



TIMELINE FOR 2026 GRADUATING PLASTIC SURGERY RESIDENTS

Written Examination – Tuesday, May 12, 2026

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

Mid-September 2025	Application Form available – notification will be sent by email
October 3, 2025	Application Form and fee due
December 31, 2025	Preliminary Sign Off - Plastic Surgery Program Directors to complete online Residency Graduation Program Director Recommendation Forms for graduating residents
Mid-January 2026	Application Approval Letter posted and Registration Form available (to register for the exam) - notification will be sent by email
February 3, 2026	Registration Form and fee due
End of March 2026	Scheduling Permit will be posted on your Written Exam tab on the Board's website - notification will be sent by email. Candidates are encouraged to schedule an appointment at a Prometric Test Center immediately upon receipt of the Scheduling Permit
May 12, 2026	Written Examination Computer Based Test at Prometric Test Centers in the United States and Canada
July 1, 2026	Final Sign Off - Plastic Surgery Program Directors to complete online Residency Graduation Program Director Confirmation Forms for graduating residents
End of July 2026	Written Examination Result Letter and Performance Report will be posted on your Written Exam 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 does not provide both the **Preliminary and Final Sign Off**.

Written Examination Schedule

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

- 15-minute practice exam (strongly recommended).
- The examination will be comprised of 250 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 psychometric properties of an item prior to it being included in scoring.
- All items are multiple-choice with single correct answer.
- The items are formatted in three blocks of 100 items.



- Each exam block is 100 minutes.
- Total break time is 60 minutes (optional).
- Total test appointment time is approximately 6.5 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).

All candidates will have the same number of questions and the same time allotment to take the examination. Within each block, candidates may answer questions in any order and review and/or change their answers. After exiting a block, or when time expires, no further review of questions or changing of answers within that block is possible.

Candidates will have 60 minutes of total break time, which may be used to make the transition between blocks and for a break. A break may only be taken between each block of questions. Candidates are encouraged to bring refreshments (to leave in the car or locker) as not every test center location has restaurants nearby.

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 are enclosed and are posted on the Board's website [ABPS Content Outline and Examination Blueprint](#).

Questions can be directed to written@abplasticsurgery.org.

TIMELINE FOR 2027 ORAL EXAMINATION CANDIDATES

Oral Examination - November 2027

July 2026	Instructions for Case List Collection available, if eligible
July 1, 2026 – March 31, 2027	9-month Case List Collection Period
April 2027	Case List and fee due
April 2027	Peer Evaluation Process available
July 2027	Board Selected Cases for the Case Report Examination and Registration Form (to register for the exam) available
August 2027	Registration Form and fee due
August 2027	Case Report Documents Uploaded
November 2027	Oral Examination

Questions can be directed to oral@abplasticsurgery.org.

Refer to the 2025 – 2026 ABPS Booklet of Information for details regarding the Written and Oral Examination requirements [ABPS Booklet of Information](#).