



# The American Board of Family Practice, Inc.

## Recertification Process for the Certificate of Added Qualifications in Geriatric Medicine

The Geriatric Medicine Certification Program, jointly developed by the American Board of Family Practice (ABFP) and the American Board of Internal Medicine, announces the recertification process for the Certificate of Added Qualifications (CAQ) in Geriatric Medicine. The first examination was offered in 1988 with subsequent examinations given biennially in even-numbered years. The certificates are valid for a 10-year period, and completion of a recertification process is required for renewal. The following is a brief description of the recertification process for the CAQ in Geriatric Medicine. One element of the process is the recertification examination, which is offered annually. The first three examinations are being held November 19, 1997, November 4, 1998, and November 3, 1999. The content and scoring of the examination are identical for both boards; however, the application requirements differ.

The ABFP requirements for the recertification process in geriatric medicine include:

- current primary certification in family practice at the time of the examination
- completion of a geriatric pre-application form and submission of a \$400 application fee
- successful completion of three Self-Evaluation Process (SEP) modules (see below)
- completion of a formal geriatric examination
- application form with an accompanying \$350 examination fee
- verification that all licenses held in the United States and Canada are currently valid, full, and unrestricted
- successful completion of a half-day cognitive examination.

The process will be completed over a two-year period, and the SEP may begin at any time during geriatric medicine certification.

*The Self-Evaluation Process modules are at-home, open-book examinations of 60 questions each. All candidates must successfully complete three modules to be eligible to sit for the examination. The SEP modules will be scored, and feedback will be provided on the incorrect answers. No references to the literature will be given with the feedback. Should a candidate be unsuccessful on any of the SEP modules, the candidate will be required to repeat the particular module until successful.*

### **Pre-Application**

ABFP Diplomates holding the CAQ in Geriatric Medicine will receive a pre-application form in the eighth year of their geriatric medicine certificate. Diplomates may choose to take the Geriatric Medicine Recertification Examination in either the ninth or tenth year of their certificate. If the Diplomate chooses to participate in the ninth year, the pre-application form will be returned to the ABFP by the specified deadline with a nonrefundable application fee. Candidates choosing not to take the examination in the ninth year of the certificate will receive another pre-application form the tenth year.

## ***SEP Modules***

Candidates participating in the cognitive examination in the ninth year of the certificate will be sent all three SEP modules in one mailing. The three SEP modules are to be completed and returned as a unit within a nine-month completion period. After the SEP modules are scored, deemed successfully completed, and feedback is sent, a formal application with the feedback from the SEP will be mailed to the candidate. The formal application requires verification of currently valid, full, and unrestricted license(s) to practice in the United States or Canada, an examination fee, two photographs, and a signed and notarized statement. Upon approval of the formal application, the candidate is permitted to sit for the half-day cognitive examination to be given at test sites across the country. Specific dates and locations will be provided.

In March 1998 pre-application forms will be mailed to all holders of the CAQ whose certificates expire in 2000. If you have not received your pre-application by mid-March 1998, please notify our office.

### **Sample timetable for holders of certificates expiring 2000**

March 1998	File pre-application with \$400 fee
June 1998-March 1999	Complete three self-evaluation modules
February-July 1999	File application with \$350 examination fee, verify licensure
November 3, 1999	Half-day cognitive examination

**American Board of Family Practice, Inc.**

**Geriatric Medicine Recertification**

**2228 Young Dr.**

**Lexington, KY 40505-4294**

**(888)995-5700 ext. 250 or (606)269-5626 ext. 250 — fax (606) 266-9699**

## **ABFP Announcement**

### **Recertification Process for the Certificate of Added Qualifications in Geriatric Medicine for Holders of Certificates Dated 1990-2000**

**Pre-applications will automatically be sent to you: March 1, 1998**

**Due date for return to ABFP: April 1, 1998**

**Examination Date: Wednesday, November 3, 1999**

*(If you have not received your pre-application by mid-March 1998, please notify our office.)*

**American Board of Family Practice, Inc.**

**Geriatric Medicine Recertification**

**2228 Young Dr.**

**Lexington, KY 40505-4294**

**(888) 995-5700 ext. 250;**

**(606) 269-5626 ext. 250**

**fax (606) 266-9699**

