



2022-2024 Certification CME Cycle

The information contained in this document outlines the continuing medical education (CME) requirements for all AOA Board Certified Physicians (diplomates).

Diplomates of the AOA, whether holding a time-limited or non-time-limited board certification, must meet the certification CME requirements as stipulated by the specialty certifying board.

Diplomates who hold time-limited certifications must adhere to the requirements of Osteopathic Continuous Certification (OCC) Component 2: Lifelong Learning/Continuing Medical Education (CME).

The requirements listed in this document are for the purposes of AOA board certification only. It is the responsibility of the individual physician to stay informed about their CME requirement for state licensure, membership in other organizations, etc.

Time-Limited Diplomates

Time-limited diplomates certified by the American Osteopathic Association (AOA) are required to meet the specified CME credit hour requirements for the 2022-2024 certification CME cycle as part of Osteopathic Continuous Certification (OCC) Component 2: Lifelong Learning/Continuing Medical Education (CME).

The number of CME credits required is determined by each specialty certifying board. Newly certified diplomates entering the program mid-cycle will have their CME credit requirements prorated.

A diplomate's CME Activity Report will outline the total CME requirement, the number of credits required in Categories 1 and 2, and any applicable specialty specific CME requirement. The chart on the following pages lists the requirements by specialty board. Diplomates who hold time-limited certifications must complete the OCC Component 2: Lifelong Learning/CME requirement in addition to all other components of OCC.

Non-Time-Limited Diplomates

Non-time-limited diplomates **who choose not to** voluntarily participate in OCC will be required to complete 120 total CME credits during the 2022-2024 certification CME cycle regardless of specialty. The number of credits required in Categories 1 and 2, and any applicable specialty specific CME requirement

are detailed in the chart on the following pages according to specialty board.

Non-time-limited diplomates **who choose to** voluntarily participate in OCC are required to meet the specified CME credit hour requirement for the 2022-2024 certification CME cycle as part of Component 2: Lifelong Learning/Continuing Medical Education (CME). The number of CME credits required is determined by each specialty certifying board.

A diplomate's CME Activity Report will outline the total CME requirement, the number of credits required in Categories 1 and 2, and any applicable specialty specific CME requirement. The chart on the following pages lists the requirements by specialty board. Diplomates who hold non-time-limited certifications and are voluntarily participating in OCC must complete the OCC Component 2: Lifelong Learning/CME requirement in addition to all other components of OCC.

Specialty-Specific CME

Active AOA specialty certifying boards may choose to require diplomates to obtain specialty specific CME during the 2022-2024 certification CME cycle. Refer to the chart for the requirements of each specialty certifying board.

Dormant specialty certifying boards or active specialty certifying boards with subspecialty certification(s) in dormant status require diplomates to obtain specialty specific CME during the 2022-2024 CME cycle. Refer to the chart for details of the requirements for boards and/or subspecialty certifications in dormant status.

All diplomates must meet the requirements of their board(s) as specified below:

Specialty Board	Total Requirement	Category 1-A and/or 1-B Requirement	Category 2-A and/ or 2-B (AMA PRA™) Requirement	Special Notes
Anesthesiology (AOBA) Time-limited diplomates or non-time-limited diplomates voluntarily participating in OCC	75 credits of CME	18 credits must be AOA Category 1-A or 1-B CME		
Anesthesiology (AOBA) Non-time-limited diplomates not participating in OCC	120 credits of CME	30 credits must be AOA Category 1-A or 1-B CME		
Dermatology (AOBD) Time-limited diplomates or non-time-limited diplomates voluntarily participating in OCC	60 credits of CME	20 credits must be AOA Category 1-A CME		20 credits must be specialty specific
Dermatology (AOBD) Non-time-limited diplomates not participating in OCC	120 credits of CME	20 credits must be AOA Category 1-A CME		20 credits must be specialty specific
Emergency Medicine (AOBEM) Time-limited diplomates or non-time-limited diplomates voluntarily participating in OCC	60 credits of CME			
Emergency Medicine (AOBEM) Non-time-limited diplomates not participating in OCC	120 credits of CME			
Family Practice (AOBFP) All diplomates	120 credits of CME	30 credits must be AOA Category 1A, an additional 30 credits can be either AOA Category 1A or 1B.		The remaining 60 required credits are flexible (e.g., 60 out of the total required 120 credits can be either AOA Category 1A, 1B, 2A, 2B or AAFP credits. Thus, these credits may include AAFP or ACCME-accredited activities.

Specialty Board	Total Requirement	Category 1-A and/or 1-B Requirement	Category 2-A and/ or 2-B (AMA PRA™) Requirement	Special Notes
Internal Medicine (AOBIM) Time-limited diplomates or non-time-limited diplomates voluntarily participating in OCC	60 credits of CME	15 credits must be AOA Category 1-A or A-B		60 credits must be specialty specific
Internal Medicine (AOBIM) Non-time-limited diplomates not participating in OCC	120 credits of CME			50 credits must be specialty specific
Neurology & Psychiatry (AOBNP) Time-limited diplomates or non-time-limited diplomates voluntarily participating in OCC	75 credits of CME	18 credits must be AOA Category 1-A CME		
Neurology & Psychiatry (AOBNP) Non-time-limited diplomates not participating in OCC	120 credits of CME	30 credits must be AOA Category 1-A CME		
Neuromusculoskeletal Medicine (AOBNMM) Time-limited diplomates or non-time-limited diplomates voluntarily participating in OCC	60 credits of CME	30 credits must be AOA Category 1-A CME		15 credits must be in hands-on practical specialty CME
Neuromusculoskeletal Medicine (AOBNMM) Non-time-limited diplomates not participating in OCC	120 credits of CME	60 credits must be AOA Category 1-A CME		15 credits must be in hands-on practical specialty CME

Specialty Board	Total Requirement	Category 1-A and/or 1-B Requirement	Category 2-A and/ or 2-B (AMA PRA™) Requirement	Special Notes
Nuclear Medicine (AOBNM) All diplomates	120 credits of CME			25% must be specialty-specific
Obstetrics & Gynecology (AOBOG) Time-limited diplomates or non-time-limited diplomates voluntarily participating in OCC	60 credits of CME			25 credits must be specialty specific
Obstetrics & Gynecology (AOBOG) Non-time-limited diplomates not participating in OCC	120 credits of CME			50 credits must be specialty specific
Ophthalmology & Otolaryngology (AOBOO) Time-limited diplomates or non-time-limited diplomates voluntarily participating in OCC	60 credits of CME	25 credits must be AOA Category 1-A		
Ophthalmology & Otolaryngology (AOBOO) Non-time-limited diplomates not participating in OCC	120 credits of CME	25 credits must be AOA Category 1-A		
Orthopedic Surgery (AOBOS) Time-limited diplomates or non-time-limited diplomates voluntarily participating in OCC	60 credits of CME	15 credits must be AOA Category 1-A CME		
Orthopedic Surgery (AOBOS) Non-time-limited diplomates not participating in OCC	120 credits of CME	30 credits must be AOA Category 1-A CME		

Specialty Board	Total Requirement	Category 1-A and/or 1-B Requirement	Category 2-A and/ or 2-B (AMA PRA™) Requirement	Special Notes
Pathology (AOBPa) Time-limited diplomates or non-time-limited diplomates voluntarily participating in OCC	60 credits of CME			
Pathology (AOBPa) Non-time-limited diplomates not participating in OCC	120 credits of CME			
Pediatrics (AOBP) Time-limited diplomates or non-time-limited diplomates voluntarily participating in OCC	60 credits of CME	15 credits must be AOA Category 1-A CME		
Pediatrics (AOBP) Non-time-limited diplomates not participating in OCC	120 credits of CME	30 credits must be AOA Category 1-A CME		
Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation (AOBPMR) Time-limited diplomates or non-time-limited diplomates voluntarily participating in OCC	75 credits of CME	18 credits must be AOA Category 1-A		
Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation (AOBPMR) Non-time-limited diplomates not participating in OCC	120 credits of CME	30 credits must be AOA Category 1-A		
Preventive Medicine (AOBPM) Time-limited diplomates or non-time-limited diplomates voluntarily participating in OCC	60 credits of CME			24 credits must be specialty specific
Preventive Medicine (AOBPM) Non-time-limited diplomates not participating in OCC	120 credits of CME			48 credits must be specialty specific

Specialty Board	Total Requirement	Category 1-A and/or 1-B Requirement	Category 2-A and/ or 2-B (AMA PRA™) Requirement	Special Notes
Proctology (AOBPr) All diplomates	120 credits of CME			25% must be specialty-specific
Radiology (AOBR) Time-limited diplomates or non-time-limited diplomates voluntarily participating in OCC	60 credits of CME			
Radiology (AOBR) Non-time-limited diplomates not participating in OCC	120 credits of CME			
Surgery (AOBS) Time-limited diplomates or non-time-limited diplomates voluntarily participating in OCC	60 credits of CME			
Surgery (AOBS) Non-time-limited diplomates not participating in OCC	120 credits of CME			

Conjoint Subspecialty Certifications

Conjoint certifications are subspecialty certifications. As such all conjoint subspecialty certification holders must abide by the requirements of their primary specialty certifying board. No additional CME is required to maintain a conjoint subspecialty certification.

- Addiction Medicine
- Allergy & Immunology
- Correctional Medicine
- Dermatopathology
- Hospice & Palliative Medicine
- Pain Medicine
- Sleep Medicine
- Sports Medicine
- Undersea & Hyperbaric Medicine

The AOA assigns CME credit to four categories: 1-A, 1-B, 2-A, and 2-B. In very general terms, Category 1 is typically osteopathic CME; and Category 2 is typically non-osteopathic CME. Category A is usually live activities, and Category B is not (with a few exceptions).

If there is no specific cap on an activity noted in the “Rules, Caps, etc.” section, there is no limit to how many credits a physician can earn from that activity during the 2022-2024 certification CME cycle.

Category 1-A		
Activity Type	Description	Rules, Caps, Etc.
Clinical Case Presentations and Research Poster Presentations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Preparing and presenting a clinical case or research poster presentation implemented by an AOA-accredited sponsor 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Must be primary author Will receive 5 CME credits per presentation
Exam Construction – Item Writing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Writing examination items of which six (6) items are accepted by an AOA specialty certifying board or conjoint committee, an AOA-accredited Category 1 provider, and/or the National Board of Osteopathic Medical Examiners 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> One (1) Category 1-A CME credit will be awarded per six (6) accepted items
Federal Activities (Active Duty/ Uniformed Service)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Formal CME programs to participants who are on active duty or employed by a uniformed service 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Granted on an hour-for-hour basis All other federal CME activities will receive Category 1-B CME credit
Formal Osteopathic CME	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Formal, face-to-face programs or interactive online programs sponsored by AOA-accredited Category 1 CME sponsors 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Granted on an hour-for-hour basis
Grand Rounds	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Must be conducted by an AOA-accredited Category 1 CME sponsor to receive Category 1-A CME credit 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Granted on an hour-for-hour basis All non-osteopathic grand rounds will receive Category 1-B CME credit
Interactive CME on the Internet	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Synchronous or asynchronous delivery of interactive internet CME provided by an AOA-accredited Category 1 CME sponsor 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> If delivery of content is asynchronous, to qualify for Category 1-A credit, instructor responses to participant questions must be received within 48 hours. Synchronous or asynchronous, interactive internet CME from <i>AMA PRA Category 1™</i> or AAFP- accredited sponsors will count as Category 2-A.
Judging Osteopathic Clinical Case Presentations and Research Poster Presentations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Serving as a formal judge for osteopathic clinical case presentations and research poster presentations at a formal CME function implemented by an AOA- accredited sponsor 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Granted on an hour-for-hour basis Maximum of ten (10) CME credits per 3-year certification CME cycle
Medical Teaching	<p>Formal delivery of medical education lectures in the following settings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> in DO or MD medical colleges at specialty or divisional society conferences to students, interns, residents, fellows, and staff 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Granted on an hour-for-hour basis Must be verified by the CME Department of the medical college, sponsoring hospital, or sponsor. CME credits will not be awarded for preparation of lectures. To report CME earned by medical teaching, please submit a letter from the institution stating the number of hours and date(s) credit was received.

Category 1-A

Activity Type	Description	Rules, Caps, Etc.
Medical Teaching – Standardized Life Support Courses	<p>Teaching of standardized life support courses. Includes the following types of courses:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adult Fundamentals of Critical Care Support • Advanced Burn Life Support • Advanced Cardiac Life Support • Advanced Disaster Life Support • Advanced HAZMAT Life Support • Advanced Life Support in Obstetrics • Advanced Trauma Life Support • Basic Disaster Life Support • Basic Life Support • Neonatal Resuscitation Program • Pediatric Advanced Life Support (AHA) or Advanced Pediatric Life Support (AAP) • Pediatric Fundamentals of Critical Care Life Support 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Granted on an hour-for-hour basis. • Maximum of ten (10) CME credits per calendar year. • Certificate or teaching log must be submitted for application of CME credit. • CME credits will not be awarded for preparation of courses.
Oral/Practical Examinations for AOA Certifying Boards	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Administration of an oral and/or practical examination for an AOA specialty certifying board 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Granted on an hour-for-hour basis
Standardized Federal Aviation Courses	<p>The following courses can count for credit:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aviation Medicine • Basic Standardized Seminars • Cardiology-themed Seminars • Flight Surgeon Primary Course • Neurological-themed Seminars • All federally-mandated medical courses • All standardized CME courses offered for the purpose of maintaining an aeromedical examiner designation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Granted on an hour-for-hour basis • Must be sponsored by the Federal Aviation Administration, the United States Armed Services, or the Civil Aeronautic Institute
Standardized Life Support Courses	<p>Standardized life support courses including provider, refresher, and instructor levels. Includes the following types of courses:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adult Fundamentals of Critical Care Support • Advanced Burn Life Support • Advanced Cardiac Life Support • Advanced Disaster Life Support • Advanced HAZMAT Life Support • Advanced Life Support in Obstetrics • Advanced Trauma Life Support • Basic Disaster Life Support • Basic Life Support • Neonatal Resuscitation Program • Pediatric Advanced Life Support (AHA) or Advanced Pediatric Life Support (AAP) • Pediatric Fundamentals of Critical Care Life Support 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Online standardized courses will be awarded CME credit for the practical part only. • If a physician submits a certificate of completion that contains a specific number of credits awarded from the course, that amount will be recognized by the AOA. In cases where the certificate of completion does not contain a specific number of credits, CME will be awarded per the chart listed in <i>Appendix C</i>.

Category 1-B

Activity Type	Description	Rules, Caps, Etc.
AOA Primary Certification Examination	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Passing any AOA specialty certifying board primary certification examination 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 15 Category 1-B CME credits for each exam passed
AOA Subspecialty/ CAQ Certification Examination	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Passing any AOA specialty certifying board certification examination in any subspecialty or certification of added qualifications 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 15 Category 1-B CME credits for each exam passed
AOA OCC Component 3 Examination/ Process	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Passing any AOA specialty certifying board OCC examination or completing the OCC Component 3 process in any specialty, subspecialty, or certification of added qualifications 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A maximum of 25% of the required CME credits per 3-year certification CME cycle may be earned for this activity type.
Exam Construction – Clinical Case Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Writing clinical cases accepted by an AOA specialty certifying board, conjoint committee, or the National Board of Osteopathic Medical Examiners 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participation in exam development/ construction and job task analyses can earn a maximum combined 50% of the required CME per 3-year certification CME cycle.
Exam Construction – Committee Work	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Meetings or seminars of an AOA specialty certifying board, conjoint committee, AOA practice affiliate’s postgraduate in-service examination committee, or the National Board of Osteopathic Medical Examiners 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participation in exam development/ construction and job task analyses can earn a maximum combined 50% of the required CME per 3-year certification CME cycle.
Federal Programs (not Active Duty / Uniformed Service)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Any formal CME programs to participants who are not on active duty or employed by a uniformed service 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Active duty or uniformed service employment constitutes category 1-A
Fellowship Training	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Formal training as a fellow in an AOA-approved or ACGME-accredited training program 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Twenty (20) credits of Category 1-B CME may be awarded per year
GME Faculty/Preceptors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Serving as GME faculty, GME core faculty, or preceptors in any AOA-approved osteopathic or ACGME-accredited graduate medical education 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Granted on an hour-for-hour basis A maximum of 20% of the required CME credits per 3-year certification CME cycle may be earned for precepting medical students, residents, and/or fellows. No credit is available for precepting physician assistants or nurse practitioners. If CME for GME Faculty/Precepting is not reported directly by the sponsor, please submit a letter from the institution stating the number of hours and date(s) to receive credit.
Grand Rounds (Non-osteopathic)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Grand rounds that occur at an organization that is not an AOA Category 1 CME sponsor 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Granted on an hour-for-hour basis
Job Task Analyses (JTAs)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participation in the development of a Job Task Analysis for an AOA specialty certifying board, conjoint committee, or response to the survey given as part of the JTA process. JTAs are essential self-assessment examinations conducted every 5-7 years as the basis for all board certification examinations. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participation in exam development/ construction and job task analyses can earn a maximum combined 50% of the required CME per 3-year certification CME cycle.

Category 1-B

Activity Type	Description	Rules, Caps, Etc.
Journal Reading (<i>JOM</i> and other osteopathic journals)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reading an issue of the <i>Journal of Osteopathic Medicine (JOM)</i> and passing the respective CME quiz with a minimum grade of 70% 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Two (2) CME credits will be awarded for each issue of the <i>JOM</i> Reading of all other osteopathic medical journals indexed in PubMed qualifies for AOA Category 1-B credit. Reading of all other medical journals qualifies for AOA Category 2-B credit and is awarded one-half (0.5) CME credit for each journal read and reported on the form. Reading of journals indexed in PubMed, other types of home study, and noninteractive CME on the internet have a combined maximum of 50% of the required CME credits per 3-year certification CME cycle. Non-members who submit hard copies of completed quizzes will be charged a fee per <i>JOM</i> quiz for staff time to grade, record, and provide a letter as documentation of applicable CME. In addition, non-members have the capability of completing the quizzes online at aoaonlinelearning.osteopathic.org.
Medical Teaching – Lab Sessions	<p>Formal delivery of medical education labs in the following settings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> in DO or MD medical colleges at specialty or divisional society conferences to students, interns, residents, fellows, and staff Instructors grade practical exams and oral presentation and offer feedback regarding strengths, area for improvement, rapport building, physical exam techniques, etc. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Granted on an hour-for-hour basis. A maximum of 20% of the required CME credits may be earned in this activity type. Must be verified by the CME Department of the medical college, sponsoring hospital, or sponsor. CME credits will not be awarded for preparation of labs. To report CME earned by medical teaching – lab sessions, please submit a letter from the institution stating the number of hours and date(s) credit was received.
Non-Interactive CME on the Internet	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Includes audio and video programs on the Internet sponsored by AOA-accredited Category 1 CME sponsors These courses are typically programs that are available on an on-demand schedule and are not a real-time, interactive simultaneous conference. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Category 2-B credit will also be awarded to journal-type CME on the Internet that is produced by an AOA-accredited sponsor, ACCME accredited provider for AMA PRA Category 1™, or approved by the AAFP. These courses are essentially static, textbook type programs. They may have hypertext jumps to help the reader pursue specific information. Reading of journals indexed in PubMed, other types of home study, and non-interactive CME on the internet have a combined maximum of 50% of the required CME credits per 3-year certification CME cycle.

Category 1-B

Activity Type	Description	Rules, Caps, Etc.
Non-osteopathic CME Programs (conversion from Category 2-A to Category 1-B)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Non-osteopathic CME programs can automatically count as Category 2-A or 2-B credit. • The BOS may recognize non-osteopathic specialty or subspecialty programs that would otherwise qualify as Category 2-A credit for Category 1-B credit, when there is essentially no equivalent course content available within the osteopathic profession. Credit for such programs will be applied to all physicians in that specialty or subspecialty who participate in the course. • The course must consist of at least three (3) credit hours and be provided by a provider accredited by the ACCME for <i>AMA PRA Category 1 Credit</i>TM or the AAFP, or an internationally known sponsor acceptable to the BOS. 	<p>To request consideration for Category 1-B credit, the physician must write to the BOS at AOA Headquarters in Chicago and provide the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A completed Non-osteopathic Program's Requests for Category 1-B Credit form 2. A copy of the printed program (or syllabus) outlining the lectures being presented, length of the lecture and the faculty presenting at the conference 3. An official document verifying the physician's attendance <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The applicant should be aware that this request will be forwarded to the specialty affiliate to verify that similar programs and/ or lectures have not been or are not being offered by an AOA-accredited CME provider. • The AOA performs reviews of non-osteopathic courses as a member service. Non-members may request AOA Category 1-B credit for non-osteopathic sponsored CME programs by following the same procedure outline, along with payment of a fee for each program submitted for review.
Peer Review	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participation as a physician peer reviewer for the JOM and other AOA Category 1 CME Sponsor requesting CME credit. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Three (3) Category 1-B CME will be awarded per completed peer review for the JOM and/ or other AOA Category 1 CME Sponsor with a maximum of 20% of the required CME credits per 3-year certification CME cycle..
Publications	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development and publication of scientific papers and online osteopathic educational programs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 10 CME credits per article published
UGME Preceptors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Serving as preceptors for any COCA- accredited college of osteopathic medicine 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Granted on an hour-for-hour basis • A maximum of 20% of the required CME credits per 3-year AOA CME cycle may be earned for precepting medical students, residents, and/or fellows.

Category 2-A

Activity Type	Description	Rules, Caps, Etc.
Clinical Case Presentations and Research Poster Presentations (Non-osteopathic)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Preparing and presenting a clinical case or research poster presentation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Must be primary author Will receive 5 CME credits per presentation
Formal Educational Programs (Non-osteopathic)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Formal face-to-face educational programs that are sponsored by an ACCME accredited provider for <i>AMA PRA Category 1 Credit™</i>; approved by the American Academy of Family Physicians (AAFP); approved by an internationally known sponsor acceptable to the BOS, or an AOA-accredited Category 1 CME Sponsor that does not meet the faculty/ hours requirement for Category 1-A credit 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Granted on an hour-for-hour basis
Interactive CME on the Internet	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Real time, interactive internet CME (live online programs) provided by an <i>AMA PRA Category 1™</i> or AAFP-accredited sponsor 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Real time, interactive internet CME provided by AOA Category 1-A accredited sponsors will count as Category 1-A.
Judging Clinical Case Presentations and Research Poster Presentations (Non-osteopathic)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Serving as a formal judge for clinical case presentations and research poster presentations at a formal CME function 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Granted on an hour-for-hour basis Maximum of ten (10) CME credits per 3-year certification CME cycle

Category 2-B

Activity Type	Description	Rules, Caps, Etc.
American Board of Medical Specialties (ABMS) Maintenance of Certification and Subspecialty/CAQ Examinations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participation in Maintenance of Certification or examinations for subspecialty/certification of added qualifications sponsored by the American Board of Medical Specialties (ABMS) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maximum of fifteen (15) CME credits per 3-year certification CME cycle
Home Study	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Viewing non-osteopathic medical video, audio, or online CME courses 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reading of journals indexed in PubMed, other types of home study, and noninteractive CME on the internet have a combined maximum of 50% of the required CME credits per 3-year certification CME cycle.
Journal Reading (other than the JOM and other osteopathic journals)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reading of all medical journals (other than the JOM and osteopathic journals indexed in PubMed) is awarded one-half (0.5) CME credit for each journal read. Includes journal-type CME on the internet 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reading of journals indexed in PubMed, other types of home study, and non-interactive CME on the internet have a combined maximum of 50% of the required CME credits per 3-year certification CME cycle.
Non-Interactive CME on the Internet	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Journal-type CME on the Internet that is produced by an AOA-accredited sponsor, ACCME accredited provider for <i>AMA PRA Category 1™</i>, or approved by the AAFP. These courses are essentially static, textbook type programs. They may have hypertext jumps to help the reader pursue specific information. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Audio and video programs on the internet that are sponsored by AOA-accredited Category 1 CME sponsors will receive Category 1-B credit. Reading of journals indexed in PubMed, other types of home study, and non-interactive CME on the internet have a combined maximum of 50% of the required CME credits per 3-year certification CME cycle.
Scientific Exhibits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The preparation and presentation of scientific exhibits at a county, regional, state, or national professional meeting 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ten (10) credits per scientific exhibit

Non-Qualifying Activities

A. Volunteer Work

- The AOA applauds volunteer work, but this work does not qualify for CME credit. Missionary Service may qualify for a reduction or waiver in CME credits.

B. Medical Facility Tours

C. Healthcare Committee and Departmental Meetings.

D. Osteopathic State Licensing Board Participation

E. Inspections

F. Physician Administrative Training

G. Quality Assessment Programs

- While participation in Quality Assessment Programs does not qualify for CME credit, participation in Quality Improvement and Quality Assessment Programs may qualify for OCC Component 4 credit through the Quality Improvement Activity Attestation.

H. Observation at Medical Centers

I. Medical Economics Courses

Reporting CME Activities

- Reporting of osteopathic CME credit is the responsibility of the accredited AOA Category 1 sponsor.
- Reporting of CME earned from an ACCME-accredited provider for *AMA PRA Category 1 Credit™* or AAFP CME programs to the AOA is the responsibility of the physician. A certificate of attendance must be provided to the Physician Education & CME at CME@osteopathic.org or CME activity can be submitted using the [CME Self-Reporting Tool](#) (login required) indicating the total number of hours attended. Transcripts from other institutions (hospitals, CME trackers, etc.) will also be accepted if it contains the total number of hours.
- All submissions should include the physician's name and AOA ID number.

If there are any questions concerning the CME program or ways in which to receive credit, or questions regarding a physician's status, please contact the AOA's Physician Education & CME:



312-202-8000



CME@osteopathic.org



**Frequently Asked
Questions (FAQs)
www.osteopathic.org/cme**

The following CME Reporting forms are available at www.osteopathic.org/cme

- 1) Reduction/Waiver Request Form
- 2) Healthcare Facility Education Activities
- 3) Home Study CME
- 4) Non-Osteopathic Programs – Category 2-A Conversion to Category 1-B

“AOA Coming Events,” a listing of upcoming CME (live and online) programs, is available in the Continuing Medical Education section at www.osteopathic.org/cme. AOA members may also view their CME Activity Report at any time by visiting this site.

The Bureau of Osteopathic Specialists (BOS) of the American Osteopathic Association maintains the right to update this guide as needed, without notice. The BOS reserves the right to evaluate all programs and activities, including the amount of credit granted, on an individual basis at its discretion.

AOA board certified physicians are responsible for keeping abreast of the rules and regulations of CME.

Initial Certifications

When a physician first becomes certified, their CME requirement will be prorated for the current board certification CME cycle only. Prorations will be based on the date of certification, as follows:

Entry Date	Prorated Requirement *In cases where the prorated amount does not equal a whole number or number ending in .5, the amount will be rounded down to the nearest half point. **All prorations apply to each CME requirement (total, category-specific, etc.)
January 1, 2022 – June 30, 2022	83%
July 1, 2022 – December 31, 2022	67%
January 1, 2023 – June 30, 2023	50%
July 1, 2023 – December 31, 2023	33%
January 1, 2024 – June 30, 2024	17%
July 1, 2024 – December 31, 2024	No requirement until the 2025-2027 certification CME cycle.

Reactivated Certifications

When a physician reactivates an expired/inactive certification, their CME requirement will be prorated based on the amount of time the certification was inactive, as follows:

Length of Inactivity	Prorated Requirement *In cases where the prorated amount does not equal a whole number or number ending in .5, the amount will be rounded down to the nearest half point. **All prorations apply to each CME requirement (total, category-specific, etc.)
1 day – 180 days	83%
181 days – 360 days	67%
361 days – 540 days	50%
541 days – 720 days	33%
721 days – 900 days	17%
901 days – 1096 days	No requirement until the 2025-2027 certification CME cycle.

BOS approved reductions/waivers in the number of required CME credits for certification do not affect individual state CME licensing requirements. The BOS will not consider reductions/waivers of CME credit hours without due cause unless policy advises otherwise.

CME reductions and waivers granted for the current Certification CME Cycle only. Requests must be received prior to the end of the 2022-24 Certification CME Cycle on Dec. 31, 2024. Request a reduction or waiver by completing this [online request form](#). Below is a list of common situations that may qualify for a reduction or waiver of the CME requirement for AOA diplomates.

Reduction/Waiver Type	Description. Rules, Etc.
Maternity/Paternity Leave	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Documentation of approved FMLA from employer required. For self-employed physicians, documentation from a treating provider may be submitted in lieu of FMLA paperwork. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ 25% reduction in each requirement for diplomates who have taken maternity/paternity leave during the CME cycle
Medical Disability (full/permanent – no intention to return to work)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Diplomate must provide letter from their treating physician. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ 100% of the requirement is waived. <p>If a disabled physician ever returns to practice (even in an administrative position), the requirement will be prorated.</p>
Medical Disability (temporary – unable to work currently, but anticipating eventual return to work)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Diplomate must provide letter from their treating physician. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Up to 12 months' illness = 1/3 reduction in each requirement ✓ 13-24 months' illness = 2/3 reduction in each requirement ✓ 25-36 months' illness = 100% waived
Military (career military personnel, including Veterans Administration and U.S. Public Health Service)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> If a military physician is deficient in CME at the end of the CME cycle, a reduction/waiver of the remaining requirement may be requested.
Military (non-career military personnel, includes physicians called to active duty, emergency need duty, military operation, or placed on stand-by)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reduction of 1/6 of all requirements for every 6 months of qualifying service. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Military orders, including anticipated length of service (or final length of service if at the conclusion of service) are required to qualify for this reduction.
Military (assigned to positions other than the diplomate's specialty)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reduction of 1/6 of all requirements for every 6 months of qualifying service. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Military orders, including anticipated length of service (or final length of service if at the conclusion of service) are required to qualify for this reduction.
Retirement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Diplomates who place their certification into official "retired" status will not be required to fulfill a CME requirement. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Certificates returned to "active" status from "retired" status will have a pro-rated requirement per the chart in Appendix A.
Working outside the geographical boundaries of the United States and Canada (includes missionary service)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Diplomates must work out of the geographical boundaries of the US and Canada for a minimum of six (6) continuous months and provide documentation from an employer or missionary organization with dates of service. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ 6-12 months' service = 1/3 reduction in each requirement ✓ 1-3 years' service = 50% reduction in each requirement (maximum allowed is 50%)

*In the event a diplomate is facing circumstances other than those listed above that prevents obtaining sufficient credit, the diplomate is encouraged to contact the Bureau of Osteopathic Specialists at certification@osteopathic.org for additional information on requesting a reduction/waiver of CME requirements.

If a diplomate submits a certificate of completion for participating in a standardized life support course the number of CME credits indicated on the certificate will be recognized by the AOA. In cases where the certificate of completion does not contain a specific number of CME credits, CME will be awarded based on the chart listed below.

Diplomates who teach a standardized life support course and submit a certificate or teaching log will earn CME credits on an hour-for-hour basis. In cases where the certificate or teaching log does not contain a specified amount a maximum of ten (10) CME credits may be awarded per calendar year.

Course Name	Provider Course	Refresher Course	Instructor Course	Teaching a Course
Adult Fundamentals of Critical Care Support	13	8	13	10
Advanced Burn Life Support	7	7	4.5	10
Advanced Cardiac Life Support	12	6	8	10
Advanced Disaster Life Support	15.5	15.5	4	10
Advanced HAZMAT Life Support	24	24	31	10
Advanced Life Support in Obstetrics	17	8	9	10
Advanced Trauma Life Support	17	8	11	10
Basic Disaster Life Support	7.5	7.5	7.5	10
Basic Life Support	4	2	8	10
Neonatal Resuscitation Program	8	4	6	10
Pediatric Advanced Life Support (AHA) or Advanced Pediatric Life Support (AAP)	14	8	9	10
Pediatric Fundamentals of Critical Care Life Support	13	8	13	10

The following boards are in dormancy status:

- American Osteopathic Board of Nuclear Medicine (AOBNM)
- American Osteopathic Board of Proctology (AOBPr)

The following subspecialty certifications are in dormancy status:

- Adolescent Medicine (American Osteopathic Board of Pediatrics - AOBP)
- Pediatric Endocrinology (American Osteopathic Board of Pediatrics - AOBP)
- Pediatric Pulmonology (American Osteopathic Board of Pediatrics - AOBP)
- Otolaryngic Allergy (American Osteopathic Board of Ophthalmology and Otolaryngology - AOBOO)

Physicians who hold active certifications in these specialties/subspecialties will have the following CME requirements:

- 120 total CME credits per 3-year certification CME cycle
 - Of the total 120 CME credits required, a minimum of twenty-five percent (25%) must be specialty-specific.
 - Specialty-specific CME will be verified by the diplomate via a self-attestation form, subject to random audit by the AOA.

Diplomates who need a copy of the self-attestation form must contact certification@osteopathic.org to request a copy.