

The American Board of Plastic Surgery, Inc.

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TIMELINE FOR 2020 GRADUATING PLASTIC SURGERY RESIDENTS

Written Examination – Tuesday, May 19, 2020

Computer Based Test at Prometric Test Centers in the United States and Canada

September 2019	Application available – notification will be sent by email
October 1, 2019	Application, fee and driver's license or passport due
December 31, 2019	Preliminary Sign Off - Plastic Surgery Program Directors to complete online Residency Graduation Program Director Recommendation Forms for graduating residents
January 2020	Preliminary Approval and Registration Forms available (to register for the exam) - notification will be sent by email
February 10, 2020	Registration Forms and fee due
March 2020	Scheduling Permits will be posted on your Written Examination tab on the Board's website - notification will be sent by email
End of March 2020	Candidates schedule an appointment at a Prometric Test Center
May 19, 2020	Written Examination Computer Based Test at Prometric Test Centers located in the United States and Canada
July 1, 2020	Final Sign Off - Plastic Surgery Program Directors to complete online Residency Graduation Program Director Confirmation Forms for graduating residents
Mid-August 2020	Application Approval Letters and Written Examination Result Letters and Performance Reports will be posted on your Written Examination tab on the Board's website - notification will be sent by email

Please note: Written Examination Result Letters and Performance Reports will not be provided if the Plastic Surgery Program Director did not provide a **Final Sign Off**.

Written Examination Schedule

The Written Examination Computer Based Test consists of the following format:

- 🖨 15-minute tutorial (**optional**).
- 🖨 The examination will be comprised of 300 scored items and 50 unscored items.
- 🖨 The 50 unscored items will not be identifiable to the candidate. This pretesting allows the Board to analyze the statistical properties of an item prior to it being placed on an examination and included in scoring.
- 🖨 All items are multiple-choice.
- 🖨 The items are formatted in three blocks of 100 items and one block of 50 items.
- 🖨 Total break time is 60 minutes (**optional**).
- 🖨 Total testing time is approximately seven hours.
- 🖨 There is a survey at the end of the examination. This survey does not interfere with the time allotted for you to take the examination (**optional**).

The subjects covered in the examination are listed in the Booklet of Information. The examination covers the entire field of plastic surgery. The content outline and examination blueprint (enclosed) are available for review for candidates and are posted on the Board's website www.abplasticsurgery.org under "Candidates - Examination Content."

If you have any questions, please contact Gwen A. Hanuscin, Written Examination and Projects Coordinator at ghanuscin@abplasticsurgery.org.

TIMELINE FOR 2021 ORAL EXAMINATION CANDIDATES

Oral Examination - November 11-13, 2021 - Phoenix, Arizona

July 1, 2020 – March 31, 2021	Case List Collection Period – pre-operative and post-operative photos are required for cases selected for examination
July 2020	Information Letter and Web Based Program Instructions mailed
April 2021	Case List with the other required documents and fee due
April 2021	Peer Evaluations sent online
July 2021	Board Selected Cases for the Case Report examinations and Registration Forms (to register for the exam) available
August 2021	Registration Forms, fee and other required documents due
August 2021	Case Report Documents Uploaded
November 2021	Oral Examination in Phoenix, Arizona

Reference to Oral Examination Requirements **(Refer to the Booklet of Information for details)**

◆ **Unrestricted, Valid and Full State Medical License:**

Candidates must have a current, valid, full and unrestricted medical license to practice medicine in all state(s) or country where they practice plastic surgery. The license must include an expiration date valid through the Oral Examination. Candidates must report any restrictions or sanctions to any medical license within 30 days of the restriction. Restrictions will delay the candidate's progress through the examination process.

◆ **Hospital Privileges:**

Candidates must hold active inpatient hospital admitting privileges in plastic surgery in the United States, Canada, or internationally where the candidate practices plastic surgery. Candidates must obtain **privileges in at least one hospital at the start of clinical surgical practice**. Hospital privileges are required for the certification process and continued certification. The Board requires inpatient admitting privileges at an accredited hospital so that the candidate can admit and care for operative patients after procedures performed in an outpatient facility should the need arise. At least **one** medical staff office must provide verification of hospital privileges in **plastic surgery** with the Case List submission. The date of the start of privileges must correspond to the start of the candidate's clinical surgical practice.

Privileges held exclusively in outpatient facilities are not acceptable. Candidates must have privileges to admit patients at a hospital during the case collection period, throughout the examination process and throughout the Continuous Certification process. Additionally, the Board requires verification of plastic surgery privileges from all hospitals in which procedures are performed with the Registration Form submission. Each letter must be dated in the year of the examination and/or include the start and end of privilege dates valid at the time of submission.

◆ **Outpatient Center Accreditation:**

The Board requires that cases performed under IV sedation or a general anesthetic be done in accredited facilities (e.g. 1. AAAASF; 2. AAAHC; 3. Medicare Certification; 4. State Licensure; 5. Other). **Cases performed in non-accredited surgical facilities must be included in the case list.**

◆ **Case Collection:**

- Minimum of 50 major operative cases required to finalize case list in April (all cases performed must be entered, in the case collection program, not just 50 cases).
- There are no category and anatomy minimums.
- Pre- and post-operative photographs (\geq 3 months) are required on every case starting July 1st.
- Intraoperative photos and markings are encouraged for more complex cases.
- Use the Board's patient consent for use of photographs and records starting July 1st.
- A notarized affidavit by medical records staff will be required after a review of your case list.
- Peer Evaluations sent by April 1st
- Advertising and marketing materials are required.
- Case Report documentation is uploaded in July/August.

If you have any questions, please contact Melissa M. Hill, Oral Examination Coordinator at mhill@abplasticsurgery.org.