



AMERICAN BOARD OF DERMATOLOGY

Date: 10/11/2018
Sent From: ABD Staff
Subject: ABD Exam of the Future Timeline Change

The American Board of Dermatology's Exam of the Future timeline has changed. Instead of offering the new modular CORE Exam in 2019, we will delay the implementation of this new exam until 2020. In doing so, our implementation of the APPLIED Exam will move from 2020 to 2021.

Recognizing this announcement will generate a lot of questions, we seek to address them below. We will also follow up in the coming weeks with additional information to help guide you through this transition.

What is the exam schedule in 2019?

In 2019, the ABD will offer the following exams for residents:

Administered locally, at your program:

March 11 – 29: ONLINE Practice (In-Training) Exam for Dermatology Residents Year (DRY) 2 and 3

April 11: BASIC Exam for DRY 1

Administered at the American Board of Pathology test center in Tampa, FL:

July 15 – 18, July 22 – 26: Certification Exam for graduating residents

Which exams can each cohort of residents expect to take?

Current DRY 3 Residents:

2019: Online Practice (In-Training) Exam + Certification Exam

Current DRY 2 Residents:

2019: Online Practice (In-Training) Exam

2020: Online Practice (In-Training) Exam + Certification Exam

Current DRY 1 Residents:

2019: BASIC Exam

2020: CORE Exam

2021: APPLIED Exam

Why has the timeline changed?

Our resolve has never been stronger to implement an improved certifying exam experience that includes a more practical applied knowledge exam as the important final element of the certification process, but the ABD is in the process of transitioning to a new psychometric vendor due to recent problems with certifying exam scoring.

We wish to make a thoughtful and deliberate transition to ensure we find a vendor who understands our vision for the Exam of the Future, knows how to operationalize it, and can ensure that every result issued to every ABD examinee is valid and reliable.

Our Exam of the Future format is unique and transitioning to a new psychometrics vendor in time to maintain our original March 2019 launch of the CORE Exam creates too tight of a timeline. We believe it is in the best interest of our diplomates, therefore, to maintain the current Certifying Examination format until a more deliberate transition can be made, without rush.

Thank you for your understanding as we undergo this transition. Do not hesitate to contact us with your questions and concerns. We are available by phone (617.910.6400 x 4) or email (communications@abderm.org).