

# The American Board of Plastic Surgery Honor Code

The American Board of Plastic Surgery, Inc. is committed to upholding its mission to promote safe, ethical, efficacious plastic surgery to the public by maintaining high standards for the education, examination, certification, and continuous certification of plastic surgeons as specialists and subspecialists.

The ABPS expects candidates for initial certification and its diplomates to uphold fundamental moral and ethical principles. As specified by the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education and the American Board of Medical Specialties, residents, fellows, candidates, and diplomates must demonstrate a commitment to carrying out professional responsibilities, adherence to ethical principles, and sensitivity to diverse patient populations.

The materials developed by the ABPS for its certification and continuous certification examinations and other certification activities are copyrighted as the sole property of the ABPS and may not be reproduced in any way.

**Reproduction of copyrighted material, in whole or in part, is a federal offense.**

Irrespective of copyright, any attempt to distribute ABPS certification or continuous certification materials, in whole or part, undermines the fairness of the certification process and will be considered unethical, unprofessional, dishonorable, and will constitute grounds for the ABPS to; disqualify the candidate or diplomate from future examinations and/or other certification activities, invalidate current activities, revoke certificates, or take any other action deemed appropriate by the ABPS and its legal counsel.

The Officers and Directors of the Board also call your attention to the pledge required of all candidates and diplomates at the time of initial application for examination, certification, and continuous certification in Plastic Surgery. Your application is available on your secure Tracking Page on the Board's website. It reads:

I apply to The American Board of Plastic Surgery, Inc. (the Board or ABPS) for examination leading to the issuance to me of a Certificate of Qualifications as a Specialist in Plastic Surgery, all in accordance with and subject to the Board's rules and regulations. I agree that prior or subsequent to examination the Board may investigate my standing and reputation as a physician, including my reputation for complying with the ABPS Code of Ethics and Professionalism. I understand and agree that:

- (1) falsification of any part of the Application or of my Resident Registration for Evaluation of Training Form;  
or
- (2) the submission of any falsified documents or information to the Board; or
- (3) the use of any falsified Board documents or the submission of any such documents to other persons; or
- (4) the giving or receiving of aid in the examinations as evidenced either by observation at the time of the examination or by analysis of my answers and those of one or more other participants in that examination;  
or
- (5) the unauthorized possession, reproduction by any means, including from memory, or disclosure of any material, including, but not limited to examination questions or answers before, during, or after the examination; or
- (6) the offer of any financial or other benefit to any director, officer, employee, or other agent or representative of the Board in return for any right, privilege or benefit which is not usually granted by the Board to other similarly situated candidates or persons; or
- (7) the failure to maintain the moral, ethical and professional standing satisfactory to the ABPS;

may be sufficient cause for the Board to bar me permanently from all future examinations, to terminate my participation in the examination, to invalidate the results of my examination, to withhold my scores or Certificate, to revoke my Certificate, and/or to take other appropriate action.

Candidates and Diplomates must understand that the ABPS may withhold scores and may or may not require a candidate or diplomate to retake one or more portions of an examination if the ABPS is presented with sufficient evidence that the security of one or more portions of the examination has been compromised, notwithstanding the absence of evidence of personal involvement in such activities.

Yes, I agree

No, I do not agree