Submitting your ABS Ongoing Certification Requirements
Helpful Tips

Continuing Medical Education (CME)

Information regarding CME requirements for Continuous Certification can be found [here](#).

To navigate to your CME repository, log in to your ABS portal and click on *CME Repository* in the left-side menu. When in your CME repository, scroll down to see a list of activities that currently count towards your CME requirements.

Through our collaboration with the ACCME®, CME activities that were earned through accredited CME providers may have been automatically added to your ABS CME Repository. Please see [this guide](#) for additional information.

As of July 1, 2023, CME is automatically transferred to the ABS through the ACCME as part of our ongoing commitment to reduce the administrative burden on diplomates. As part of this improvement, the manual CME reporting feature in the ABS portal was retired on July 1, 2023.

For Diplomates Who Use ACS MyCME

The American College of Surgeons (ACS) has recently launched an updated process to transmit CME credit from ACS MyCME to the ABS via the ACCME. ACS fellows should:

1. Log in to ACS MyCME.
2. Provide their ABS ID.
3. Select the date range for CME credit earned.
4. Grant permission for the data transfer.

» For help with this process, ACS fellows should contact mycme@facs.org.

To Access Your Ongoing Requirements Page:

While the assessment is due every other year, most other program requirements should be updated no less than every five years.

For diplomates with multiple ABS certificates, the assessment is the only requirement that must be repeated for each certificate.

1. Log in with your user ID and password on the site, portal.absurgery.org.
2. Click on Continuous Certification in the left-side menu.

Any tile that is yellow or grey on this page is due to be updated. Click on each tile to view and provide the requested information.

Practice Improvement

Information regarding practice improvement and resources for surgeons can be found [here](#).

Ongoing participation in a local, regional, or national outcomes registry or quality assessment program, either individually or through your institution, is required.

When reporting, you will be asked to indicate (check box) or describe (text box) the type of practice improvement activity in which you are participating.

The ABS does not collect individual results nor patient data.

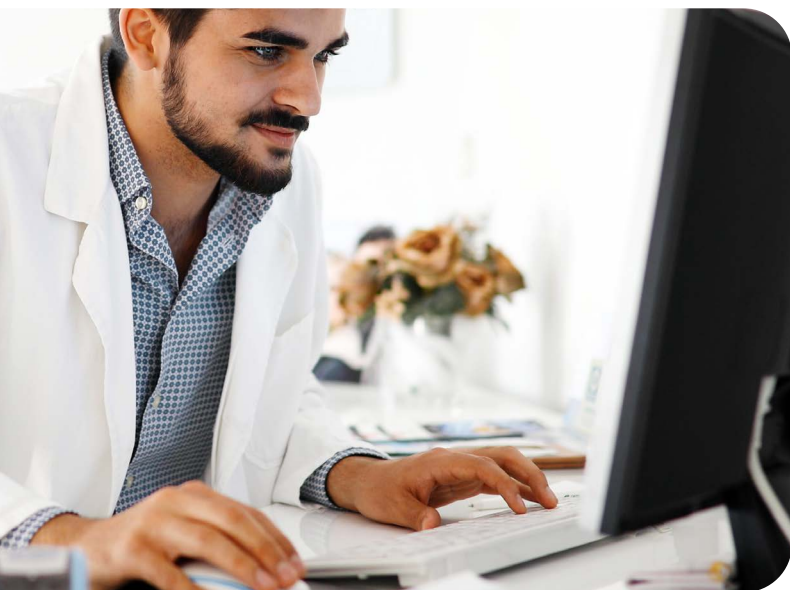## Ethics And Professionalism Attestation

Diplomates must review the ABS Code of Ethics and Professionalism and complete the new attestation when reporting on their ongoing certification requirements or when registering for a Continuous Certification Assessment.

Professional References

In line with the ABS's continued effort to reduce diplomate burden, professional references have been removed from the requirements of the ABS Continuous Certification Program.

While the ABS no longer requires reference forms, the ABS does require submission of two references that the ABS may contact for additional information in the case of one of the following situations:

1. The individual is a former ABS diplomate who is enrolling in the ABS Continuous Certification Program pathway for lapsed certificate holders; or
2. The diplomate is found to be in violation of the ABS Code of Ethics and Professionalism and/or has falsely attested to their adherence to the code; or
3. The diplomate is audited as part of the ABS's random audit process.

The individuals listed will not be contacted unless one of the previously mentioned situations arises.

To complete the attestation:

1. Read through the ABS Code of Ethics and Professionalism in its entirety.
2. Log in to your ABS portal.
3. Use the left-side panel to navigate to *Professional Standing*.
4. Scroll to *Ethics and Professionalism* at the bottom of the page.
5. Check the box to attest that you have read and understand the ABS Code of Ethics and Professionalism.
6. Indicate Yes/No responses for each of the actions listed.
   » For any actions that you indicate have occurred, you must provide an explanation in the corresponding text box.
7. Enter the names and contact information for your two references.
8. Click *Save* to submit your attestation.

Diplomates will be able to unlock and edit the form if an action arises that they must report to the ABS.

Further Questions?

For more information regarding ongoing certification requirements, please visit the ABS website.

For specific questions, please visit our *Contact Us* page and select "Continuous Certification" as the main topic to get in touch with an ABS team member.

Additional Resources
- Continuous Certification Assessment Flowchart (PDF)
- Continuous Certification Summary (PDF)
- Grace Year Information (PDF)

Professional Standing

If you are having difficulty with completing the Professional Standing section in your surgeon portal, please complete the following steps:

1. Scroll down to the *Hospital Appointments* section under *Professional Standing*.
2. Select edit from your current appointment and click the box **"This is my Primary Appointment."**
3. If your current appointment is not listed, click **"Add Appointment"** and select the box **"This is my Primary Appointment."**
4. Please ensure that all other fields, including the **official name**, **institution**, and **state**, are completed.
5. If you are unable to find your institution, please type the name in the "Other" field. This should then allow you to select your state.
6. Click "Save" and return to the Continuous Certification section.

If you are still having trouble completing the Professional Standing section after following these steps, please [contact us](#).

Medical Training

If you are having difficulty with completing the Medical Training section in your surgeon portal, please complete the following steps:

1. Select "Edit" in the *Medical School* section and select your country.
2. Under Residency, enter your program name. *If your program is not listed in the drop-down menu, please skip that section and type your program into the "My Program is not listed" field.*
3. Click "Save" and return to the Continuous Certification section.

Medical License

If you recently self-reported your medical license or your license has recently expired, please [send us an email](#) with the subject line *Medical License*.

Login Assistance

If you are having difficulty with logging in, please [send us](#) your current email address with the subject line *Login Help*.