

Continuous Certification At a Glance

Providing physicians with relevant, effective, and convenient continuous certification (C-cert) to meet the needs of lifelong learning and busy schedules of UCNS diplomates.

Relevant Lifelong Learning

Peer experts in each subspecialty identify the most important and relevant developments in the field to assist UCNS-certified diplomates in keeping current in their subspecialty.

- Diplomates and sponsoring organization members contribute to identifying the clinically relevant knowledge needed to stay current in their subspecialty field.
- Subspecialty examination committees choose up to 10 journal articles or resources to support learning in the identified topics.
- Reading lists for each subspecialty will be released annually at UCNS.org.

Effective Knowledge Assessment

Short annual online quizzes will replace high-stakes recertification examinations. Take quizzes at your convenience wherever you have online access.

- 25-question quizzes developed by examination committees to assess knowledge of reading list content.
- Real-time feedback is provided on incorrect answers to close the knowledge gap.
- Up to six-month window of time to complete online quizzes.
- 100 minutes allotted to answer quiz questions.
- 80% minimum passing rate required on annual quizzes.
- Diplomates allowed three attempts to pass online quizzes.

Convenient Online Flexibility

- Complete annual online quizzes at a place and time convenient for you.
- Pay annual C-cert administrative fee online.
- Log in to UCNS.org to keep personal and practice information current.
- Verification of certification status available in online UCNS diplomate directory.



Transition to Continuous Certification

All UCNS diplomates with time-limited certificates will be transitioned to C-cert.

- One-time reporting of prorated subspecialty CME credits to verify continuous learning during time-limited certificate period.
- After one-time reporting, no more annual CME reporting after 2019 for diplomates who meet C-cert requirements.
- Certification does not expire when annual C-cert requirements are met.
- New certificates issued to diplomates in 2020 reflecting no expiration dates.
- Certification status verification will be available at UCNS.org.
- Beginning in 2020, diplomates will pay an annual C-cert administrative fee of \$175.

Certification Status

Diplomate status is updated annually to reflect compliance with annual C-cert requirements. Diplomates will be assigned one of three status levels.

- Certified – Meeting Requirements
- Certified – Not Meeting Requirements
- Not Certified



Continuous Certification Requirements

General eligibility requirements for C-cert include:

- Possess a current unrestricted medical license.
- Be a diplomate in good standing of the ABMS or RCPSC.
- Pay \$175 annual UCNS C-cert administrative fee.
- Read the annual designated subspecialty journal articles.
- Complete and pass annual assessment quiz.

Benefits of Continuous Certification

- No travel expense or time away from your practice to recertify at a testing center.
- Affordable, inclusive annual fee makes it easier to budget other professional development activities.
- Continuous lifelong learning and self-assessment keeps skills clinically relevant and current.
- Patients assured that UCNS-certified diplomates are staying up-to-date in their subspecialty field of medicine.

More information available at:

www.ucns.org

or contact

**Todd Bulson, Senior Manager,
Certification**

tbulson@ucns.org (612) 928-6067