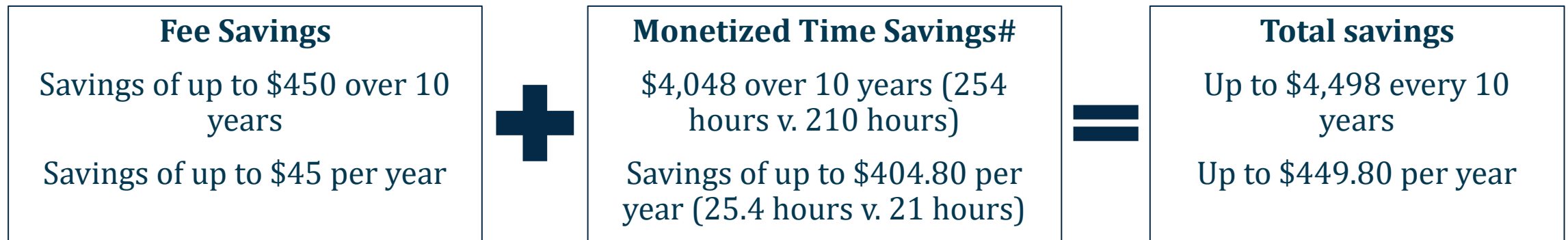
CCP Saves Time & Money

Fees

- MOC: \$1,950 over 10 years
 - \$1,750 MOC exam* + \$200 registration fee per 10-year cycle
- CCP: \$1500-\$2000 over 10 years
 - Annual fee ranges from \$150-\$200 (\$150 if paid Jan-Mar; \$175 if paid April-June; \$200 if paid July-Dec)

Time Commitment

- MOC: 254 hours over 10 years
 - CME: 25 hours per year
 - ABAM MOC exam: 4 hours every 10 years*
- CCP: 210 hours over 10 years
 - CME: 20 hours per year
 - LAP: 30 questions/year x 2 minutes/question= 1 hour annually**



*MOC exam-related travel time and costs not included

**During 2025 ADM LAP, average response time was 1 min 17 seconds

#Based on average hourly rate calculated at \$92. Source: <https://www.salary.com/research/salary/hiring/preventive-medicine-physician-salary>





CCP Requirements

Three-Phase Implementation



Continuing Certification Program (CCP)	2026	2027	2028	2029
<p>Professionalism & Licensure Maintain a full, valid, and unrestricted license to practice medicine.</p>	✓	✓	✓	✓
<p>Annual Fee Pay the annual fee</p>	✓	✓	✓	✓
<p>Lifelong Professional Development 20 <i>AMA PRA Category 1 Credits</i>[™] annually 6 credits must be certificate-specific</p>	✓	✓	✓	✓
<p>Longitudinal Assessment Program (LAP) Answer 30 LAP questions annually</p>	✓	✓	✓	✓
<p>Improving Health & Health Care (IHHC)* Complete an activity designed to improve a Diplomate's practice <small>*Subject to final approval by ABMS' Continuing Certification Committee</small></p>	Not required during Phase 2			



How to Complete Requirements

Physician Portal

- Access everything you need to complete CCP requirements
- Update contact information
- Download an official verification of certification

The screenshot shows the 'My Dashboard' page of the American Board of Preventive Medicine Physician Portal. The header includes the organization's logo and name, and navigation links for 'MY ACCOUNT', 'CREDENTIALING', 'ADMINISTRATION', and 'Physician Portal'. The main content area is divided into several sections:

- Profile Management:** A sidebar on the left contains a 'Manage My Picture' button and fields for 'Address', 'USA', 'Work Phone', and 'Email'.
- Continuing Certification Annual Attestation:** A central section with a heading and three numbered items:
 - 1. Annual Fees: Thank you for submitting payment for your annual fee. You may review your invoice history [here](#).
 - 2. Lifelong Professional Development CME Attestation: You may now submit your attestation of compliance with the Lifelong Professional Development component of the CCP. [Complete 2025 Attestation Now](#)
 - 3. Medical License: You must maintain a current, valid, and unrestricted medical license in every US state, US territory, or Canadian province in which you are licensed to practice medicine.
- Certifications:** A table with columns for Specialty, Status, Cert Number, Start Date, and Expiration Date. The row shows 'Addiction Medicine' with a 'CERTIFIED' status, a cert number, and dates from 01/01/2018 to 12/31/2029.
- Licenses:** A table with columns for License #, Country, State, and Exp Date. The row shows 'USA' with a license number and dates from 01/01/2028 to 01/01/2028.


Learn about using the Physician Portal

Watch our YouTube video



Annual Fee

- **Annual fee is the ONLY fee to participate in ABPM's CCP**
- **Discounts available!**
 - Pay by March 31 – save \$50
 - Pay April through June – save \$25
 - July 1 and later, regular \$200 fee in effect
- **After paying current year's fee, you'll have access to all parts of CCP, including the LAP**

 1. Annual Fees: You may now pay your annual fee which is due by the end of the year. Payment can be submitted through the "Pay Open Invoices" section of your Physician Portal or by clicking [here](#).



Medical License Attestation

- Update (if necessary) and attest to each of your licenses annually
- To begin, click “Manage My Licenses” on your Physician Portal dashboard


Licenses			
License #	Country	State	Exp Date
036151729	USA	IL	07/31/2026
46544	USA	TN	09/30/2025

[Manage My Licenses](#)



CME Attestation

- **The CME attestation is available after the annual fee is paid**
- **Access the link to the attestation in the Continuing Certification section of the Physician Portal dashboard**

 2. Lifelong Professional Development CME
Attestation: You may now submit your attestation of compliance with the Lifelong Professional Development component of the CCP. [Complete 2025 Attestation Now](#)





Longitudinal Assessment Program (LAP)

LAP Overview

- **All current time-limited diplomates participate**
 - Including diplomates newly certified in 2026
- **30 questions per year per current ABPM certificate, due December 31**
- **During phase two (2025-2029), diplomates must participate in “good faith”**
 - No minimum passing score
- **Diplomates may consult books, websites and other resources while answering LAP questions**



2026 Addiction Medicine LAP Content

- **The LAP uses the same content outline as the initial certification exam**
- **ABPM will publish the areas of the content outline that will be covered in each year's LAP**
- **2026 LAP content is available now – use the QR code here to access**



How to Access the LAP

- Begin by logging into your Physician Portal account
- Click the “Learnswell Login” link in the Continuing Certification section of the dashboard
- Next, click “First time on site?” to set up your Learnswell password

Continuing Certification Annual Attestation

During Phase Two of the CCP, in effect for calendar years 2025 - 2029, you have four annual requirements. You can learn more about CCP requirements. [here](#).

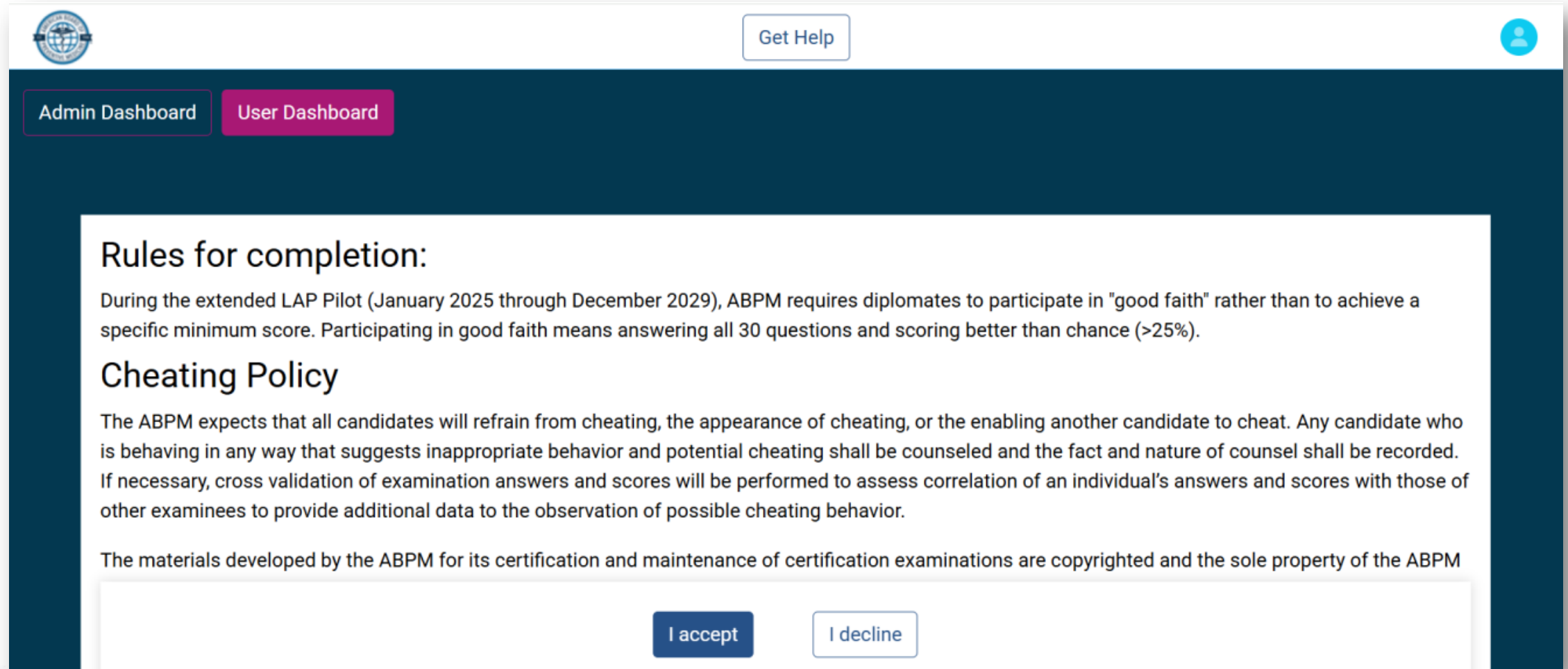
- ✓ 1. Annual Fees: Thank you for submitting payment for your annual fee. You may review your invoice history [here](#).
- ⚠ 2. Lifelong Professional Development CME Attestation: You may now submit your attestation of compliance with the Lifelong Professional Development component of the CCP. [Complete 2026 Attestation Now](#)
- ✓ 3. Medical License: You must maintain a current, valid, and unrestricted medical license in every US state, US territory, or Canadian province in which you are licensed to practice medicine.
- ⚠ 4. Longitudinal Assessment Program (LAP): Log into the Learnswell platform to answer 30 LAP questions by December 31st. [Learnswell Login](#).
*Upon completion, the incomplete icon will be updated at the start of the following month.

To attest, select “[Manage My Licenses](#)” in the Licenses section of your dashboard, click the pencil next to each license, ensure the information is correct, and check the attestation. You must attest to all unexpired licenses annually to complete this requirement.

[Upload your CME certificates here \(optional\)](#)



Learnswell Platform



The screenshot displays the Learnswell Platform interface. At the top left is the American Board of Preventive Medicine logo. In the top right corner, there is a "Get Help" button and a user profile icon. Below the top navigation bar, there are two buttons: "Admin Dashboard" and "User Dashboard", with the latter being highlighted in pink. The main content area features a white box with the following text:

Rules for completion:

During the extended LAP Pilot (January 2025 through December 2029), ABPM requires diplomates to participate in "good faith" rather than to achieve a specific minimum score. Participating in good faith means answering all 30 questions and scoring better than chance (>25%).

Cheating Policy

The ABPM expects that all candidates will refrain from cheating, the appearance of cheating, or the enabling another candidate to cheat. Any candidate who is behaving in any way that suggests inappropriate behavior and potential cheating shall be counseled and the fact and nature of counsel shall be recorded. If necessary, cross validation of examination answers and scores will be performed to assess correlation of an individual's answers and scores with those of other examinees to provide additional data to the observation of possible cheating behavior.

The materials developed by the ABPM for its certification and maintenance of certification examinations are copyrighted and the sole property of the ABPM

At the bottom of the white box, there are two buttons: "I accept" (highlighted in dark blue) and "I decline" (outlined in blue).



Learnswell Dashboard

The dashboard features a dark blue header with a 'Get Help' button and a user profile icon. Below the header, there are two tabs: 'Admin Dashboard' and 'User Dashboard'. The main content area displays two assessment cards. Each card has a year selector set to '2026' and a title. The 'Clinical Informatics LAP Assessment' card shows 'SCORE' and 'QUESTIONS ANSWERED' both at 0.0%. Below the card is a 'Start this year' button and a list of instructions: 'Score is determined by the number of questions you answered correctly divided by the 30 questions administered for each year's assessment.' and 'E.g., 10 questions completed, 5 answered correctly, score is 5/30 = 16.7%'. The 'Addiction Medicine LAP Assessment' card also shows 'SCORE' and 'QUESTIONS ANSWERED' both at 0.0%. It includes a 'Start this year' button and the same instructions. At the top right of the dashboard, there are two buttons: 'LAP Rules, Policies, and Instructions' and 'Show Tutorial'.

Admin Dashboard User Dashboard

Get Help

LAP Rules, Policies, and Instructions Show Tutorial

2026 Clinical Informatics LAP Assessment

SCORE QUESTIONS ANSWERED

0.0% 0.0%

Start this year

- Score is determined by the number of questions you answered correctly divided by the 30 questions administered for each year's assessment.
- E.g., 10 questions completed, 5 answered correctly, score is 5/30 = 16.7%

2026 Addiction Medicine LAP Assessment

SCORE QUESTIONS ANSWERED

0.0% 0.0%

Start this year

- Score is determined by the number of questions you answered correctly divided by the 30 questions administered for each year's assessment.
- E.g., 10 questions completed, 5 answered correctly, score is 5/30 = 16.7%



Tutorial

- **Try out the platform before answering your assigned questions by completing the tutorial**

Tutorial

SCORE	QUESTIONS ANSWERED
0.0%	0.0%

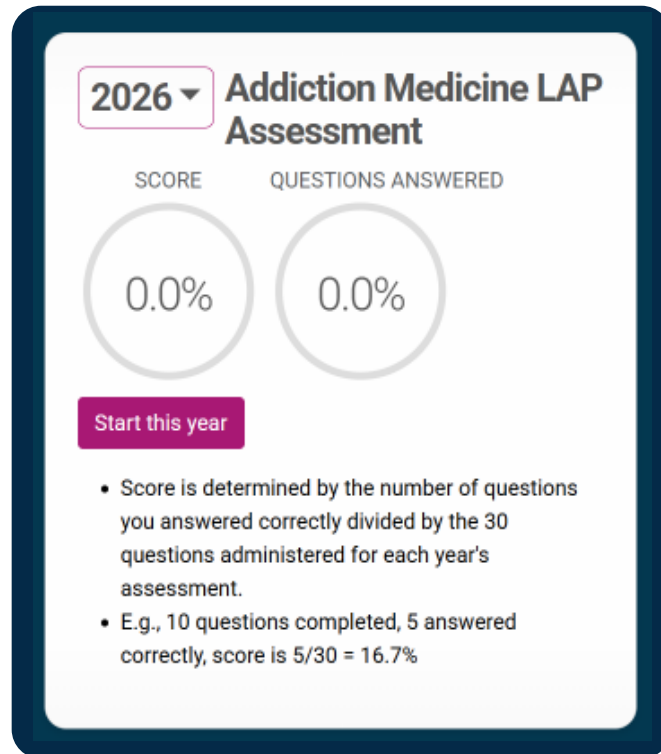
[Start this year](#)

- Score is determined by the number of questions you answered correctly divided by the 30 questions administered for each year's assessment.
- E.g., 10 questions completed, 5 answered correctly, score is $5/30 = 16.7\%$



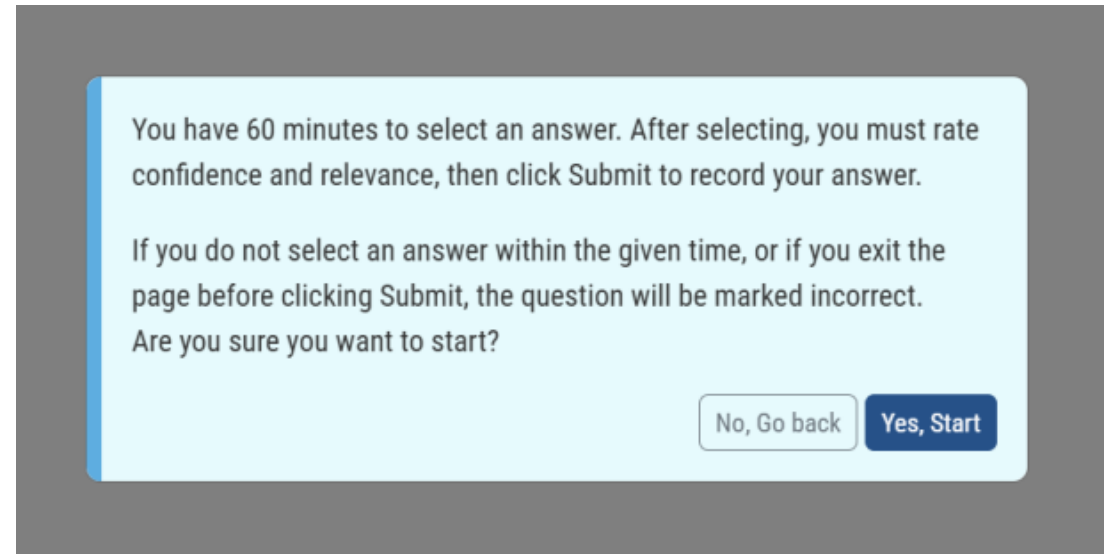
Starting the Assessment

- Click “Start this year” to begin answering questions



The screenshot shows the start page for the 2026 Addiction Medicine LAP Assessment. At the top left, there is a dropdown menu set to '2026'. The title is 'Addiction Medicine LAP Assessment'. Below the title, there are two circular progress indicators: 'SCORE' at 0.0% and 'QUESTIONS ANSWERED' at 0.0%. A prominent purple button labeled 'Start this year' is positioned below the progress indicators. At the bottom, there is a list of two bullet points explaining the scoring system: 'Score is determined by the number of questions you answered correctly divided by the 30 questions administered for each year's assessment.' and 'E.g., 10 questions completed, 5 answered correctly, score is 5/30 = 16.7%'.

- Read instructions and click “Yes, Start”



The screenshot displays the assessment instructions in a light blue box. The text reads: 'You have 60 minutes to select an answer. After selecting, you must rate confidence and relevance, then click Submit to record your answer.' Below this, it states: 'If you do not select an answer within the given time, or if you exit the page before clicking Submit, the question will be marked incorrect.' A question follows: 'Are you sure you want to start?'. At the bottom right, there are two buttons: 'No, Go back' and 'Yes, Start'.



Answering a Question

🕒 59:48

The timer stops once you select an answer. After selecting, you must rate confidence and relevance, then click Submit to record your answer.

QUESTION

There's a type of medicine that focuses on keeping people healthy instead of treating illness. It has three specialty areas that emphasize different populations, environments, or practice settings. Which of the following is the name of the specialty area?

CHOICES

- Respiratory medicine
- Pulmonary medicine
- Preventive medicine
- Digestion medicine



Confidence & Relevance

How confident are you in your answer?

How relevant is this to your practice?

- **Confidence Rating**

- Helps ABPM track learning over time

- **Relevance Rating**

- Provides feedback on the importance of specific topics in diplomates' everyday practice

- **Your confidence and relevance ratings will not affect your LAP score**



QUESTION

What type of corporation is the Board?

CHOICES

Profitable

Non-profit

For-profit

Public

Immediate feedback showing the correct and incorrect answers.

Rationale explains why the correct answer is correct and why the other answer choices are wrong.

References will also be provided for each question.

RATIONALE

The Board is a special type of corporation called a non-profit. This means that it is not focused on making money, but rather on serving a cause. This type of corporation does not pay its members, meaning they do not receive any money for the work they do. Instead, they serve passionate about the organization's mission. The Board is made up of individuals who have been chosen by other organizations to represent them.

You answered the question at 00:20. To record your answer, you must rate confidence and relevance and then click Submit.

How confident are you in your answer?

Very Confident

Not Confident

How relevant is this to your practice?

Relevant

Somewhat Relevant

Somewhat Not Relevant

Not Relevant

Exit and continue later ↩

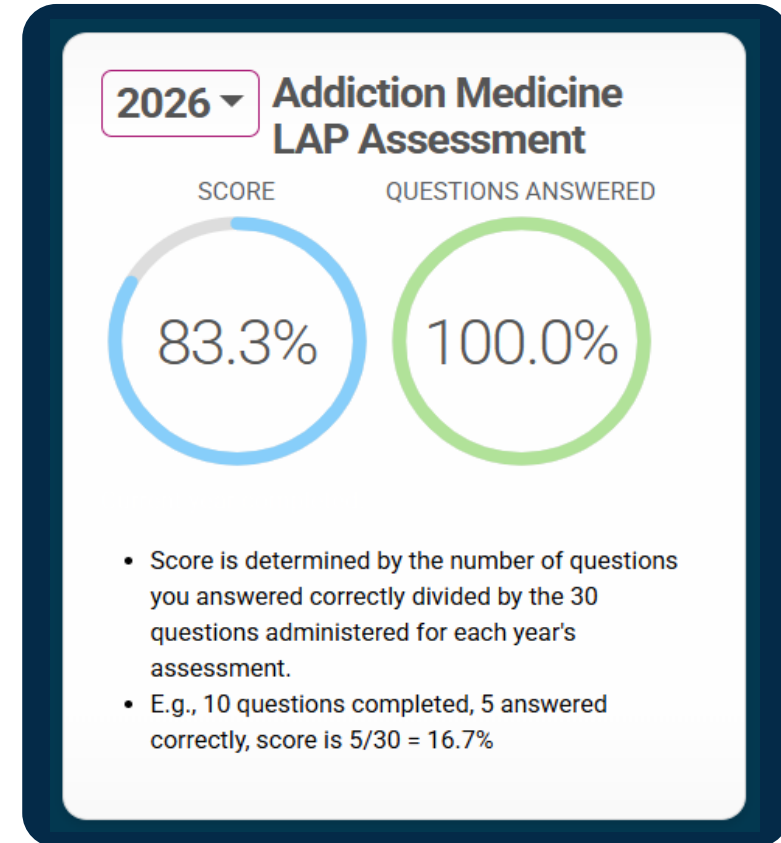
Continue to next →

Diplomates may choose to continue to the next question or exit the LAP and continue later



Completing the LAP

- Check your status anytime by logging into the Learnswell dashboard
- Score: Percentage correct out of 30
- Upon answering all assigned questions, you have completed that year's LAP requirement



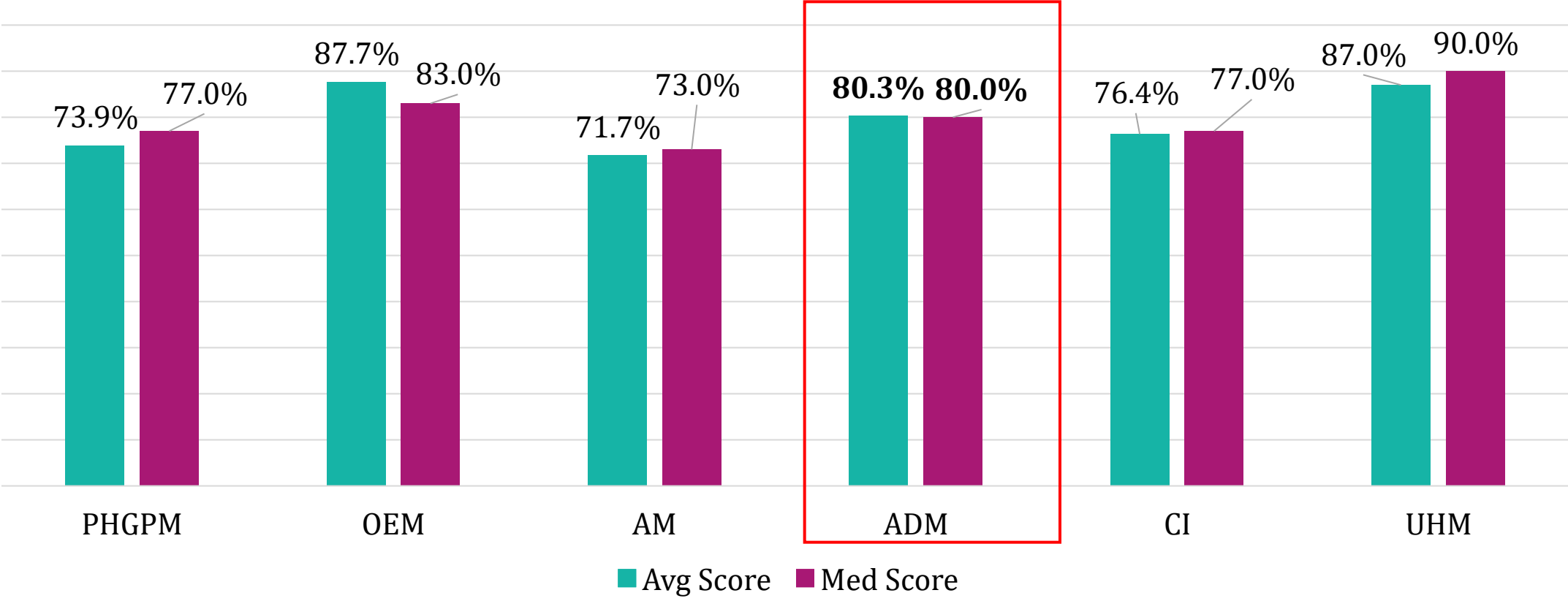
Learn more about
LAP; Watch our
YouTube Video





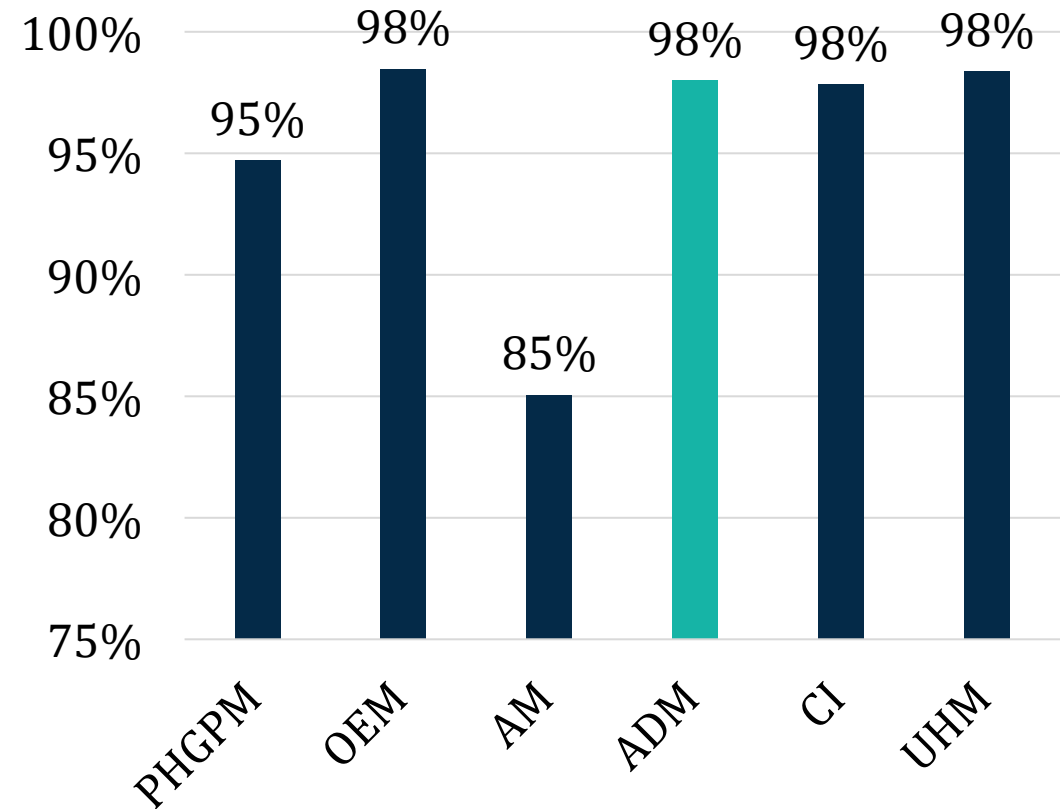
2025 LAP Results

Average and Median 2025 LAP Scores



2025 LAP Pass Rates

- **Pass = score over 60%**
- **Through 2029, “good faith” participation only required**
 - Performance standard will go into effect beginning 2030

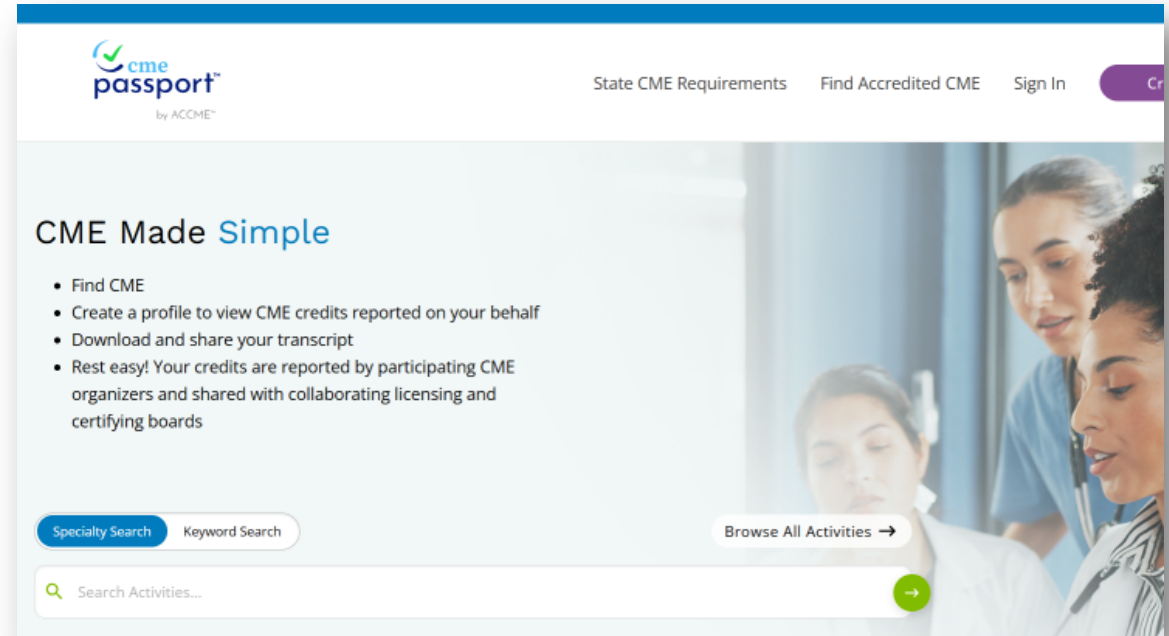




Upcoming Enhancements to ABPM's CCP

ACCME Program and Activity Reporting System (PARS)

- Coming soon in 2026!
- CME credits and other educational activities reported directly to ABPM
- Tagging feature makes relevant courses easier to find
- Looking ahead
 - PARS includes board-approved QI activities can count toward Improvement in Health and Health Care Modules (CCP requirement beginning 2029)



Updated Content Outline

- **Content outline updated periodically to accurately reflect current Addiction Medicine practice**
- **New outline will go into effect for both LAP and the initial certification exam in 2027**



Thanks to Addiction Medicine Practice Analysis Task Force members for their work to develop the new content outline!





Initial Certification Exam & LAP Question Writers

Addiction Medicine Item-Writing Subcommittees - 2026

Initial Certification Exam

- Michael Weaver, MD, *Chair*
- Lelan Byrd, MD
- Gail D’Onofrio, MD, MS
- John Hopper, MD
- Margaret Jarvis, MD
- Christine Murphy, MD
- Edward Nunes, MD
- Tricia Wright, MD, MS
- Patrick O’Connor, MD, MPH
- Martha Wunsch, MD

LAP

- Michael Weaver, MD, *Chair*
- Anika Alvanzo, MD, MS
- Kelly Clark, MD
- Charles Emerman, MD
- Michael Fingerhood, MD
- Margaret Jarvis, MD
- Annette Matthews, MD
- Lewis Nelson, MD
- Patrick O’Connor, MD, MPH
- Cara Poland, MD
- Mark Weiner, MD
- Martha Wunsch, MD



Help is Available!

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Questions?

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