

American Board of Medical Specialties on Target for Stakeholder Comment Period

The American Board of Medical Specialties (ABMS) is on schedule to announce its 75-day "Call for Comment" for the draft Standards for Board Continuing Certification (Standards). The draft Standards reflect not only the recommendations from the Continuing Board Certification: Vision for the Future Commission's final report, but also input from a wide variety of stakeholders including practicing physicians, professional and state medical societies, ABMS Associate Members, ABMS Member Board leadership and those who rely upon the credential as an indicator of a physician's professionalism and specialty knowledge and skills.

The current draft of the Standards has been through multiple iterations to this point. However, important work remains to be done to ensure that the final Standards meet the needs of patients and diplomates, offering a consistent and understandable set of criteria while recognizing the need for specialty-specific variances. It is important to note that the draft Standards, as offered for comment at this time, have not yet been agreed to by the 24 ABMS Member Boards. This "Call for Comment" will afford a wider group of stakeholders, including members of the public, the opportunity to offer feedback to this draft and their input will be used to help inform the final version of the Standards.

Pending the status of the COVID-19 surge and the hospital caseload in early December, the "Call for Comment" is scheduled to begin on Monday, December 7, 2020 and will be open until 11:59 p.m. CST. on Friday, February 19, 2021. Feedback will be obtained primarily via a survey that will be posted on the ABMS website with communications regarding the opening of the Call for Comment scheduled for Monday, December 7, 2020.

Please share this Call for Comment advance notice with your colleagues and stakeholders and plan to help us announce the opening of the comment period on December 7, 2020. ABMS seeks comments from a wide and diverse set of stakeholders on this set of draft Standards and appreciates your assistance in helping us communicate broadly to ensure a robust response. Should the pandemic surge force a change in this schedule, ABMS will issue an updated schedule for the Call for Comment.

Find resources and follow the progress of ABMS and its 24 Member Boards on the <u>Achieving the Vision web page</u>. <u>Sign up for email updates</u> about the boards' implementation efforts.



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