

The American Board of Plastic Surgery, Inc.®

Suite 400 · 1635 Market Street · Philadelphia, PA 19103-2204

Phone: 215-587-9322 · FAX 215-587-9622 · Internet: <http://www.abplasticsurgery.org>



Maintenance of Certification in Plastic Surgery (MOC-PS®) Physicians with Special Circumstances Policy

November 2016

Diplomates who do not practice plastic surgery by providing direct or supervised patient care can maintain their plastic surgery certification status on a continuous basis by engaging in the Maintenance of Certification in Plastic Surgery (MOC-PS®) Program activities. Diplomates must submit a formal request addressed to the Executive Director for consideration of participation in MOC-PS® under the policy for Physicians with Special Circumstances. The diplomate will then receive notification from the Board confirming their status in the MOC-PS® Program.

For those diplomates participating in MOC-PS®, “**surgically active**” is defined as a plastic surgeon currently performing at least one of the ABPS identified tracer surgical procedures in the field of plastic surgery on a regular basis. Surgically active diplomates must meet all requirements of the MOC-PS® Program.

Physicians with Special Circumstances (Surgically Active)

For those diplomates who may be **surgically active**, but do not perform any of the tracer surgical procedures (common plastic surgery operations for the public) on a regular basis, a special approval under the policy for Physicians with Special Circumstances may be provided by the Executive Director.

This category applies to those diplomates who are **surgically active** but do not regularly perform any one of the tracer procedures available in order to complete the required Practice Assessment in Plastic Surgery (PA-PS) Module in years 3, 6 and 9 of the 10 year cycle. If approved, this diplomate must complete a MOC-approved patient safety activity in lieu of the PA-PS module in years 3, 6 and 9. Diplomates approved at this level are highly specialized, hold hospital privileges and meet **all** other requirements of the MOC-PS® Program.

- ✓ Must have a valid and unrestricted license to practice medicine
- ✓ Must complete a patient safety activity in lieu of PA-PS
- ✓ Must satisfy ALL Professional Standing requirements

Physicians with Special Circumstances (Surgically Inactive)

“**Clinically inactive**” and “**surgically inactive**” plastic surgeons are defined as those who are currently retired, disabled, on sabbatical, working in administrative positions or research. Surgically inactive physicians are not seeing patients on a regular basis, nor are they regularly performing any of the common plastic surgery operations (tracer procedures). The non-practicing physician, who participates in MOC-PS®, will still be reported to ABMS and to the public as “certified, participating in MOC” and “current” or “not current” on MOC requirements.

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This category applies to those diplomates who are **surgically inactive**. If approved, this diplomate must complete a MOC-approved patient safety activity in lieu of a PA-PS module in years 3, 6 and 9 of the 10 year cycle and is also exempt from certain professionalism requirements. Diplomates must complete the Professional Standing Update; however, hospital privileges, peer reviews, and outpatient accreditation are not required.

- ✓ Must have a valid and unrestricted license to practice medicine
- ✓ Must complete a patient safety activity in lieu of PA-PS
- ✓ Exempt from certain Professional Standing requirements (hospital privileges, outpatient accreditation and peer review)

Change in practice status must be reported to the Board immediately. For those diplomates who reenter practice after a leave of absence of two or more years, a reentry pathway is required. The guidelines for surgeons seeking to re-enter surgical practice are detailed in the ABPS Re-Entry policy.

Physicians with Special Circumstances (Suspended Certificates)

This category applies to physicians who are surgically inactive and have a suspended certificate. As detailed in the Discipline Policy, the ABPS requires that the diplomate continue MOC participation through the Physicians with Special Circumstances Policy. If approved, the diplomate must complete a MOC-approved patient safety activity in lieu of the PA-PS module in years 3, 6, and 9. Diplomates must complete the Professional Standing Update; however, hospital privileges, peer reviews, and outpatient accreditation are not required.

- ✓ Must complete a patient safety activity in lieu of PA-PS
- ✓ Are exempt from certain Professional Standing requirements
- ✓ Must update the Board on an annual basis regarding the status all medical licenses

Changes in practice status must be reported to the Board immediately. For those diplomates who re-enter clinical practice after a leave of absence of two or more years, a re-entry process is required. The guidelines for surgeons seeking to re-enter surgical practice are detailed in the ABPS Re-Entry policy

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Physicians with Special Circumstances Policy
November 2016**

Physicians with Special Circumstances (Surgically Active)

**Professional Standing Update & Practice Assessment in Plastic Surgery Module
Required in years 3, 6 and 9 of the 10 year MOC cycle**

PROFESSIONAL STANDING UPDATE	REQUIRED
State Medical License	
Hospital Privileges in Plastic Surgery	
Peer Review Evaluation	
Accredited Surgical Facilities	
Advertising Materials	
CME – at least 150 hours in three years	

PA-PS MODULE	EXEMPT – MUST COMPLETE MOC-APPROVED PATIENT SAFETY ACTIVITY IN LIEU OF PA-PS REQUIREMENT
Tracer Procedure – enter data from 10 consecutive cases of 1 procedure	
Benchmarking report review	
MOC-approved CME activity aligned with tracer	
Self-Evaluation for Improvement (Action Plan)	

**MOC-PS® Examination Application
Required in years 7, 8 or 9 of the 10 year MOC cycle**

Exam Application	REQUIRED
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**MOC-PS® Cognitive Examination
Required in years 8, 9 or 10 of the 10 year MOC cycle**

Cognitive Exam	REQUIRED
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**Maintenance of Certification in Plastic Surgery (MOC-PS®)
Physicians with Special Circumstances Policy
November 2016**

Physicians with Special Circumstances (Surgically Inactive)

**Professional Standing Update & Practice Assessment in Plastic Surgery Module
Required in years 3, 6 and 9 of the 10 year MOC cycle**

Professional Standing Update	REQUIRED
State Medical License	
Hospital Privileges in Plastic Surgery	Exempt
Peer Review Evaluation	Exempt
Accredited Surgical Facilities	Exempt
Advertising Materials	
CME – at least 150 hours in three years	

PA-PS MODULE	EXEMPT – MUST COMPLETE MOC-APPROVED PATIENT SAFETY ACTIVITY IN LIEU OF PA-PS REQUIREMENT
Tracer Procedure –enter data from 10 consecutive cases of 1 procedure	
Benchmarking report review	
MOC-approved CME activity aligned with tracer	
Self-Evaluation for Improvement (Action Plan)	

**Application
Required in years 7, 8 or 9 of the 10 year MOC cycle**

Exam Application	REQUIRED
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**MOC-PS® Cognitive Examination
Required in years 8, 9 or 10 of the 10 year MOC cycle**

Cognitive Exam	REQUIRED
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Maintenance of Certification in Plastic Surgery (MOC-PS®) Physicians with Special Circumstances Policy November 2016

Physicians with Special Circumstances (Suspended Certificate)

Professional Standing Update & Practice Assessment in Plastic Surgery Module Required in years 3, 6 and 9 of the 10 year MOC cycle

Professional Standing Update	REQUIRED
State Medical License	Must update Board annually on status of all licenses
Hospital Privileges in Plastic Surgery	Exempt
Peer Review Evaluation	Exempt
Accredited Surgical Facilities	Exempt
Advertising Materials	
CME – at least 150 hours in three years	

PA-PS MODULE	EXEMPT – MUST COMPLETE MOC-APPROVED PATIENT SAFETY ACTIVITY IN LIEU OF PA-PS REQUIREMENT
Tracer Procedure –enter data from 10 consecutive cases of 1 procedure	
Benchmarking report review	
MOC-approved CME activity aligned with tracer	
Self-Evaluation for Improvement (Action Plan)	

Application

Required in years 7, 8 or 9 of the 10 year MOC cycle

Exam Application	REQUIRED once an active medical license is obtained and the suspended certificate is resolved.
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MOC-PS® Cognitive Examination

Required in years 8, 9 or 10 of the 10 year MOC cycle

Cognitive Exam	REQUIRED
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