

BOOKLET OF INFORMATION

FOR APPLICANTS FOR CERTIFICATION

by the American Board of Facial Plastic
and Reconstructive Surgery, Inc.®

AND FELLOWS

of the Educational and Research Foundation
for the American Academy
of Facial Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery



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ABFPRS
115-C South Saint Asaph Street
Alexandria, VA 22314
Phone: (703) 549-3223 Fax: (703) 549-3357
information@abfprs.org
www.abfprs.org

About This Booklet

The *Booklet of Information* provides information for applicants for certification by the American Board of Facial Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery Inc.® and for Fellows of the Educational and Research Foundation for the American Academy of Facial Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery. The examination described herein tests both groups of surgeons. The examination is funded in part by the FPS Fellowship Examination Corporation, a non-profit educational organization established to assist in testing graduate fellows completing training programs in facial plastic and reconstructive surgery.

This booklet is published annually to advise applicants of policies and procedures governing examination and certification. The Board reserves the right to modify its policies and procedures without issuing a new booklet of information.

Each edition of this booklet supersedes all previously published editions. Applicants are advised to ensure that they have the most recently published booklet.

Application materials and reading lists. An *Application for Certification* is available only on-line at www.abfprs.org, as are the *ABFPRS Reading List* and a link to *AAFPRS Curriculum Compendium Bibliography*. The examination draws from both sources, and from the general literature.

Study of these materials should supply necessary information concerning submission of application materials, preparation for the examination, and procedures for certification. Adherence to procedures will ensure the timely review of each applicant's credentials throughout the certification process.

Inquiries about the Board examination or certification process may be addressed to the Board Secretary through the ABFPRS office, 115-C South Saint Asaph Street, Alexandria, VA 22314.

Contents

Officers and Directors	4
Sponsoring Organizations	5
Purposes of the Board	6
Definition of the Specialty	7
Meaning of Certification	8
Eligibility Requirements	8
Certification Process	10
Application for Examination and Certification	13
Certification Fees	15
The Examination	16
Examination Schedule	17
Special Situations	17
Right to Review	19
Re-examination and Submission of New Operative Experience Reports	20
Certification and Revocation	20
Maintenance of Certification	22
Important Dates for ABFPRS Certification	22
Future Exam Dates and Sites	23

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and Reconstructive Surgery, Inc.®**

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Sponsoring Organizations

American Academy of Facial Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery
American Academy of Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery
American Rhinologic Society
Arkansas Academy of Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery
California Society of Facial Plastic Surgery
Canadian Academy of Facial Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery
Canadian Society of Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery
Facial Plastic Surgery Society of St. Louis
Florida Society of Facial Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery
Florida Society of Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery
Georgia Society of Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery
Greater Atlanta Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery Society
Illinois Society of Ophthalmology and Otolaryngology
Indiana Otolaryngology Society
Marion County (Ind.) Society of Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery
Michigan Oto-Laryngological Society
Minnesota Academy of Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery
Missouri Society of Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery
New Jersey Society of Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery
New York Facial Plastic Surgery Society
New York State Society of Otolaryngology
North Carolina Ear, Nose and Throat Society
Northwest Academy of Otolaryngology
Pennsylvania Academy of Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery
Texas Society of Facial Plastic Surgery
Texas Association of Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery

Purposes of the Board

The American Board of Facial Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery Inc.® is a nonprofit corporation established in 1986. Its mission is to improve the quality of medical and surgical treatment available to the public by examining for professional expertise in facial plastic and reconstructive surgery.

To carry out this mission, the Board has established a mechanism for the education, qualification, training, review, and certification of surgeons specializing in facial plastic and reconstructive surgery.

The specific objectives of the Board are:

- To establish standards of qualification for facial plastic and reconstructive surgeons.
- To determine which candidates fulfill these standards of qualification.
- To conduct examinations of such candidates and issue certificates upon satisfactory completion of requirements.
- To improve and broaden the opportunities for graduate education and training of facial plastic and reconstructive surgeons.

The Board is neither an educational institution nor a licensing body, and the certificates it issues are neither degrees nor legal licenses to practice medicine or the specialty of facial plastic and reconstructive surgery. Possession of a Board certificate indicates neither total qualification for practice privileges nor exclusion of others not so certified. Board certification in no way limits the professional activities of any licensed physician in delivery of legitimate healthcare services. Finally, certification implies no intent by the Board for its diplomates to gain special privileges, recognition, or hospital staff positions or to define who shall or shall not perform facial plastic and reconstructive procedures. The Board is not a primary source of censure or primary review of ethical problems.

Definition of the Specialty

The Board interprets the term “facial plastic and reconstructive surgery” in a comprehensive but specific manner. The discipline requires a prerequisite knowledge embracing the basic sciences of anatomy, biochemistry, embryology, genetics, histology, immunology, microbiology, pathology, pharmacology/toxicology, and physiology, and other areas common to all surgical specialties. The discipline also requires essential clinical skills requisite to diagnosis and pre-operative, operative, and post-operative management of the following areas of primary responsibility in the head and neck region:

- **Congenital diseases and disorders**, including genetic and non-genetic (familial).
- **Acquired diseases and disorders**, including degenerative, developmental, iatrogenic/complications, idiopathic, infectious, inflammatory, metabolic/endocrine, neoplastic benign, neoplastic malignant, psychogenic, traumatic, vascular, and other.
- **Medical management of diseases and disorders**, including complications, diagnosis/assessment (hematology, radiology, special tests), disease prevention, emergencies, medico-legal, office/ambulatory, psychology/psychiatry, rehabilitation, pre-operative treatment, intra-operative treatment, post-operative treatment, non-operative treatment, and other.
- **Reconstructive surgery**, including complications, congenital defects, emergencies, laser, neoplasia/ablation and repair, orthognathic/dental, scar revision, septal/sinus surgery, skeletal/maxillofacial/craniofacial surgery, Mohs’ surgery, grafts, flaps, other soft tissue techniques, soft tissue and skeletal trauma, and other.
- **Cosmetic surgery**, including blepharoplasty, chemical peel/skin exfoliation, complications, dermabrasion, direct browlift, emergencies, forehead lift, filling agents/implants, hair replacement, laser, liposuction/lipoaugmentation, malar/submalar augmentation, otoplasty, rhinoplasty, rhytidectomy, skeletal augmentation, and other.

The Meaning of Certification

Certification by the Board signifies excellence in the field of facial plastic and reconstructive surgery. Surgeons who receive this designation may refer to themselves as Board-certified in Facial Plastic Surgery or as a Diplomate of the American Board of Facial Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery Inc.® under principles and limitations set forth in the Draft Guidelines for Truthful Advertising of Physician Services, prepared by the office of General Counsel of the American Medical Association, and state and federal regulations.

The Board does not recognize or use the term “board-eligible” or “board-qualified.” When a request is received regarding the status of a physician, the Board will only state whether the physician is or is not certified. The Board believes it is inappropriate to provide any additional information.

The ABFPRS does not endorse out of field surgery by surgeons who have not completed certification requirements in the specialty relevant to the services performed. The organization conferring said board certification should meet the criteria of well-recognized and authoritative organizations such as those sponsored by the American Board of Medical Specialties, or their equivalent.

Eligibility Requirements

The following qualifications are minimum requirements for acceptance into the certification process:

- **Adherence to code of ethics.** The applicant shall possess high moral and ethical standards as determined by, and in the sole discretion of, the Board.
- **Education.** The applicant shall be a graduate of an accredited school of medicine and have completed an acceptable graduate medical education program. Acceptable programs are those approved by the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education in the United States, or by the Royal College of Physicians

and Surgeons in Canada, in the fields of otolaryngology-head and neck surgery or plastic surgery.

- **Licensure.** The applicant shall submit verification of a valid, non-restricted medical license to practice medicine in a state, territory, or possession of the United States or in a Canadian province, and must continue to be licensed throughout the certification process. A temporary limited license such as an educational, institutional, or house staff permit is not acceptable to the Board. Individuals who do not require licensure because of their acceptance of an offer to practice medicine in a foreign country or their status on active duty as commissioned officers of the medical service of the armed forces of the United States or Canada may receive special consideration.
- **Board certification.** The applicant must have earned certification by the American Board of Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery, and/or the American Board of Plastic Surgery, or by the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada in the fields of otolaryngology-head and neck surgery, and/or plastic surgery.
- **Experience.** The applicant must be in practice for a minimum of two years and demonstrate to the Board's satisfaction a primary interest in facial plastic and reconstructive surgery. The credentialing process typically requires submission of detailed case reports of a large number of facial plastic and reconstructive procedures.
- **Accredited Facility.** Effective January 1, 2007, surgeons must operate in an accredited institution or office to earn ABFPRS certification. Office surgical facilities must be accredited if Level II anesthesia or above is used. Regardless of the level of anesthesia, every applicant either (1) must have hospital staff privileges to perform the procedures and to admit patients to a neighboring hospital or (2) must have formal arrangements for transfer of patients needing hospitalization to a neighboring hospital. If the accreditation of the facility itself requires such privileges or transfer agreement, the applicant need not submit additional information beyond

demonstrating the accreditation; if, however, the facility is not accredited because the level of anesthesia does not require such accreditation, the applicant must provide, with the application, acceptable evidence of the compliance with this requirement.

The Board reserves the right to ask applicants to demonstrate qualifications beyond the minimum or, under rare and exceptional circumstances, to consider alternatives to these requirements. The Board also reserves the right to request information about any applicant from the National Practitioner Data Bank and the Federation of State Medical Boards and to ask applicants to submit any additional information it deems necessary to verify that the applicant meets all requirements.

Certification Process

Certification by the American Board of Facial Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery Inc.® is a two-phase, point-based, process. In the first phase, applicants verify their credentials, training, and experience. In the second phase, applicants demonstrate knowledge of the specialty by passing a rigorous written and oral examination. Both phases must be passed in order to achieve certification.

The minimum passing score to become certified is 1,000 points. A minimum of 250 points must be earned from phase one (credentials, training and experience) and a minimum of 500 points must be earned from phase two (examination). The maximum score that can be earned from either phase is 750.

Phase and Point Summary

		Minimum Required	Maximum Allowed
1 – Experience and Training	<u>Operative Reports</u> (Minimum 250 points are earned by required operative reports; additional 500 points)	250	750

	may be earned through additional surgical procedures listed on Sequential Operative Log and/or Fellowship completion)		
2 – Examination	Written Exam	250	375
	Oral Exam	250	375
	<u>Total Exam</u>	500	750
Total Points		1,000	1,500

Phase one points. The 250 minimum phase one points are earned by submitting operative reports on 50 patient cases per year for each of two consecutive years within the past five years, for a total of 100 reports. Each case must report at least one acceptable facial plastic or reconstructive procedure, but may describe multiple procedures.

Procedures performed during a candidate’s fellowship program are not acceptable for submission. (For more information on acceptable procedures, selection of reporting period, selection of operative reports and reporting of procedures on the required sequential operative log, see question 17 on the Application for Certification.)

The additional phase one points that will usually be necessary for certification will be earned from the complete listing of the candidate’s acceptable procedures on the candidate’s Sequential Operative Log. (The log form is included with the Application for Certification.) These procedures must be performed during the same two-year reporting period used for the patient case operative reports. The total number of procedures submitted on the log, which also includes the procedures that were described in the applicant’s operative reports, will be averaged per year and awarded points as described below.

An average of 1 to 100 additional procedures per year, beyond the 50 minimum procedures reported in the required operative reports, earns 2.5 points per procedure, for a possible additional 250 points. These points are added to the 250 points that were already awarded for the candidate’s

operative reports, for a possible total of 500 phase one points.

The next level of additional procedures is calculated at .714 points per procedure. An average of 101 to 350 additional procedures per year can earn a possible additional 250 points, which, when added to the points already earned from the candidate’s operative reports and first batch of additional procedures, can total the maximum allowable 750 points.

Please review the examples below to get a better understanding of Phase One point calculation.

First example – earning additional Phase One points.

Applicant’s procedural tally (question 17E-F) totals 444 procedures, which yields an average of 222 procedures per year. This figure includes the required minimum 50 average (100 total) procedures that were submitted with his/her operative reports. To determine the additional procedures, he/she must subtract 50 from his tally average of 222. The result is weighted using two values: 2.5 for the first 100 additional procedures and .714 for the remaining additional procedures.

	Procedures	Points
Average from procedural tally	222	
Subtract 50 from procedural tally average	-50	
Leaves <u>additional</u> procedures (222 – 50 = 172)	172	
First 1-100 additional weighted at 2.5/procedure	100	100 x 2.5 = 250
Second 101-350 additional weighted at .714/procedure	172 – 100 = 72	72 x .714 = 51.4
Points awarded for operative reports (50 reports/year)		250
Total points awarded for operative experience		250 + 51.4 + 250 = <u>551.4</u>

Second example. Applicant’s procedural tally totals 266 procedures, which is an average of 133 procedures per year.

	Procedures	Points
Average from procedural tally	133	
Subtract 50 from procedural tally average	-50	
Leaves <u>additional</u> procedures	83	83 x 2.5 = 207.5
Points awarded for operative reports (50 reports/year)		250
Total points awarded for operative experience		207.5 + 250 = <u>457.5</u>

Applicants who complete all requirements for a 12-month Foundation-approved fellowship earn an additional 250 points. Fellowships of less than 12 full months earn no points. **The fellowship year may not be selected as one of the two reporting years.**

Phase two points. A candidate must pass both the written and oral parts of the examination in order to pass the complete examination. The two parts are graded separately, with a 250 point minimum passing score for each part. A candidate who fails to achieve the minimum passing grade of 500 on the combined parts receives no points towards certification. A candidate may score a maximum of 750 points on the examination.

Application for Examination and Certification

To apply for certification, candidates must submit a complete application, including all materials requested on the application and the examination fee, with a postmark date no later than January 15, 2022. Applications that are incomplete or postmarked after January 15, 2022, may be returned without consideration.

During February and March, completed applications will be reviewed by the ABFPRS Credentials Committee for

compliance with phase one standards regarding credentials, training, and experience. A successful applicant will have all credentials in order and show a minimum of 250 points in training and experience.

By April 15, 2022, applicants will be notified as to whether or not they have passed phase one and are eligible to sit for the Board examination (phase two). The notification letter and email will be accompanied by hotel and travel information, together with the date, time, and location of the examination and the specific room to which the candidate is to report.

The examination will be held June 25-26, 2022, in Arlington, Virginia, a suburb of Washington, D.C. At a mandatory registration session, candidates will receive their identification number and personal examination schedule. Examination scores will be reported to applicants within 40 days. Scores also will be reported to the Credentials Committee, which will total phase one and two scores and recommend to the Board those candidates who meet the Board's standards for certification. The Board will consider the Committee's recommendation at its next regularly scheduled meeting and notify candidates of its action.

The Board regularly meets one time each year, on a day during or near the fall meeting of the American Academy of Facial Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery. It may meet at or near the time of the Academy's spring meeting or during the examination weekend. Notice of acceptance will be mailed within two weeks of Board action. The Board reserves the right to reject any application for the examination or certification for reasons bearing on its purpose as a board.

Change of address. It is the responsibility of the applicant to immediately notify the Board office of any change in mailing address or email address that takes effect during the certification process. Notification should be sent to ABFPRS, 115-C South Saint Asaph Street, Alexandria, VA 22314, or meharp@abfprs.org.

Fellowship rules. Certain special rules apply to graduate fellows of the Foundation who are taking the examination to fulfill educational requirements. Fellowship applicants must sit for the examination the year the fellowship is completed unless a written request for deferment is granted by the Foundation. The Foundation may grant deferment two times. Upon passing the examination, fellowship candidates have up to five years to accumulate the minimum number of points for training/experience, as noted above, for certification by the American Board of Facial Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery Inc.® To be considered for certification this year a completed application must be postmarked no later than January 15, 2022. A graduate fellow does not receive Board certification until he/she has completed all requirements.

Certification Fees

The fee for ABFPRS certification is \$6,500 for new applicants or re-applicants, and is due upon receipt of the candidate's application.

The fee for examination of surgeons in the Foundation fellowship program is \$3,250 and is due upon registration for the examination. The fee for certification and phase one review of experience for graduate fellows who previously passed the examination is \$3,250.

The fee for reapplication to phase one only is \$3,250. The fee for reapplication for the examination only is \$3,250 for both parts, or \$2,450 for either part alone.

The applicable fee must be paid by January 15, 2022, and no application will be processed without it. Late applications will be accepted until February 15, 2022, if accompanied by the penalty fee of \$600. **No applications will be accepted after that date.**

If an applicant is not accepted for the examination, the \$3,250 examination fee will be refunded.

Applicants who are accepted for the examination, but who withdraw in writing by May 1, 2022, will be refunded the exam fee only (\$3,250). The applicant may sit for the examination within five years of this withdrawal, but must submit a letter of intent to the Executive Committee and meet any new requirements or fees. Applicants who withdraw less than 30 days in advance of the examination may apply to the Executive Committee for a refund of 50 percent of the examination fee. Each such request will be decided on an individual basis, and refunds are not guaranteed.

Applicants who do not pass the examination or who fail to accumulate sufficient points for certification may request that their examination and/or certification scores be reviewed. An administrative fee of \$300 must accompany a written request for either review (see page 19 for details).

All fees must be paid in U.S. dollars. Applicants residing outside the United States must submit payment in the form of a credit card or an international money order.

A fee of \$25 will be charged for any check returned by the bank for insufficient funds.

In the unlikely event that the Board should have to postpone an examination session, all fees will be applied to the next scheduled session.

The Examination

The examination will be administered once each year in Arlington, Virginia, a suburb of Washington, D.C. Each examination session will allow approximately 100 candidates to be examined. As examination space is limited, available spaces will be assigned on a first-come, first-served basis, in accordance with application and registration form postmark dates.

The examination process requires on-site registration, a mandatory orientation to examination protocols and security procedures, and a full eight hours of examination over a two-day period. Candidates should arrive well-rested, as the examination requires intense concentration. The written test contains 300 multiple-choice test items and is given over a five and one half-hour period in two sessions. The oral test contains 12 oral protocols and is administered in three sessions. Candidates may be sequestered during the examination for purposes of maintaining security.

For specific details of the examination, candidates should refer to the *Examinee’s Guide to the Written and Oral Exams*, which is available on-line at www.abfprs.org.

A link to the *AAFPRS Curriculum Compendium Bibliography*, upon which some of the examination is based, is available on the ABFPRS website under For Physicians, Preparing for the Examination. It is recommended that candidates download a copy of the *ABFPRS Reading List* from the ABFPRS website at www.abfprs.org.

Candidates are encouraged to utilize the ABFPRS on-line practice examinations, also available on the ABFPRS website using the link For Physicians, Preparing for the Examination.

Examination Schedule

The examination schedule is as follows.

Saturday 8 am:	Mandatory Registration and Orientation Session
Saturday 9 am – noon:	Written Examination – Part A
Saturday 1 pm – 4 pm:	Written Examination – Part B
Sunday morning or afternoon:	Oral Examination

Candidates must attend all sessions to which they are assigned at the times specified. If they are delayed for any reason, they should notify the Board staff immediately. Any candidate who misses registration and orientation may, at the discretion of the Board, be denied permission to sit the examination. No admission will be granted to candidates who arrive more than 15 minutes late. No candidate may leave the examination once it has started. Any candidate exhibiting disruptive behavior will not be admitted to or will be asked to leave the examination.

Special Situations

Examination of candidates with disabilities. Candidates requiring special arrangements must make their needs known to the Board at the time of application. The Board will make reasonable accommodations as necessary.

Substance abuse or chemical dependency. Applicants with a history of abuse or dependency will not be admitted to the certification process unless they satisfy the Board that they have completed a treatment program and are free of such abuse or dependency.

Examination irregularities. The Board protects the validity of examination scores by every means possible, by assuring integrity in test administration and honesty in test taking. It will not report a score that it has determined is invalid due to any irregularity and therefore misrepresentative of the candidate's knowledge and competence.

Irregularities in test administration, such as defective test booklets or power outages in the examination room, are usually minor, rarely affect a candidate's ability to finish the test, and are handled by standard procedures. If the candidate is unable to finish the exam or the Board determines that a procedural irregularity has adversely affected his or her performance, the candidate will be invited to sit the next examination at no additional charge.

Irregularities in test taking, such as giving or receiving aid during the examination or unauthorized possession, reproduction, or disclosure of examination questions before, during, or after the examination, may be sufficient cause for the Board to terminate an applicant's participation in the examination, to invalidate the results of the examination, to withhold an applicant's scores or certificate, to bar an applicant permanently from all future examinations, to revoke a certificate, or to take other appropriate action. Additional appropriate actions could include: reporting examinee ethical test taking violations to the appropriate agencies, such as the Federation of State Medical Boards and the National Practitioner's Data Bank, as well as prosecution for copyright violation.

Proctors will circulate among candidates during the written examination, and any suspicion of any irregularity may result in the candidate's removal to a more isolated area or termination of his or her participation in the examination. Suspected irregularities will be investigated via statistical comparison to answers of other candidates. If a probability of irregularity exists, the Board will afford the suspected individual procedural due process in order to assure fairness in the determination as to whether an irregularity has occurred.

Right to Review

In accordance with the *Standards for Educational and Psychological Testing* – jointly published by the American Psychological Association, the American Educational Research Association, and the National Council on Measurement in Education – the Board provides an appeal process to any applicant who wishes his or her examination or certification scores reviewed. An administrative fee of \$300 is charged for each part of the review.

For the examination (phase two), the \$300 fee covers rescoring the written examination and providing the examinee with a detailed analysis of test performance according to content areas of the examination. A complete

review of the oral examination ratings also is conducted, and the total examination score is re-computed. The review does not include access to written test booklets, answer keys, or other secure test materials.

For experience/certification (phase one), the \$300 fee covers a review of the complete application, including all operative reports, by the ABFPRS Credentials Committee. The applicant is provided with a detailed report of additional training, experience, or credentials required to be eligible for certification.

Requests for review must be made in writing within six months following the examination or Board action on certification. The review process will be completed no later than three months prior to the next examination. The Board reserves the right to make appropriate rulings, interpretations, decisions, and departures from the *Standards*, and its decisions are not subject to further appeal. The review process is the exclusive remedy for a dissatisfied examinee.

Re-examination and Submission of New Operative Experience Reports

Candidates who do not receive passing scores on both the written and oral parts of the examination may be eligible upon reapplication to sit again for the examination.

Candidates may retake the entire exam or they may retake only that portion of the examination (written or oral) which they failed. Candidates may apply to retake the examination three times.

If, after three attempts, sufficient points are not earned to pass the examination, the Board may require candidates to satisfactorily complete Board-approved additional training before being eligible to reapply.

Candidates for certification who achieve the minimum number of points required in phase one (250) and phase two

(500) of the certification process but who fail to accumulate the minimum number of points required for certification (1,000) may apply to resubmit phase one operative experience reports a maximum of two times for any new two-year period that occurs within five years of passing the examination.

The fee for re-examination is \$3,250; the fee for review of a new phase one application is \$3,250.

Certification and Revocation

The Board will make a complimentary certificate available to all candidates who satisfactorily complete all requirements set forth in this *Booklet of Information*.

The Board will not issue a certificate, and may revoke any certificate already issued, if it shall determine that the person involved:

- Did not possess the required qualifications and requirements for either phase of the certification process.
- Misstated or withheld information in his or her application or made any other intentional or unintentional misrepresentation to the Board.
- Has been convicted of a felony or misdemeanor involving moral turpitude, and in the opinion of the Board, having a material relationship to the practice of medicine.
- Had a license to practice medicine revoked or restricted, or shall have been disciplined, censured or fined by any court or other body having proper jurisdiction and authority because of any act or omission arising from the practice of medicine, including but not limited to, entities of the Federation of State Medical Boards, the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration, and the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services.
- Has failed to adhere to the ABFPRS Code of Ethics.

All persons to whom the Board has issued a certificate shall report immediately to the Board if any of the adverse actions previously listed have been taken against them.

If the Board determines that there is just cause to withhold or revoke a certificate, the person shall be informed in writing of the reasons for the Board's action. Such action by the Board shall be considered final unless the person submits a written request for review of such action within 30 days after the Board's notice has been mailed.

Certificates are the property of the Board and all copies of a person's certificate must be returned to the Board upon revocation.

Reinstatement. The Board may consider restoring Diplomate status to a surgeon whose certificate has been revoked if (1) he/she demonstrates to the Board's satisfaction that the deficiency that led to revocation has been removed or corrected, and (2) he/she again successfully completes all current requirements for ABFPRS certification.

Maintenance of Certification in Facial Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery®

ABFPRS certificates issued in 2001 and thereafter are valid for 10 years. Certificates issued prior to that date without an expiration date will remain valid; however, surgeons who achieved certification prior to 2001 will be eligible to enter the maintenance of certification program if they wish.

The ABFPRS Maintenance of Certification in Facial Plastic Surgery® program embraces the following four principles: professional standing, evidence of lifelong learning, demonstration of cognitive expertise, and practice performance.

The MOC in FPRS® registration form and booklet of information are available only online at www.abfprs.org.

Important Dates for ABFPRS Certification

October 31, 2021	Application materials available for the next ABFPRS certification cycle.
January 15, 2022	Last <u>postmark</u> date for application materials and \$6,500 fee. Note: Examination space is limited; available spaces are assigned in accordance with application postmark date. Only fully complete applications will be processed.
January 15, 2022 – February 15, 2022	Applications accepted with \$600 penalty fee.
February 15, 2022	No applications accepted after this date.
February – March, 2022	Credentials Committee reviews applications.
April 15, 2022	Applicants notified of acceptance for examination. Note: If applicant is not accepted for exam, the \$3,250 examination fee will be refunded.
May 15, 2022	Last postmarked date for candidates to submit written notification of withdrawal from examination. Note: Examinees who withdraw by this date will be refunded the \$3,250 examination fee only. After this date, partial refunds may be granted upon

	application to the Executive Committee.
June 26-27, 2022	Written and oral examinations administered in Arlington, Virginia

Future Examination Dates and Sites

Year	Month/Day	Location
2022	June 25 – 26	Arlington, VA
2023	June 24 – 25	Arlington, VA
2024	June 29– 30	Arlington, VA

ABFPRS
 115-C South Saint Asaph Street
 Alexandria, VA 22314
 Phone: (703) 549-3223
 Fax: (703) 549-3357
information@abfprs.org
www.abfprs.org