

# Graduate Medical Education Directory

Including programs accredited by the  
Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education

With programs and institutions ONLY for the specialty of  
**Colon and Rectal Surgery**



2009-2010

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# Colon and Rectal Surgery

## Professional Description

A colon and rectal surgeon is trained to diagnose and treat various diseases of the intestinal tract, colon, rectum, anal canal, and perianal area by medical and surgical means. This specialist also deals with other organs and tissues (such as the liver, urinary, and female reproductive system) involved with primary intestinal disease.

Colon and rectal surgeons have the expertise to diagnose and often manage anorectal conditions such as hemorrhoids, fissures (painful tears in the anal lining), abscesses, and fistulae (infections located around the anus and rectum) in the office setting. They also treat problems of the intestine and colon and perform endoscopic procedures to evaluate and treat problems such as cancer, polyps (precancerous growths), and inflammatory conditions.

## Prerequisites; Length of Training

Prior completion a minimum of 5 years of a general surgery program; length of accredited programs is 1 year.

## Subspecialties

No subspecialty programs accredited by the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education; no subspecialty certificates offered by the American Board of Colon and Rectal Surgery.

## Data

Unless otherwise noted, all data are for 2008.

**Table 1. Colon and Rectal Surgery Programs**

Number of accredited programs	47
<b>Program Data</b>	
length of accredited training	1
Minimum number of prior years of GME required	5
Offers graduate year 1 positions, available immediately upon medical school completion	No
Average number of interviews for program year 1 positions	20.6
Percent new program directors, 2007-2008 academic year (source: ACGME)	17.8%
<b>Residents/Fellows</b>	
Total number of active residents/fellows	69
Average number of residents/fellows per program	1.5
Average percent female	31.9%
Average percent international medical graduate (IMG)	18.8%
<b>Program Faculty</b>	
Average number of full-time physician faculty	5.1
Average number of part-time physician faculty	0.8
Average percent female full-time physician faculty	16.4%
Average ratio of full-time physician faculty to resident/fellow	1.5

**Table 2. Data for Colon and Rectal Surgery Programs Listed in FREIDA**

Number of programs providing data	26
<b>Work Schedule (Program Year 1)</b>	
Average hours on duty per week	51.2
Average maximum consecutive hours on duty	15.9
Average days off duty per week	1.4
Moonlighting allowed within institution	19.2%
Night float system	11.5%
Offers awareness and management of fatigue in residents/fellows	84.6%
<b>Educational Setting (Program Year 1)</b>	
Average hours/week of regularly scheduled lectures/conferences	3.8
Average percent of training in hospital outpatient clinics	28.4%

Average percent of training in nonhospital ambulatory care community settings	25.4%
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## Educational Benefits

Curriculum on management of tobacco dependence	15.4%
Program to assess/enhance medical professionalism	61.5%
Debt management/financial counseling	30.8%
Formal program to develop teaching skills	73.1%
Formal mentoring program	50.0%
Formal program to foster interdisciplinary teamwork	30.8%
Continuous quality improvement training	96.2%
International experience	3.8%
Resident/fellow retreats	23.1%
Off-campus electives	34.6%
Hospice/home care experience	7.7%
Cultural competence awareness	69.2%
Instruction in medical Spanish or other non-English language	11.5%
Alternative/complementary medicine curriculum	11.5%
Training in identifying and reporting of domestic violence/abuse	30.8%
MPH/MBA or PhD training	11.5%
Research rotation	11.5%

## Educational Features

Offers additional training or educational experience beyond accredited length	18.4%
Offers a primary care track	7.7%
Offers a rural track	0.0%
Offers a women's health track	0.0%
Offers a hospitalist track	0.0%
Offers a research track/nonaccredited fellowship	19.2%
Offers an other track	3.8%

## Resident Evaluation

Yearly specialty in-service examination required	42.6%
Patient surveys	46.2%
Portfolio system	15.4%
360 degree evaluations	69.2%
Objective structured clinical examinations (OSCE)	3.8%

## Program Evaluation

Program graduation rates	69.2%
Board certification rates	100.0%
In-training examinations	30.8%
Performance-based assessments	30.8%

## Employment Policies and Benefits

Part-time/shared positions	3.8%
On-site child care	30.8%
Subsidized child care	3.8%
Allowance/stipend for professional expenses	92.3%
Leave for educational meetings/conferences	80.8%
Moving allowance	3.8%
Housing stipend	0.0%
On-call meal allowance	69.2%
Free parking	84.6%
PDA's	7.7%
Placement assistance upon completion of program	26.9%
Cross coverage in case of illness/disability	65.4%

## Compensation and Leave (Graduate Year 1)

Average resident/fellow compensation	\$55,454
Average number weeks of vacation	3.2
Sick days (paid)	19.1
Maximum number of paid days for family/medical leave	29
Maximum number of unpaid days for family/medical leave	28

## Major Medical Benefits

Major medical insurance for residents	100.0%
Major medical insurance for dependents	84.6%

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**Specialty/Subspecialty Information for Colon and Rectal Surgery**

Outpatient mental health insurance	88.5%
Inpatient mental health insurance	84.6%
Group life insurance	80.8%
Dental insurance	92.3%
Disability insurance	76.9%
Disability insurance for occupationally acquired HIV	65.4%
Medical insurance coverage begins when starting program	88.5%

**For more information****Professional Association**

American Society of Colon and Rectal Surgeons  
85 West Algonquin Road, Suite 550  
Arlington Heights, IL 60005  
847 290-9184  
847 290-9203 Fax  
E-mail: [ascrs@fascers.org](mailto:ascrs@fascers.org)  
[www.fascers.org](http://www.fascers.org)

**Certification**

American Board of Colon and Rectal Surgery  
20600 Eureka Road, Suite 600  
Taylor, MI 48180  
734 282-9400  
734 282-9402 Fax  
E-mail: [admin@abcrs.org](mailto:admin@abcrs.org)  
[www.abcrs.org](http://www.abcrs.org)

**Program Accreditation**

Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education  
Residency Review Committee for Colon and Rectal Surgery  
Louise King, MS, Executive Director  
515 North State Street  
Chicago, IL 60654  
312 755-5498  
E-mail: [lking@acgme.org](mailto:lking@acgme.org)  
[www.acgme.org](http://www.acgme.org)

# Colon and Rectal Surgery

## California

### Los Angeles

#### Cedars-Sinai Medical Center Program

*Sponsor:* Cedars-Sinai Medical Center  
*Prgm Director:* Phillip Fleshner, MD  
 8737 Beverly Boulevard, Suite 101  
 Los Angeles, CA 90048  
*Tel:* 310 289-9224 *Fax:* 310 289-8995  
*E-mail:* PFleshner@aol.com  
*Length:* 1 Yrs *ACGME Approved/Offered Positions:* 1  
**Program ID: 060-05-31-052**

#### University of Southern California/LAC+USC Medical Center Program

*Sponsor:* University of Southern California/LAC+USC Medical Center  
 Glendale Memorial Hospital and Health Center  
 Kenneth Norris Jr Cancer Hospital and Research Institute  
 LAC+USC Medical Center  
 USC University Hospital  
*Prgm Director:* Glenn T Ault, MD, MEd  
 1441 Eastlake Avenue, Suite 7418  
 Los Angeles, CA 90033  
*Tel:* 323 865-3690 *Fax:* 323 865-3671  
*E-mail:* ault@usc.edu  
*Length:* 1 Yrs *ACGME Approved/Offered Positions:* 3  
**Program ID: 060-05-21-042**

### San Francisco

#### University of California (San Francisco) Program

*Sponsor:* University of California (San Francisco) School of Medicine  
 San Francisco General Hospital Medical Center  
 UCSF and Mount Zion Medical Centers  
*Prgm Director:* Julio Garcia-Aguilar, MD, PhD  
 2330 Post Street  
 Suite 260  
 San Francisco, CA 94115  
*Tel:* 415 885-3625 *Fax:* 415 885-3886  
*E-mail:* EducationOffice@ucsfmedctr.org  
*Length:* 1 Yrs *ACGME Approved/Offered Positions:* 1  
**Program ID: 060-05-13-061**

## Connecticut

### Hartford

#### St Francis Hospital and Medical Center Program

*Sponsor:* St Francis Hospital and Medical Center  
*Prgm Director:* William P Pennoyer, MD\*  
 Graduate Medical Education Attn: Pilo Mistry  
 114 Woodland Street  
 Hartford, CT 06105  
*Tel:* 860 242-8591 *Fax:* 860 242-2511  
*Length:* 1 Yrs *ACGME Approved/Offered Positions:* 1  
**Program ID: 060-08-21-032**

## District of Columbia

### Washington

#### Washington Hospital Center Program

*Sponsor:* Washington Hospital Center  
*Prgm Director:* Thomas J Stahl, MD  
 106 Irving Street, NW  
 Suite 2100 North  
 Washington, DC 20010  
*Tel:* 202 877-8484 *Fax:* 202 877-8483  
*E-mail:* rhoda.montgomery@medstar.net  
*Length:* 1 Yrs *ACGME Approved/Offered Positions:* 1  
**Program ID: 060-10-21-045**

## Florida

### Miami

#### Jackson Memorial Hospital/Jackson Health System Program

*Sponsor:* Jackson Memorial Hospital/Jackson Health System  
*Prgm Director:* Floriano Marchetti, MD\*  
 Univ of Miami/Sylvester Comprehensive Cancer Ctr (310-T)  
 1475 NW 12th Avenue, Room 3550  
 Miami, FL 33136  
*Tel:* 305 243-3527 *Fax:* 305 243-7498  
*Length:* 1 Yrs *ACGME Approved/Offered Positions:* 1  
**Program ID: 060-11-13-049**

### Orlando

#### Orlando Health Program

*Sponsor:* Orlando Health  
 Florida Hospital Medical Center  
 Orlando Regional Medical Center  
*Prgm Director:* Andrea Ferrara, MD  
 c/o Nancy Joiner, C&R Coordinator  
 110 W Underwood St #A  
 Orlando, FL 32806  
*Tel:* 407 422-3790 *Fax:* 407 841-5058  
*E-mail:* NJoiner@CRORlando.com  
*Length:* 1 Yrs *ACGME Approved/Offered Positions:* 3  
**Program ID: 060-11-21-037**

### Weston

#### Cleveland Clinic (Florida) Program

*Sponsor:* Cleveland Clinic Florida  
 Physicians Regional Medical Center (Naples)  
*Prgm Director:* Eric G Weiss, MD  
 Department of Colorectal Surgery  
 2950 Cleveland Clinic Boulevard  
 Weston, FL 33331  
*Tel:* 954 659-5240 *Fax:* 954 659-5757  
*E-mail:* diazw@ccl.org  
*Length:* 1 Yrs *ACGME Approved/Offered Positions:* 5  
**Program ID: 060-11-13-051**

## Georgia

### Atlanta

#### Georgia Colon and Rectal Surgical Clinic Program

*Sponsor:* Georgia Colon & Rectal Surgical Clinic  
 Dekalb Medical Center  
 Gwinnett Medical Center  
 Northside Hospital  
 Saint Joseph's Hospital of Atlanta  
*Prgm Director:* David N Armstrong, MD  
 5555 Peachtree Dunwoody Road  
 Suite 206  
 Atlanta, GA 30342  
*Tel:* 770 822-0921 *Fax:* 770 995-5742  
*E-mail:* DArmstrong@gersa.com  
*Length:* 1 Yrs *ACGME Approved/Offered Positions:* 2  
**Program ID: 060-12-31-047**

## Illinois

### Chicago

#### John H Stroger Hospital of Cook County Program

*Sponsor:* John H Stroger Hospital of Cook County  
 Advocate Lutheran General Hospital  
 University of Illinois Hospital and Clinics  
*Prgm Director:* Amir L Bastawrous, MD\*  
 1900 W Polk Street  
 Suite 402  
 Chicago, IL 60612  
*Tel:* 312 864-5276 *Fax:* 312 864-9642  
*E-mail:* bastawro@uic.edu  
*Length:* 1 Yrs *ACGME Approved/Offered Positions:* 3  
**Program ID: 060-16-12-001**

#### University of Chicago Program

*Sponsor:* University of Chicago Medical Center  
 McGaw Medical Center of Northwestern University  
*Prgm Director:* Alessandro Fichera, MD  
 5841 South Maryland Avenue, MC 5095  
 Chicago, IL 60637  
*Tel:* 773 702-6142 *Fax:* 773 834-1995  
*E-mail:* afichera@surgery.bsd.uchicago.edu  
*Length:* 1 Yrs *ACGME Approved/Offered Positions:* 1  
**Program ID: 060-16-31-066**

### Springfield

#### Southern Illinois University Program

*Sponsor:* Southern Illinois University School of Medicine  
 Memorial Medical Center  
 Springfield Clinic Outpatient Facility  
 St John's Hospital  
*Prgm Director:* Jan Rakinic, MD  
 PO Box 19638  
 Springfield, IL 62794  
*Tel:* 217 545-7230 *Fax:* 217 545-7762  
*E-mail:* jrakinic@siumed.edu  
*Length:* 1 Yrs *ACGME Approved/Offered Positions:* 1  
**Program ID: 060-16-21-068**

## Indiana

### Indianapolis

#### Indiana University School of Medicine Program

*Sponsor:* Indiana University School of Medicine  
St Francis Hospital - Beech Grove  
St Francis Hospital - Indianapolis  
St Francis Hospital - Mooresville  
*Prgm Director:* Olaf B Johansen, MD\*  
1215 Hadley Road, Suite 201  
Mooresville, IN 46158  
*Tel:* 317 834-9618 *Fax:* 317 834-9467  
*E-mail:* cindy.c@kendrickcenter.com  
*Length:* 1 Yrs *ACGME Approved/Offered Positions:* 1  
**Program ID: 060-17-13-065**

## Kentucky

### Louisville

#### University of Louisville Program

*Sponsor:* University of Louisville School of Medicine  
Jewish Hospital  
Norton Hospital  
University of Louisville Hospital  
Veterans Affairs Medical Center (Louisville)  
*Prgm Director:* Susan Galandiuk, MD  
Department of Surgery  
550 South Jackson Street  
Louisville, KY 40202  
*Tel:* 502 852-4568 *Fax:* 502 852-8915  
*E-mail:* julie.watkins@louisville.edu  
*Length:* 1 Yrs *ACGME Approved/Offered Positions:* 1  
**Program ID: 060-20-12-048**

## Louisiana

### New Orleans

#### Ochsner Clinic Foundation Program

*Sponsor:* Ochsner Clinic Foundation  
*Prgm Director:* Charles B Whitlow, MD  
1514 Jefferson Highway  
New Orleans, LA 70121  
*Tel:* 504 842-4060 *Fax:* 504 842-3964  
*E-mail:* kcaccioppi@ochsner.org  
*Length:* 1 Yrs *ACGME Approved/Offered Positions:* 2  
**Program ID: 060-21-12-003**

### Shreveport

#### Louisiana State University (Shreveport) Program

*Sponsor:* LSU Health Sciences Center-University Hospital  
Christus Schumpert Health System  
Willis-Knighton Medical Center  
*Prgm Director:* Philip A Cole, MD  
1501 Kings Highway  
PO Box 33932  
Shreveport, LA 71130  
*Tel:* 318 424-8373 *Fax:* 318 424-6477  
*E-mail:* offman@colonandrectalassociates.com  
*Length:* 1 Yrs *ACGME Approved/Offered Positions:* 2  
**Program ID: 060-21-21-004**

## Maryland

### Baltimore

#### Greater Baltimore Medical Center Program

*Sponsor:* Greater Baltimore Medical Center  
*Prgm Director:* George Y Apostolides, MD  
6535 N Charles Street, Suite 445  
Towson, MD 21204  
*Tel:* 443 849-6910 *Fax:* 443 849-6945  
*E-mail:* gapostol@gbmc.org  
*Length:* 1 Yrs *ACGME Approved/Offered Positions:* 1  
**Program ID: 060-23-12-005**

## Massachusetts

### Burlington

#### Lahey Clinic Program

*Sponsor:* Lahey Clinic  
*Prgm Director:* Thomas Read, MD\*  
Dept of Colon and Rectal Surgery  
41 Mall Road  
Burlington, MA 01805  
*Tel:* 781 744-8971 *Fax:* 781 744-2945  
*E-mail:* thomas.read@lahey.org  
*Length:* 1 Yrs *ACGME Approved/Offered Positions:* 2  
**Program ID: 060-24-12-007**

## Michigan

### Detroit

#### Henry Ford Hospital Program

*Sponsor:* Henry Ford Hospital  
*Prgm Director:* Eric J Szilagyi, MD  
2799 West Grand Boulevard  
Detroit, MI 48202  
*Tel:* 313 916-2498 *Fax:* 313 916-4032  
*Length:* 1 Yrs *ACGME Approved/Offered Positions:* 1  
**Program ID: 060-25-31-043**

### Grand Rapids

#### Grand Rapids Medical Education and Research Center/Michigan State University Program

*Sponsor:* Grand Rapids Medical Education and Research Center  
Saint Mary's Health Care (Grand Rapids)  
Spectrum Health-Blodgett Hospital  
Spectrum Health-Butterworth Hospital  
*Prgm Director:* Martin A Luchtefeld, MD  
1000 Monroe Ave NW  
Grand Rapids, MI 49503  
*Tel:* 616 726-8508  
*Length:* 1 Yrs *ACGME Approved/Offered Positions:* 2  
**Program ID: 060-25-12-009**

### Royal Oak

#### William Beaumont Hospital Program

*Sponsor:* William Beaumont Hospital  
*Prgm Director:* Donald C Barkel, MD  
3601 West 13 Mile Road  
Royal Oak, MI 48073  
*Tel:* 248 551-8235 *Fax:* 248 551-8880  
*Length:* 1 Yrs *ACGME Approved/Offered Positions:* 1  
**Program ID: 060-25-12-010**

## Minnesota

### Minneapolis

#### University of Minnesota Program

*Sponsor:* University of Minnesota Medical School  
Abbott-Northwestern Hospital/Allina Health System  
North Memorial Health Care  
United Hospital  
University of Minnesota Medical Center, Division of Fairview  
Veterans Affairs Medical Center (Minneapolis)  
*Prgm Director:* Judith L Trudel, MD  
Dept of Colon and Rectal Surgery  
1055 Westgate Drive #190  
St Paul, MN 55114  
*Tel:* 651 312-1500 *Fax:* 651 312-1595  
*E-mail:* jltrudel@hotmail.com  
*Length:* 1 Yrs *ACGME Approved/Offered Positions:* 5  
**Program ID: 060-26-21-011**

### Rochester

#### College of Medicine, Mayo Clinic (Rochester) Program

*Sponsor:* College of Medicine, Mayo Clinic  
Mayo Clinic (Rochester)  
Rochester Methodist Hospital  
Saint Marys Hospital of Rochester  
*Prgm Director:* Eric J Dozois, MD  
Division of Colon and Rectal Surgery  
200 First Street, SW  
Rochester, MN 55905  
*Tel:* 507 266-1149 *Fax:* 507 284-1794  
*E-mail:* williams.rebecca@mayo.edu  
*Length:* 1 Yrs *ACGME Approved/Offered Positions:* 3  
**Program ID: 060-26-21-012**

## Missouri

### St Louis

#### Washington University/B-JH/SLCH Consortium Program

*Sponsor:* Washington University/B-JH/SLCH Consortium  
Barnes-Jewish Hospital  
Barnes-Jewish West County Hospital  
*Prgm Director:* Matthew G Mutch, MD  
Section of Colon and Rectal Surgery  
660 S Euclid Ave, Campus Box 8109  
St Louis, MO 63110  
*Tel:* 314 454-7204 *Fax:* 314 454-5249  
*E-mail:* mutchm@wustl.edu  
*Length:* 1 Yrs *ACGME Approved/Offered Positions:* 3  
**Program ID: 060-28-21-025**

## Nebraska

### Omaha

#### Creighton University Program

*Sponsor:* Creighton University School of Medicine  
*Prgm Director:* Alan G Thorson, MD  
9850 Nicholas Street, Suite 100  
Omaha, NE 68114  
*Tel:* 402 343-1122 *Fax:* 402 343-1177  
*E-mail:* crspecialists@msn.com  
*Length:* 1 Yrs *ACGME Approved/Offered Positions:* 1  
**Program ID: 060-30-21-035**

*Note:* \* indicates a newly appointed program director

## New Jersey

### New Brunswick

#### UMDNJ-Robert Wood Johnson Medical School Program

*Sponsor:* UMDNJ-Robert Wood Johnson Medical School  
JFK Medical Center  
Overlook Hospital  
*Prgm Director:* Bertram T Chinn, MD  
3900 Park Avenue  
Edison, NJ 08820  
*Tel:* 732 494-6640 *Fax:* 732 549-8204  
*Length:* 1 Yrs *ACGME Approved/Offered Positions:* 3  
**Program ID: 060-33-12-013**

## New York

### Buffalo

#### University at Buffalo Program

*Sponsor:* University at Buffalo School of Medicine  
Kaleida Health System (Buffalo General Hospital)  
*Prgm Director:* Amarjit Singh, MD  
100 High Street  
Suite B-451  
Buffalo, NY 14203  
*Tel:* 716 857-8606 *Fax:* 716 857-8735  
*E-mail:* wrscales@buffalo.edu  
*Length:* 1 Yrs *ACGME Approved/Offered Positions:* 1  
**Program ID: 060-35-12-014**

### Great Neck

#### NSLIJHS Program

*Sponsor:* North Shore-Long Island Jewish Health System  
Long Island Jewish Medical Center  
North Shore University Hospital  
*Prgm Director:* John A Procaccino, MD  
900 Northern Boulevard, Suite 100  
Great Neck, NY 11021  
*Tel:* 516 730-2100 *Fax:* 516 730-2121  
*E-mail:* jprocacc@nshs.edu  
*Length:* 1 Yrs *ACGME Approved/Offered Positions:* 1  
**Program ID: 060-35-12-053**

### New York

#### Mount Sinai School of Medicine Program

*Sponsor:* Mount Sinai School of Medicine  
Mount Sinai Medical Center  
*Prgm Director:* Randolph Steinhagen, MD  
Department of Surgery  
1 Gustave Levy Place, Box 1259  
New York, NY 10029  
*Tel:* 212 241-9289 *Fax:* 212 534-2654  
*E-mail:* juliet.arthur-ince@mountsinai.org  
*Length:* 1 Yrs *ACGME Approved/Offered Positions:* 1  
**Program ID: 060-35-21-046**

#### New York Presbyterian Hospital (Cornell Campus) Program

*Sponsor:* New York Presbyterian Hospital  
New York Presbyterian Hospital (Columbia Campus)  
New York Presbyterian Hospital (Cornell Campus)  
*Prgm Director:* Jeffrey W Milsom, MD  
Dept of Surgery, 525 East 68th Street  
P-720A, Box 172  
New York, NY 10065  
*Tel:* 212 746-6591 *Fax:* 212 746-8802  
*E-mail:* mat9052@med.cornell.edu  
*Length:* 1 Yrs *ACGME Approved/Offered Positions:* 2  
**Program ID: 060-35-21-050**

### St Luke's-Roosevelt Hospital Center Program

*Sponsor:* St Luke's-Roosevelt Hospital Center  
St Luke's-Roosevelt Hospital Center-Roosevelt Division  
*Prgm Director:* Mitchell Bernstein, MD\*  
Department of Surgery  
1000 10th Avenue, 2nd Floor  
New York, NY 10019  
*Tel:* 212 523-8417 *Fax:* 212 523-8186  
*Length:* 1 Yrs *ACGME Approved/Offered Positions:* 1  
**Program ID: 060-35-21-034**

### Stony Brook

#### SUNY Stony Brook University Hospital & Medical Center/Winthrop University Hospital Program

*Sponsor:* University Hospital - SUNY at Stony Brook  
Winthrop-University Hospital  
*Prgm Director:* Marvin L Corman, MD  
HSC T 18-060  
Stony Brook, NY 11794  
*Tel:* 631 444-3431 *Fax:* 631 444-6348  
*E-mail:* marvin.corman@stonybrook.edu  
*Length:* 1 Yrs *ACGME Approved/Offered Positions:* 1  
**Program ID: 060-35-31-062**

## Ohio

### Cleveland

#### Cleveland Clinic Foundation Program

*Sponsor:* Cleveland Clinic Foundation  
*Prgm Director:* Jon D Vogel, MD  
9500 Euclid Avenue, Desk A-30  
Cleveland, OH 44195  
*Tel:* 216 445-4631 *Fax:* 216 445-1079  
*Length:* 1 Yrs *ACGME Approved/Offered Positions:* 4  
**Program ID: 060-38-12-016**

### Columbus

#### Grant Medical Center (OhioHealth) Program

*Sponsor:* Grant Medical Center (OhioHealth)  
Mount Carmel  
Ohio State University Hospital  
*Prgm Director:* Pedro S Aguilar, MD  
Medical Education Dept - Colon and Rectal Surgery  
285 E State Street, Suite 670  
Columbus, OH 43215  
*Tel:* 614 566-9699 *Fax:* 614 566-8073  
*Length:* 1 Yrs *ACGME Approved/Offered Positions:* 2  
**Program ID: 060-38-12-017**

## Pennsylvania

### Allentown

#### Lehigh Valley Hospital Network/Pennsylvania State University Program

*Sponsor:* Lehigh Valley Hospital Network  
*Prgm Director:* Robert J Sinnott, DO  
Department of Surgery  
Cedar Crest & I-78, PO Box 689  
Allentown, PA 18105  
*Tel:* 610 402-8966 *Fax:* 610 402-1667  
*E-mail:* robert\_j\_sinnott@lvh.com  
*Length:* 1 Yrs *ACGME Approved/Offered Positions:* 2  
**Program ID: 060-41-21-029**

### Erie

#### St Vincent Health Center Program

*Sponsor:* St Vincent Health Center  
Hamot Medical Center  
*Prgm Director:* John C Reilly, MD  
Dept of Colon and Rectal Surgery  
232 West 25th Street  
Erie, PA 16544  
*Tel:* 814 452-5100 *Fax:* 814 452-5097  
*E-mail:* Racurg@aol.com  
*Length:* 1 Yrs *ACGME Approved/Offered Positions:* 2  
**Program ID: 060-41-12-019**

### Hershey

#### Penn State University/Milton S Hershey Medical Center Program

*Sponsor:* Milton S Hershey Medical Center

*Prgm Director:* Lisa S Poritz, MD  
500 University Drive  
H137  
Hershey, PA 17033  
*Tel:* 717 531-5164 *Fax:* 717 531-0646  
*E-mail:* lporitz@psu.edu  
*Length:* 1 Yrs *ACGME Approved/Offered Positions:* 1  
**Program ID: 060-41-12-063**

### Philadelphia

#### Thomas Jefferson University Program

*Sponsor:* Thomas Jefferson University Hospital  
*Prgm Director:* Gerald A Isenberg, MD  
Division of Colon and Rectal Surgery  
1100 Walnut Street, Suite 702  
Philadelphia, PA 19107  
*Tel:* 215 955-5877 *Fax:* 215 955-2404  
*Length:* 1 Yrs *ACGME Approved/Offered Positions:* 1  
**Program ID: 060-41-21-031**

#### University of Pennsylvania Program

*Sponsor:* University of Pennsylvania Health System  
Pennsylvania Hospital (UPHS)  
*Prgm Director:* David J Maron, MD, MBA\*  
301 S 8th Street  
Suite 4D  
Philadelphia, PA 19106  
*Tel:* 215 829-5047 *Fax:* 215 829-5350  
*Length:* 1 Yrs *ACGME Approved/Offered Positions:* 1  
**Program ID: 060-41-33-054**

## Rhode Island

### Pawtucket

#### Rhode Island Colorectal Clinic Program

*Sponsor:* Rhode Island Foundation for Colon and Rectal Diseases  
Miriam Hospital-Lifespan  
Roger Williams Medical Center  
*Prgm Director:* Jorge A Lagares-Garcia, MD  
334 East Avenue  
Pawtucket, RI 02860  
*Tel:* 401 725-4888 *Fax:* 401 725-3336  
*E-mail:* jlagares@lifespan.org  
*Length:* 1 Yrs *ACGME Approved/Offered Positions:* 1  
**Program ID: 060-43-13-054**

## Providence

### Brown University Program

*Sponsor:* Rhode Island Hospital-Lifespan  
Women and Infants Hospital of Rhode Island  
*Prgm Director:* Thomas E Cataldo, MD  
2 Dudley Street, Suite 370  
Providence, RI 02905  
*Tel:* 401 454-4773 *Fax:* 401 868-2330  
*E-mail:* TCataldo@usasurg.org  
*Length:* 1 Yrs *ACGME Approved/Offered Positions:* 1  
**Program ID: 060-43-12-058**

## Texas

### Dallas

#### Baylor University Medical Center Program

*Sponsor:* Baylor University Medical Center  
*Prgm Director:* Warren E Lichliter, MD  
Dept of Colon and Rectal Surgery  
3500 Gaston Avenue  
Dallas, TX 75246  
*Tel:* 214 820-4543 *Fax:* 214 820-4538  
*E-mail:* peggypa@baylorhealth.edu  
*Length:* 1 Yrs *ACGME Approved/Offered Positions:* 2  
**Program ID: 060-48-21-021**

#### Texas Health Presbyterian Dallas Program

*Sponsor:* Texas Health Presbyterian Dallas  
Dallas County Hospital District-Parkland Memorial  
Hospital  
*Prgm Director:* J Marcus Downs, MD  
8200 Walnut Hill Lane  
Dallas, TX 75231  
*Tel:* 214 363-6123 *Fax:* 214 750-1512  
*Length:* 1 Yrs *ACGME Approved/Offered Positions:* 1  
**Program ID: 060-48-21-022**

## Houston

### University of Texas at Houston Program

*Sponsor:* University of Texas Health Science Center at  
Houston  
Houston Northwest Medical Center  
Memorial Hermann Northwest Hospital  
Methodist Hospital (Houston)  
*Prgm Director:* Michael J Snyder, MD  
6550 Fannin St  
Ste 2307  
Houston, TX 77030  
*Tel:* 713 790-9250 *Fax:* 713 790-9251  
*E-mail:* tlynchard@crchouston.com  
*Length:* 1 Yrs *ACGME Approved/Offered Positions:* 4  
**Program ID: 060-48-21-023**

## San Antonio

### Christus Santa Rosa Health Care Program

*Sponsor:* Christus Santa Rosa Health Care Corporation  
Baptist Memorial Healthcare System  
Methodist Healthcare  
*Prgm Director:* Jaime L Mayoral, MD  
333 North Santa Rosa Street  
San Antonio, TX 78207  
*Tel:* 210 212-4114 *Fax:* 210 212-4012  
*Length:* 1 Yrs *ACGME Approved/Offered Positions:* 1  
**Program ID: 060-48-13-057**

## Utah

### Salt Lake City

#### St Mark's Health Care Foundation Program

*Sponsor:* St Mark's Health Care Foundation  
Intermountain Medical Center  
LDS Hospital  
St Mark's Hospital  
*Prgm Director:* John A Griffin, MD\*  
1250 East 3900 South  
Suite 260  
Salt Lake City, UT 84124  
*Tel:* 801 265-9139 *Fax:* 801 265-9478  
*E-mail:* jgriffin@centralutahclinic.com  
*Length:* 1 Yrs *ACGME Approved/Offered Positions:* 1  
**Program ID: 060-49-12-060**

## Washington

### Seattle

#### Northwest Colon and Rectal Clinic Program

*Sponsor:* Northwest Colon and Rectal Clinic, PS  
Northwest Hospital  
Swedish Medical Center  
*Prgm Director:* Richard P Billingham, MD  
1101 Madison Street, Suite 500  
Seattle, WA 98104  
*Tel:* 206 386-6600 *Fax:* 206 386-2452  
*E-mail:* rbham@u.washington.edu  
*Length:* 1 Yrs *ACGME Approved/Offered Positions:* 1  
**Program ID: 060-54-21-040**

*Note:* \* indicates a newly appointed program director

# The American Board of Medical Specialties (ABMS) and Board Certification

American Board of Medical Specialties  
1007 Church Street, Suite 404  
Evanston, IL 60201-5913  
847 491-9091  
847 328-3596 Fax  
www.abms.org

Established in 1933, the American Board of Medical Specialties (ABMS®) is a not-for-profit group made up of 24 member boards that certify physicians in a wide variety of medical specialties. The ABMS does not itself certify physicians, but rather is the umbrella organization that establishes standards and provides information, support, and guidance to the member boards. Between 85% and 90% of practicing physicians are certified by a member board of the ABMS.

The vast majority of medical specialties are represented by the 24 ABMS member boards. A few member boards also certify some nonphysician specialists, such as in the areas of radiology and medical genetics. Today, the member boards issue more than 145 specialty and subspecialty certificates (see Table 2). The number of ABMS member board specialties undoubtedly will increase as medicine continues to evolve and new subspecialties are created to focus on particular aspects of patient care.

The ABMS member boards listed below have been approved by ABMS and the AMA Council on Medical Education (AMA CME) through the Liaison Committee for Specialty Boards (LCSB). They oversee the certification process for their particular specialty.

The American Board of:

- Allergy and Immunology
- Anesthesiology
- Colon and Rectal Surgery
- Dermatology
- Emergency Medicine
- Family Medicine
- Internal Medicine
- Medical Genetics
- Neurological Surgery
- Nuclear Medicine
- Obstetrics and Gynecology
- Ophthalmology
- Orthopaedic Surgery
- Otolaryngology
- Pathology
- Pediatrics
- Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation
- Plastic Surgery
- Preventive Medicine
- Psychiatry and Neurology
- Radiology
- Surgery
- Thoracic Surgery
- Urology

The governing body of each ABMS member board is composed of specialists qualified in the particular field represented by that board. These individuals can include teachers in the specialty; those with specialized training or skills in the primary specialty or subspecialties represented by the Board; and those who have dem-

onstrated the expertise, motivation, and ability to assist in the evaluation procedures leading to certification.

ABMS also partners with other organizations that share a like focus for improving the quality of medical education and the accreditation and certification processes. These are called the associate members, and include:

- Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME)
- Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME)
- American Hospital Association (AHA)
- American Medical Association (AMA)
- Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC)
- Council of Medical Specialty Societies (CMSS)
- Educational Commission for Foreign Medical Graduates (ECFMG)
- Federation of State Medical Boards of the United States (FSMB)
- National Board of Medical Examiners (NBME)

## The Difference Between Board Certification and State Licensure

Board certification by an ABMS member board is widely recognized by physicians, health care institutions, insurers, and patients as the gold standard and an essential tool to judge a physician's knowledge, experience, and skills for providing quality healthcare within a given specialty.

This wasn't always the case. Until about a century ago, physicians typically were generalists and did everything from treating the flu and delivering babies to performing surgery. The early and mid-1900s saw the rise of specialization in medicine, and physician leaders called for certification to ensure that doctors were well qualified to provide good care in their respective specialties.

As individual medical specialties matured, professionals in the field formed boards that developed and enforced practice standards. Ophthalmology was the first specialty to form a board in 1917, and in 1933, the four existing boards at the time—Dermatology, Obstetrics and Gynecology, Ophthalmology and Otolaryngology—formed ABMS, originally called the Advisory Board of Medical Specialties.

Physicians who are board certified by an ABMS member board have participated in a voluntary process that involves evaluation of their knowledge and skills beyond what is required for them to become licensed physicians. A doctor must have a license to legally practice medicine but need not be board certified. Licensure is the process by which a state or jurisdiction of the United States admits physicians to the practice of medicine.

Other key differences between state licensing and board certification include:

- State licensing is not specialty-specific; it sets only minimum competence requirements to diagnose and treat patients. Board certification represents a physician's commitment to become more knowledgeable about a specific area of medicine.
- Physicians are licensed by the medical board of the state, territory, or Canadian province in which they practice medicine. They must have a license for each state in which they practice. Board certification is a nationwide credential supported by the ABMS member boards. Physicians can be certified by more than one member board and hold certifications in one or more subspecialties.
- To obtain a medical license, a physician must complete medical school and graduate medical education and pass an examination. Once licensed, a physician's competence and professional conduct is monitored by the state medical board, which also typically requires participation in continuing medical education (CME). The CME credits can be earned in a number of ways,

such as attending a lecture or reading or listening to CME-designated material and then taking a test.

- Board certification is awarded to the physician in an individual specialty or specialties; those who want to be board certified in multiple specialties must undergo the process for each of them. It is granted by independent boards—not government-regulated boards—and is not connected to the state or territory where the physician practices. Once certified, physicians participate in a program of continuous professional development linked to maintaining certification involving education, evaluation, and improvement activities that allow them to demonstrate their understanding of current treatments and technologies and their ability to apply these concepts to provide quality patient care in a particular specialty.

### Licensure Requirements

In most cases, applicants for certification and maintenance of certification, as well as current diplomates, must hold a full, valid, current, and unrestricted license to practice medicine in the United States, its territories, or Canada. If licenses are held in more than one jurisdiction, all licenses held must meet this requirement. Applicants and diplomates are also required to inform their respective board of any and all restrictions placed on their licenses.

Some boards (American Board of Obstetrics and Gynecology, American Board of Nuclear Medicine [ABNM], and American Board of Psychiatry and Neurology [ABPN]) allow for exceptions for those applicants who do not yet have an unrestricted medical license because they are still in training; in these cases, an educational or institutional license is sufficient, provided that proof of the full, unrestricted medical license is provided to the ABPN within the specified time frame. The ABNM also requires confirmation from the training program the resident is still enrolled at the time of the examination. The ABPN allows consideration of the following exceptions for licensure: Restriction of a physician's medical license does not include medical licenses that, when issued, are limited to a geographic area within a jurisdiction (eg, practice limited to underserved areas), as long as such licenses are not in any way limited due to, because of, or by virtue of a disciplinary, legal, or administrative action against the license holder. At its sole discretion, the ABPN may review instances of licensure restrictions to determine whether such restrictions constitute a violation of the ABPN's licensure requirements.

The American Board of Dermatology requires that candidates hold a currently valid, full, and unrestricted license to practice medicine or osteopathy *in the candidate's state or province of residence* in either the United States or Canada.

### Steps in Achieving Certification

For initial certification, doctors are evaluated according to the standards set by the ABMS member board for education and residency training in their specialty and then must pass written and oral examinations.

Certification by an ABMS member board indicates that the physician has:

1. Earned a medical degree (MD, DO, or other approved credential approved by the member board) which includes:
  - Graduation from a medical school in the United States accredited by the Liaison Committee for Medical Education (LCME), sponsored by the AMA and the Association of American Medical Colleges
  - Graduation from a medical school in Canada accredited by the Committee on Accreditation of Canadian Medical Schools (CACMS), with which the LCME collaborates
  - Graduation from an osteopathic school in the United States accredited by the American Osteopathic Association

- Graduation from a foreign medical school plus a certificate from the Educational Commission for Foreign Medical Graduates (ECFMG)
2. Completed the required accredited education and training; the amount of graduate medical education and training required varies by ABMS member board (see Table 3); similarly, leave of absence policies, for parental or family leave or illness, vary from one board to the next (Table 4).
  3. Provided letters of attestation from the program director and/or faculty stating whether an individual has achieved a satisfactory level of competence and is qualified to pursue certification
  4. Fulfilled residency requirements
  5. Been licensed to practice medicine in at least one US state, territory or Canada
  6. Passed rigorous tests administered by an ABMS member board
  7. Met other ABMS member board-specific qualifications

Many physicians have a general specialty certification as well as one or more subspecialty certifications. For instance, a physician might hold a general certification in psychiatry as well as two subspecialty certifications, in addiction psychiatry and child and adolescent psychiatry. In addition, a physician can be certified by more than one member board; a doctor can be certified by the American Board of Pediatrics as well as the American Board of Allergy and Immunology.

### Maintaining Certification and the Commitment to Lifelong Learning

ABMS Maintenance of Certification® (AMBS MOC®) is the most recent advance in the board certification process (see Table 6). Like medicine and science, certification is evolving. Originally, the physician passed a rigorous one-time exam and was considered board certified for life. Beginning in the 1970s, individual ABMS Member Boards began implementing time-limited recertification; physicians had to pass the certification test every 6 to 10 years (depending on the board) to become recertified. But even this requirement seemed insufficient given the increasing pace of research and technological advances and the drive to improve patient care and safety.

By following ABMS MOC, physicians demonstrate their commitment to live the standards by which medical care is evaluated and demonstrate leadership in the national movement for health care quality and patient safety. Physicians must prove they have practice-related knowledge to provide quality care in the particular specialty. They must also assess the quality of care they provide compared to peers and national benchmarks, then apply best practices to improve care.

ABMS MOC replaces periodic recertification and provides assurances that the physician is committed to lifelong learning and competency in a specialty and/or subspecialty by requiring ongoing measurement of six core competencies, including:

- **Patient Care**—Providing care that is compassionate, appropriate, and effective for the treatment of health problems and to promote health
- **Medical Knowledge**—Demonstrating knowledge about established and evolving biomedical, clinical, and cognate sciences and their application to patient care
- **Practice-based Learning and Improvement**—Ability to investigate and evaluate patient care practices, appraise and assimilate scientific evidence, and improve one's practice of medicine
- **Interpersonal and Communication Skills**—Demonstrating skills that result in effective information exchange and teaming with patients, their families, and professional associates (eg, fostering a therapeutic relationship that is ethically sound; using effective listening skills, with nonverbal and verbal communication; working as both a team member and at times as a leader)

- **Professionalism**—Demonstrating a commitment to carrying out professional responsibilities, adherence to ethical principles, and sensitivity to diverse patient populations
- **Systems-based Practice**—Demonstrating awareness of and responsiveness to the larger context and systems of health care, and the ability to call on system resources to provide optimal care (eg, coordinating care across sites or serving as the primary case manager when the case involves multiple specialties, professions, or sites)

These competencies were adopted by the ABMS and Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME) in 1999 as those which are crucial for a physician to deliver high-quality patient care. In addition, the competencies are incorporated into the ABMS MOC four-part process that is designed to keep certification continuous.

- **Part I—Licensure and Professional Standing.** Holding a valid, unrestricted medical license in at least one US state or territory or in Canada
- **Part II—Lifelong Learning and Self-Assessment.** Participating in continual educational and self-assessment programs that meet specialty-specific standards set by the member boards. This can include everything from rigorous take-home tests to continuing medical education, which provide specific information about new treatments and standards of care.
- **Part III—Cognitive Expertise.** Proving medical and practice-related knowledge through regular, formal examination.
- **Part IV—Practice Performance Assessment.** Being continually evaluated to assess care compared to peers and national standards and then improving care based on findings and recommendations. This can be achieved through peer and patient surveys, patient chart reviews by objective sources, etc.

While ABMS guides the process, the member boards set the criteria and curriculum for each specialty. In 2006, all member boards received approval for their ABMS MOC program plans. The boards are currently implementing these plans.

The ongoing monitoring of certification through ABMS MOC will undoubtedly provide information about whether a physician is keeping up with the standards of his or her specialty. It can also have dramatic impact on health care quality because of the frequency of evaluation and the inclusion of a practice assessment component. Amid increasingly urgent calls for comparable, valid measures of performance and physician accountability, ABMS MOC represents measured, thoughtful, and proactive professional involvement in setting quality standards for medical practice.

### Use of the Term “Board Eligible”

Because certification is a process of advancement through several individual steps, including examination, the completion of any one step, such as the minimal educational requirements, should not imply that a candidate is now possessed of some special qualification that is more or less equivalent to certification. For this reason, the majority of ABMS boards do not use or sanction the use of the terms “board eligible” or “board qualified.” The status of an applicant with a given board is determined by and varies with the current status of his/her credentials.

Exceptions: The American Board of Orthopaedic Surgery recognizes candidates who have successfully completed Part I and are waiting to take Part II as being “board eligible.” The American Board of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation, although it does not accept any use of “board eligible,” uses the term “board admissible” to define the status of an applicant who has been accepted by the ABPMR as a candidate to take the examination for which he or she has applied.

### Providing Board Certification Information to the Public

Information about a physician’s certification status has always been available through the ABMS or an ABMS member board to assure the public of a physician’s qualifications. This was one of the original purposes for the organization and remains just as important today.

The ABMS collects information from the member boards and certified physicians, maintains a centralized database, and circulates the information through its licensees for professional use. Plus, many consumers have checked their physician’s board certification through the ABMS Web site or have called the ABMS toll-free number.

Board certification information provided by ABMS is relied upon by the majority of health care and credentials verification organizations for privileging and staffing purposes. Insurance companies, law firms, recruiters, and research organizations also reference these data for their purposes. In addition, the public refers to ABMS information to verify certification or locate a specialist in a particular field or geographic region.

Because this information is heavily relied upon, it is essential that data on certified physicians be kept accurate and current. With an increasing number of hospitals, surgicenters, managed care organizations, and insurance carriers requiring board certification, physician information that is inaccurate, dated, or unavailable could cause difficulties during the credentialing, licensure, or hospital privileging processes.

### Applicants with a History of Chemical Dependency or Substance Abuse

(*Note:* The following is general information about board policies in this regard. Each board may have specific policies that differ from these general guidelines.)

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) protects individuals with a history of chemical dependency or substance abuse who are not currently abusing alcohol or using drugs illegally. Candidates with a history of chemical dependency or abuse of a controlled substance will not be admitted to board examinations unless they present evidence satisfactory to the board that they have successfully completed the program of treatment prescribed for their condition, and the board is satisfied that they are currently free of such substance abuse or chemical dependency and do not currently pose a direct threat to the health and safety of others. A board may also require attestations from the responsible program administrators and physicians that the applicant has been free of chemical dependency for a period sufficient to establish that the applicant is not currently exhibiting chemical dependency and/or that substance abuse is not an ongoing problem.

#### Notes

**Dermatology**—A confirmatory letter from a licensed physician within 1 month of the examination stating that the disorder no longer exists or is currently controlled is also necessary.

**Internal Medicine**—Documentation of at least 1 year of continuous sobriety from a reliable monitoring source must be submitted to the board for admission to an examination or to receive a certificate.

**Psychiatry and Neurology**—Restriction of a physician’s medical license does not include voluntary participation in an impaired physicians’ program or other appropriate, monitored alcohol or chemical substance-abuse recovery program if the physician has not been reported to either the National Practitioner Data Bank or the Data Bank of the Federation of State Medical Boards.

**Thoracic Surgery**—Documentation of at least 2 years of continuous sobriety from a reliable monitoring source must be submitted to

the board for admission to an examination. For candidates who are already in the examination process and develop a chemical dependency as reported to the board, the process will be suspended until the candidate can provide documentation suitable to the board that the condition has been under control for a period of 2 years. At that time, the candidate will be readmitted to the examination process. The requirement to be accepted for examination within 5 years of completion of an approved thoracic surgery residency will not be waived.

### Applicants with Disabilities

(*Note:* The following is general information about board policies in this regard. Each board may have specific policies that differ from these general guidelines.)

The ABMS certification boards support the intent of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Accordingly, the boards will attempt to make reasonable accommodations for applicants with disabilities, and may provide or allow the use of necessary auxiliary aids, services, or testing conditions that do not fundamentally alter the measurement of the skills or knowledge the examination is intended to test.

Candidates are required to notify the respective board of the need for special testing circumstances when applying for examination. This deadline allows the board to request the necessary documentation, review the records, and verify the disability, if necessary. All special arrangements must be made and agreed upon in advance; special arrangements cannot be made at the time the examination is given. Therefore, early notification of the need for special testing circumstances is encouraged.

If necessary, some boards may undertake an independent assessment, at the expense of the board. Documentation and other evidence substantiating the disability may include:

- A report diagnosing the applicant's disability written by a professional appropriately qualified to evaluate the disability
- A history of the disability, including previous settings in which accommodations have been granted
- Diagnostic information about the specified disability using standard nomenclature from sources such as the *International Classification of Diseases (ICD)* and the *Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders*
- Specific recommended accommodations with a rationale for why each accommodation is needed.

### Cheating and Irregular or Unethical Behavior on Examinations

(*Note:* The following is general information about board policies in this regard. Each board may have specific policies that differ from these general guidelines.)

Cheating and irregular or unethical behavior by a candidate before, during, or after a written or oral examination may include:

- Giving or obtaining information or aid
- Looking at others' test material
- Removing examination materials from the test center and/or reproducing these materials or distributing them to others
- Reconstructing examination questions and answers and transferring this information to others after the examination
- Taking notes
- Bringing electronic devices (beepers, pagers, cell phones, etc) into the examination
- Failing to comply with time limits or instructions
- Talking or other disruptive behavior
- Making telephone calls
- Offering any benefit to an agent of the board in return for any right, privilege, or benefit that is not usually granted by the board to other similarly situated candidates or persons

Any irregular or improper behavior that is observed, made apparent by statistical analysis, or uncovered by other means will be considered a subversion of the certification process and may be sufficient to bar a person from qualification, terminate participation in an examination, invalidate the results of a candidate's examination, cause the withholding or revocation of scores or certificates, or merit other appropriate actions, up to and including legal prosecution. In addition, the candidate may be barred from retaking the examination in the future for a period determined by the board (the orthopaedic surgery board, for example, requires a 3-year hiatus, the psychiatry/neurology board up to 5 years), and the board may inform program director(s), licensing bodies, state and national medical associations and specialty societies, impaired physicians advocacy groups, or law enforcement agencies of these actions.

The materials comprising all board examinations are confidential and are the sole property of the respective board. Any unauthorized reproduction, distribution, or use of any of these materials is prohibited. Boards will prosecute copyright violations to the full extent provided by law and seek monetary damages for any loss of examination materials.

A board may withhold a candidate's scores and require that the candidate retake one or more portions of an examination if presented with sufficient evidence that the security of the examination has been compromised, notwithstanding the absence of any evidence of the candidate's personal involvement in such activities.

**Table 2. ABMS General and Subspecialty Certificates**

American Board of:	General Certificate(s)	Subspecialty Certificate(s)
Colon and Rectal Surgery	Colon and Rectal Surgery	

*This table lists the approved general and subspecialty certificates that can be issued by an ABMS member board. For the most current list, refer to the ABMS Web site at [www.abms.org](http://www.abms.org)*

**Table 3. GME requirements for certification by an ABMS member board**

American Board of:	Years of ACGME-accredited GME required			Other GME accepted	
	Prerequisite GME	Specialty GME	Total	RCPSA-accredited GME	Non ACGME-accredited GME
Colon and Rectal Surgery	5	1	6		

**Table 4. Residency/fellowship leave of absence policies of ABMS certification boards**

American Board of:	Absences may not exceed . . .	Notes
Colon and Rectal Surgery		

Certification Requirements

# American Board of Colon and Rectal Surgery

20600 Eureka Rd, Suite 600  
 Taylor, MI 48180  
 734 282-9400  
 734 282-9402 Fax  
 E-mail: admin@abcrs.org  
 www.abcrs.org

## Application for Examination

Each candidate for examination must complete and submit an Application for Examination, which may be accessed on the ABCRS Web site at [www.abcrs.org](http://www.abcrs.org).

As part of the application process, residents must submit a list of all operative procedures performed during their training period. Case log reporting is completed using the electronic software provided by the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME). Login instructions and deadline dates are accessible through the ACGME web site at [www.acgme.org](http://www.acgme.org). The American Board of Colon and Rectal Surgery will obtain the information directly from the ACGME

## Examination Schedule

Applications for the 2010 certification process must be completed and returned at the conclusion of training according to the schedule below:

July 15, 2009	Deadline for receipt of application materials and \$400 application fee
July 16 - August 15, 2009	Late applications accepted (late application fee is \$600)
August 15, 2009	No applications will be accepted postmarked after this date
September 27, 2009	Credentials Committee reviews applications. Applicants notified of acceptance for examination.
November 15, 2010	Deadline for receipt of \$700 Written Examination fee. Instructions on Written Examination procedure sent to candidates.
March 19, 2010	Written Examination held at Pearson Vue Testing Centers
April, 2010	Notification of Written Examination results and Oral Examination information sent to candidates
July 15, 2010	Deadline for receipt of \$800 Oral Examination fee; instructions on Oral Examination procedure sent to candidates
September 25, 2010	Oral Examination (Omni Hotel, Chicago, Illinois)
October 2010	Notification of Oral Examination results

**Table 5. Fees**

American Board of:	Application Fee	Late Application Fee	Examination Fee	Written Examination Fee	Oral Examination Fee	Cancellation Fee (Written Exam)	Cancellation Fee (Oral Exam)	Returned Check Fee	Written verification of certification status	Hand rescoring of exam	MOC Examination Fee	Annual fee for all diplomates
Colon and Rectal Surgery	\$400	\$600		\$700 (\$900 late)	\$800 (\$1,000 late)			\$35			\$600 (app fee \$350)	\$175

**Table 6. Maintenance of Certification**

Note: Unless otherwise indicated, the information shown is for MOC in the specialty; different rules may apply to subspecialty MOC.

American Board of:	CME requirement	Lifelong learning and self-assessment requirements	Cognitive expertise/examination requirements	Practice performance assessment	Notes
Colon and Rectal Surgery	150 Category 1 CME credits every 5 years. CARSEP (Colon and Rectal Surgery Education Program); Twice in 10-year cycle		Submission of operative log (every 5 years) consisting of cases performed 12 months prior to the end of the 5-year cycle. Written closed-book examination every 10 years.	Evaluation of performance in practice in two areas: (1) Clinical Practice Data, and (2) Communications/Interpersonal Skills	Maintenance of Certification program begins in 2010.

