



American Board of Adolescent Psychiatry

Recertification and Continuing Certification Activities (CCA)

Policy and Procedures

Revised and Effective 7-1-26

INTRODUCTION: The American Board of Adolescent Psychiatry developed and adopted a clear policy and set of procedures regarding Continuing Certification Activities (CCA) in 2021. This was necessary in order to standardize this important function and assure that ABAP Diplomates demonstrate the knowledge and skills in the practice of Adolescent Psychiatry to confer recertification. Due to the wide variation in CME available and the impossibility of standardizing or determining the appropriateness of the submitted CME, this 2026 revision introduces an additional requirement designed with the intent to introduce standardization to assure that ABAP's standards and expectations for Diplomates are met.

Diplomates have the opportunity to recertify at the time their initial 10-year certification expires as well as every 5 years thereafter, assuming they have met all Continuing Certification Activities (CCA) requirements listed below. Additionally, at the time of recertification, Diplomates pay a recertification fee and will submit a clinical evaluation and summary along with their recertification application to be eligible for recertification. Any Diplomate who does not recertify within 6 months of expiration will have their certification inactivated and to reactivate it, will need to re-apply and pass the certification examination unless extenuating circumstances are presented on appeal to the ABAP Board.

POLICY: ABAP requires all actively certified Diplomates to comply with Continuing Certification Activities (CCA) policy and adhere to the procedures to remain actively certified. This allows ABAP to verify to any outside authority or inquiry that ABAP Diplomates are in good standing. Active Diplomates who have not fulfilled their CCA requirements will not be eligible for recertification.

PROCEDURES

The American Board of Adolescent Psychiatry allows Diplomates to maintain their certification through the following 2 options:

1. **Option 1: Annual Continuing Education:** For each year of ABAP certification (excluding the partial year of certification after initially passing the certification examination), Diplomates must attend and submit proof of the equivalent of **10 hours of Category I CME per year** specific to child and/or adolescent/young adult psychiatry. For Diplomates completing their initial 10-year certification, this would be 100 hours. For those completing their subsequent 5-year recertification periods, this would be 50 hours. It does not matter when during the period that the credits accrue, if they are both relevant to clinical child, adolescent, and young adult psychiatry and completed during the required certification period.

Diplomates must submit their CME documentation for review and acceptance via the ABAP website annually to assure that they do not run short at the time they recertify due to unacceptable CME. **The monitoring of this CME process is entirely the responsibility of each Diplomate and ABAP will not routinely remind Diplomates to submit their CME.** Failure to obtain and submit the required CME and pay any applicable maintenance fees (if not waived for any particular year) at the time of recertification will result in the Diplomate taking the Recertification Examination (see below).

2. **Option 2: Recertification Examination:** Diplomates who do not wish to submit or have not completed the required annual CME documentation in Option 1 above must pass a recertification examination before they are able to recertify. The recertification examination is a 75-question, online examination completed after submission of the recertification application at the time of recertification.

3. Fees:

- a. **Annual Fees:** Any annual CCA fee is set each year by the ABAP Board and will be published on the ABAP website and in the online submission forms in January of each year for the coming year.
- b. **Recertification Fee:** At the time of recertification, Diplomates pay a fee that covers the costs involved in the Option 1 CME and approval or Option 2 Recertification Examination, application and credentials review, and clinical case report review and grading. The annual fee is set by the ABAP Board and is posted on the ABAP Website in January for the coming year.
- c. **Recertification Fee Discount for Active members of The American Society for Adolescent Psychiatry (ASAP):** The ABAP Board determines any applicable discount for ASAP members each year and posts this discount on the ABAP Website

and in online recertification application and continuing certification submission forms each January for the coming year. Any current such discount is also published on the ASAP Website.

d. Late Fee (for recertification application received after December 31 and prior to June 30): \$100