

## **AOBNP OCC FAQs**

### **General**

**1. What is OCC?**

Osteopathic Continuous Certification (OCC) is a process in which board certified DOs can maintain currency and demonstrate competency in their specialty area. The goals for OCC are to provide certified physicians with a process to continually assess and improve their skills and to assure patients and the public that certified physicians are being assessed through reliable and valid measures.

**2. Who is required to participate in OCC?**

All time-limited certificate holders will be required to participate in OCC.

**3. Can I remain certified if I don't participate in OCC?**

No. By choosing not to participate in OCC you are voluntarily suspending the rights to your board certification.

**4. Who has the option of participating?**

If you have a **non-time-limited** certification, you will **not be required** to participate in OCC at this time. We strongly encourage your participation. The Federation of State Medical Boards (FSMB) has agreed to accept OCC for Maintenance of Licensure (MOL). If you do not participate in OCC, you may have additional requirements for MOL as prescribed by the state(s) where you are licensed. Remember that "non-expiring" is not a lifetime certification. **You are required to maintain your license to practice and to maintain AOA membership, which also includes meeting all CME requirements for your specialty.**

### **Getting Started with OCC**

**1. How do I start OCC for my specialty?** Effective January 1, 2013 all physicians with time-limited certification will automatically be entered into the OCC process. Physicians with non-time-limited certification, who wish to participate in OCC, need to contact the AOBNP via email or telephone.

**2. Do I need to register in order to participate? No**

**3. How can I track my progress on the continuous certification requirements?**

The AOA is developing an online platform that will be accessed through Osteopathic.org in order to track the progress of an OCC cycle.

**4. Are there any new fees associated with the OCC process?** Yes. There is a \$295.00 fee which gives the physician unlimited access to the O-CAT site which houses the PPA modules. PPA modules are a requirement under OCC Component 4. This fee must be renewed every two-year cycle. A total of ten (10) CME credits will be awarded per completion of each PPA module.

## **Maintaining OCC**

- 1. I have a restricted license. What happens to my AOA board certification?**  
A committee underneath the supervision of the Bureau of Osteopathic Specialists has been created what will monitor license suspensions on a case by case basis alongside the certifying boards.
- 2. Do I still have to take an exam? How often and when can I take it?** Yes. Physicians are required to take a Cognitive Assessment. This exam is offered twice a year. Physicians are eligible to sit for this exam within three years of certificate expiration. For example, if your certificate expires in 2017, you may sit for the exam starting in 2015.
- 3. How many Practice Performance Assessments (PPA) will be required?** One Practice Performance Assessment module is required every three years. The table below outlines the number of modules you must take based on your certificate expiration date. A physician may not complete all three modules in the same three year period.
- 4. Where can I find these PPAs, and how do I register?** PPA modules will be available through the O-CAT website, <http://www.osteopathic-cat.com/>.
- 5. What components need to be completed before I can take the exam?**  
See table below.
- 6. What if I miss a step and don't complete all of the requirements by the deadlines?** Your certification status will be in jeopardy. Candidates may petition the AOBNP Board for consideration on an individual basis.

## **Special Cases of OCC**

- 1. I don't currently practice in my field of certification. How can I meet the Component 4 requirements? \*Board to determine on an individual basis.**
- 2. How are those OCC requirements different? \*Board to determine on an individual basis.**
- 3. I don't provide patient care. How can I meet the OCC requirements? \*Board to determine on an individual basis.**



# American Osteopathic Board of Neurology and Psychiatry

Established 1941 – Operating under Authority of the American Osteopathic Association

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## **AOBNP OCC Requirements for Certifications Ending In:**

| <b>Year</b> | <b>Component 1</b> | <b>Component 2</b>                  | <b>Component 3</b>   | <b>Component 4</b>    | <b>Component 5</b>       |
|-------------|--------------------|-------------------------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------|
| 2015        | Active License     | Compliant with AOA CME Requirements | Cognitive Assessment | No PPA Module         | AOA Member Good Standing |
| 2016        | Active License     | Compliant with AOA CME Requirements | Cognitive Assessment | No PPA Module         | AOA Member Good Standing |
| 2017        | Active License     | Compliant with AOA CME Requirements | Cognitive Assessment | One (1) PPA Modules   | AOA Member Good Standing |
| 2018        | Active License     | Compliant with AOA CME Requirements | Cognitive Assessment | One (1) PPA Modules   | AOA Member Good Standing |
| 2019        | Active License     | Compliant with AOA CME Requirements | Cognitive Assessment | One (1) PPA Modules   | AOA Member Good Standing |
| 2020        | Active License     | Compliant with AOA CME Requirements | Cognitive Assessment | Two (2) PPA Modules   | AOA Member Good Standing |
| 2021        | Active License     | Compliant with AOA CME Requirements | Cognitive Assessment | Two (2) PPA Modules   | AOA Member Good Standing |
| 2022        | Active License     | Compliant with AOA CME Requirements | Cognitive Assessment | Two (2) PPA Modules   | AOA Member Good Standing |
| 2023        | Active License     | Compliant with AOA CME Requirements | Cognitive Assessment | Three (3) PPA Modules | AOA Member Good Standing |
| 2024        | Active License     | Compliant with AOA CME Requirements | Cognitive Assessment | Three (3) PPA Modules | AOA Member Good Standing |
| 2025        | Active License     | Compliant with AOA CME Requirements | Cognitive Assessment | Three (3) PPA Modules | AOA Member Good Standing |

**Cognitive Assessment:** Can be taken within three years of certificate expiration date. Cost = \$300 Application Fee; \$1500 Examination Fee

**PPA Modules:** Enrollment into O-CAT is required to access modules. One module required every 3 years. The O-CAT subscription fee for a 2-year cycle is \$295.00.

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