



THE AMERICAN BOARD OF ANESTHESIOLOGY, INC.

Phone: (866) 999-7501 | Fax: (866) 999-7503 | Email: moca@theABA.org | Website: www.theABA.org

VOLUNTARY MOCA PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS For non-time limited certificate holders (NTLs) applying in 2010

What is MOCA?

The Maintenance of Certification (MOC) concept originated with the American Board of Medical Specialties (ABMS). ABMS mandated that its 24 Member Boards offer a MOC program to their diplomates.

The Maintenance of Certification in Anesthesiology (MOCA) Program enables ABA diplomates to demonstrate continuing qualifications. Each MOCA cycle is a 10-year period that includes:

Part I: continual assessment of Professional Standing (medical licensure);

Part II: ongoing Lifelong Learning and Self-Assessment;

Part III: a decennial assessment of Cognitive Expertise; and

Part IV: periodic assessments of Practice Performance.

MOCA is an opportunity for physicians to maintain and improve their skills in six general competencies, namely, Medical Knowledge; Patient Care; Practice-Based Learning and Improvement; Professionalism; Interpersonal and Communication Skills; and Systems-Based Practice.

Expediting MOCA

Since your certification in Anesthesiology is not time-limited, you have the option to complete MOCA on an expedited basis (from 2 to 9 years) the first time you participate in the program. When you apply for MOCA, you will choose the year in which you would like to complete the program, and your requirements will be adjusted to reflect the shortened timeframe.

The MOCA program requirements will remain the same, but you will report any CME completed in the preceding ten years, and if you choose to complete MOCA in 5 years or less, you will complete only one PPAI activity.

You can apply for MOCA on your portal account on the ABA website at www.theABA.org.

Part I: Professional Standing

You must hold an active, unrestricted medical license in the United States (US) or Canada.

All US and Canadian medical licenses must be unrestricted.

Action: Annually review and update your medical license information via your portal account through the ABA website at www.theABA.org.

VOLUNTARY MOCA PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS (continued)

Part II: Lifelong Learning and Self-Assessment (LL-SA)

Your LL-SA requirement is **350** credits of continuing medical education (CME) activities. Of the **350** credit total:

- At least **250** credits must be from Category 1 activities (ACCME/AMA PRA-approved).
- At most **100** credits from non-Category 1 activities.
- Beginning with 2006, no more than 70 credits per calendar year will be credited toward LL-SA requirement.
- At least **90** credits earned through completion of the ASA's ACE and/or SEE programs.
- At least **20** credits of Patient Safety CME available through the ASA and ABMS.

Action: Submit your LL-SA (CME) activities to the ABA via your portal account for any activities completed during your current 10-year MOCA cycle. Instructions can be found in the MOCA section of the ABA website.

Part III: Cognitive Examination

The examination is administered at computer testing centers, and is comprised of 200 questions, of which the content is approximately:

150 questions in General Anesthesia

50 questions divided among:

Pediatric Anesthesia, Cardiothoracic Anesthesia, Neuroanesthesia, Critical Care Medicine, Obstetrical/Gynecologic Anesthesia, and Pain Medicine

You can appear for the exam between years 7 and 10 of your 10-year MOCA cycle.

Action: Fulfill the examination prerequisites:

- Satisfactory Professional Standing
- One satisfactory Practice Performance Assessment and Improvement (PPAI) activity.
- At least **200** LL-SA credits granted toward the total of 350.

Part IV: Practice Performance Assessment and Improvement (PPAI)

Case Evaluation: A four-step process where you assess your practice and implement changes that improve patient outcomes.

Simulation: A hands-on opportunity to learn and perform valuable crisis management techniques in a simulation setting at an ASA-endorsed center.

Action: Complete **both** a Case Evaluation and Simulation Course during your 10-year MOCA cycle. One PPAI activity must be completed between years 1 to 5, and the second between years 6 to 10.

