

Certified Independent Chiropractic Examiner

CICE

CHIROPRACTIC CERTIFICATION INFORMATION

Examination Information Application Information ABIME Master CICE Information Examination Application

American Board of Independent Medical Examiners 6470-A Merritts Creek Road Huntington, WV 25702

PH: 304-733-0095 OR Fax: 304-733-5243

info@abime.org

www.abime.org

What You Need to Know About ABIME

The prestigious distinction of certification through the American Board of Independent Medical Examiners (ABIME) sets you apart as a nationally recognized Chiropractic examiner. ABIME certification represents professional competency and integrity. Chiropractors certified by ABIME meet the demand for quality, impartial impairment and disability evaluations. ABIME has certified over 3000 + physicians since 1996. ABIME certification is recognized as the national standard for physicians performing IMEs.

ABIME meets today's challenges for Independent Chiropractic Examiners

Expectations for highly qualified Chiropractic examiners have never been greater. Insurance companies, workersøcompensation commissions, employers, and attorneys are continuously engaging independent Chiropractic examiners to assess challenging cases.

Workersøcompensation and other disability cost total billions of dollars every year. As a result, cost-conscious organizations are closely scrutinizing medical providers. The needs of healthcare organizations, disability managers, employers and insurers have changed dramatically over the last decade. Biased, inadequate and superficial examinations are unacceptable in todayøs competitive marketplace.

The American Board of Independent Medical Examiners addresses the need for competent, reliable disability/compensation evaluations. Key leaders within the medical, legal and disability management communities established ABIME to:

- 1. Set and maintain high standards of conduct and performance among Independent Medical and Chiropractic Examiners
- 2. Identify and promote qualified individuals who meet these standards

ABIME is incorporated as a national quality assurance board. It ensures uniformity of standards and competency of physicians performing Independent Evaluations. ABIME® board of well-known experts from multiple disciplines regulates its application and examination process to identify qualified independent examiners.

How ABIME certification advances your career:

ABIME certification offers you a competitive advantage over non-certified physicians. Today, industry experts view certified Independent Chiropractic Examiners as better qualified to respond to the needs of case and claims management.

ABIME requirements for knowledge, skills and abilities qualify physicians to:

- Conduct superior, Independent Chiropractic Examinations
- Write comprehensive, accurate reports
- Interpret relevant workersøcompensation and disability law
- Provide credible, defensible testimony

As an ABIME certified Independent Chiropractic Examiner, your credentials and advanced knowledge bring you:

- Significant recognition among your peers
- ♦ Added credibility with prospective clients
- Increased referrals and case assignments
- Greater practice and career expectations

ABIME certification is a special distinction that sets you apart as one of the best in the field.

Your achievement instills greater client confidence in your capabilities and professionalism, and identifies you as an experienced physician who understands the unique issues of disability evaluation.

Qualifying for ABIME certification

ABIME certification is granted to physicians who successfully achieve the following criteria:

- ♦ Continuing education in the performance of Independent Chiropractic Examinations and Disability and Impairment Evaluations
- A selective application process meeting standards of education, experience and ethical conduct
- A signed agreement to abide by professional guidelines of conduct
- ♦ A competency examination covering such key aspects as clinical competency, behavioral science, Impairment and Disability systems, and the AMA *Guides to the evaluation of Permanent Impairment*
- Recertification is required every 5 years

Why choose an ABIME-certified physician?

The need for qualified Chiropractic evaluations continues to increase. ABIME certification provides value to physicians and a variety of clients including claims adjusters, case managers, employers, commissioners and attorneys. Certification identifies the physician as someone who:

- possesses necessary Chiropractic skills and training in physical, behavioral, psychological and occupational assessment
- draws upon in-depth experience to perform credible evaluations
- provides a thorough, objective, written analysis regarding diagnosis, causation, prognosis, maximal Chiropractic improvement, impairment, work capacity, appropriateness of care and case management
- demonstrates skills in testifying as an expert Chiropractic witness
- recognizes the value of impartiality and thoroughness in case evaluation
- strives to conduct timely, cost-effective evaluations
- abides by ABIME guidelines of conduct and ethical practice
- exhibits commitment to professional excellence and integrity as a member of a select group of physicians

Certified independent Chiropractic examiners are an essential resource for all types of disability management professionals. Their impartial and thorough assessments enhance the evaluation process and produce beneficial results for all involved, including the examinee. ABIME certified physicians are specially prepared to:

- clinically assess cases of disability
- identify relevant physical, behavioral, psychological, psycho-social and occupational issues
- obtain Chiropractic information that may have been overlooked
- clarify issues of causation and apportion responsibility
- perform accurate impairment evaluations according to the AMA Guides to the Evaluation of Permanent Impairment
- assess work ability
- make recommendations about case management

ABIME certification singles out exceptional independent Chiropractic examiners dedicated to performing quality evaluations and recognized for their unique qualifications.

Added Benefits of ABIME

Certified physicians can choose to be listed in an annual ABIME National Directory of Certified Independent Chiropractic Examiners available to prospective clients and organizations. The complete directory is available in an interactive database at www.abime.org. The national ABIME awareness campaign recognizes and promotes the expertise of ABIME-certified physicians.

Guidelines of Conduct

Each physician certified by the American Board of Independent Medical Examiners (ABIME) is expected to comply with these guidelines of conduct:

Accordingly, each physician should:

- 1. be honest in all communications;
- 2. respect the rights of the examinee and other participants, and treat these individuals with dignity and respect;
- 3. at the examination:
 - a. introduce him/herself to the examinee as the examining physician;
 - b. advise the examinee they are seeing him/her for an independent Chiropractic examination, and the information provided will be used in assessment and presented in a report;
 - c. provide the examinee with the name of the party requesting the examination;
 - d. advise the examinee that no treating physician-patient relationship will be established;
 - e. explain the examination process;
 - f. provide adequate draping and privacy if the examinee needs to remove clothing for the examination:
 - g. refrain from derogatory comments; and
 - h. close the examination by telling the examinee that the examination is over and ask if there is further information the examinee would like to add;
- 4. reach conclusions that are based on facts and sound Chiropractic knowledge, and for which the independent Chiropractic examiner has adequate qualifications to address;
- 5. be prepared to address conflict in a professional and constructive manner;
- 6. never accept a fee for services which is dependent upon writing a report favorable to the referral service; and maintain confidentiality consistent with the applicable legal jurisdiction.

Chiropractic Application Information

Eligibility

Each applicant for certification as an independent Chiropractic examiner is required to meet specific eligibility requirements and satisfactorily complete a written examination. Eligibility criteria are determined by the American Board of Independent Medical Examiners (ABIME) Board of Directors. Recertification is required every five years. Certified physicians are required to pay a fee of \$195 each year to be listed on the ABIME Board of Registry. The Board of Registry benefits include receipt of the Quarterly Journal õ*Disability Medicine*", the physicianøs listing in the print and online directories, discounted rates on ABIME Education Programs, and special insurance programs.

These requirements are:

- Chiropractic license current and unrestricted illustrating the expiration date.
- No record of disciplinary action for an ethical or other offense by a state board of chiropractic licensure within the
 past five years.
- Must have practiced chiropractic a minimum of 20 hours per week for a period of 5 years prior to submitting an application.
- Within the one year prior to taking the examination, completion of at least 16 hours of ABIME Sponsored continuing medical or chiropractic education in impairment rating and independent medical evaluation. (30 hours of CME in the field of impairment rating and independent medical examination are recommended.)
- Signed agreement to abide by the ABIME Guidelines of Conduct.

Confidentiality

Review of credentials for ABIME certification is completely confidential and privacy is protected. ABIME maintains only a list of ABIME Certified Independent Chiropractic Examiners.

Fees

The American Board of Independent Medical Examiners has instituted the following fees to better support our educational mission. Price of the examination is \$995.00 (US Funds). A check or money order payable to ABIME must accompany the application. Credit card payments are also accepted (Visa, MasterCard, Discover or Amex). Requests to transfer must be made in writing and received in the ABIME office 14 days prior to the examination date and there will be a \$100.00 charge for each transfer. Once you pass the exam if you want to order the ABIME CICE Diploma there will be a final fee of \$200 for printing, shipping & handling.

Certification

Upon successful completion of the examination, the applicant will receive a certificate stating that he or she has been found to possess special knowledge as a Certified Independent Examiner (CICE) if they choose to order the Diploma. Candidates who have taken the examination will be notified of the results within 60 days of the examination date.

Application

Application requests may be sent to ABIME, 6470-A Merritts Creek Road, Huntington, WV 25702, or faxed to 304-733-5243. You can also email your application to info@abime.org. We request, but do not require, that your application be sent at least two weeks prior to the exam date. Please call the ABIME office to request permission for late registration.

ABIME reserves the right to cancel examinations based on registration numbers. Hotel reservations and travel arrangements are the sole responsibility of the examination registrant.

Recertification

Ongoing developments in this rapidly changing arena require a certification time limit. Therefore, certification is valid for a **five-year** period following date of issuance, at which time certification expires. Requirements for Recertification by examination include:

- A Chiropractic license, current and unrestricted;
- A record clear of any disciplinary action for an ethical or other offense as imposed by a state
- Board of chiropractic licensure within the past five years;
- Evidence of completion of 16 hours of ABIME approved CME;
- Signed agreement to abide by the ABIME Guidelines of Conduct; and
- Satisfactory completion of the then current examination.

Guidelines of Conduct

Each applicant must agree to comply with the ABIME Guidelines of Conduct.

EXAMINATION INFORMATION

Introduction

This booklet provides you with the information necessary to prepare for your upcoming examination by the American Board of Independent Medical Examiners (ABIME), including:

- General information
- Instructions
- Knowledge, Skills and Abilities/Test Outline
- Bibliography

The examination lasts no more than 3 hours in duration and consists of 120 multiple choice test items, distributed by content area according to the test blueprint. The exam includes recall, interpretation, and problem solving types of questions. State-of-the-art psychometric procedures are employed for scoring and determination of the minimum passing level. Scores are based upon the total number of items answered correctly. There is no penalty for guessing.

ABIME recommends that applicants prepare adequately for the examination through readings, training, and experience.

Instructions

Admission

- Bring the ABIME examination ticket given to by the staff with you to the examination room.
- Report to the examination room promptly at the registration time indicated on the schedule. Verify your name and social security number with the information on the answer sheet you receive.

Materials

- All materials required to take the test (e.g., #2 pencils and applicable figures and tables from the AMA Guides to the Evaluation of Permanent Impairment) will be provided.
- You will not be permitted to bring any books, notes, electronic paging devices, recording or filming devices, radios, other mechanical and/or electronic devices, beverages, or food into the testing room.
- If sitting for an ABIME Open Book AMA Guides Case Studies Exam, then you will be instructed/allowed to take the appropriate AMA Guides Book to the Exam.

Examination Procedures

- At the appointed time, the Chief Proctor will begin the examination with introductory remarks. These include reading the instructions and agreement form. You are required to follow proctor directions. You will receive an examination booklet immediately following the remarks.
- Read materials carefully and listen to directions given during the exam.
- Do not communicate with any other examinee during the examination. If you are detected attempting to provide or receive assistance, your test score will be invalidated.
- If you must leave the test room temporarily, your identity must be verified before you are readmitted. You will not receive additional testing time.

Finishing the Examination

- Upon completing the examination, check your work. Be sure any erasures are complete and there are no stray marks which could be counted as wrong answers.
- Once you submit the examination booklet and the answer sheet to the proctors, these materials will not be returned to you for additional review or completion.

Take the Next Step After You Achieve the Prestigious Status of $CICE^{TM}$ Become A Master $MCICE^{TM}$

Master CICETM qualification by the American Board of Independent Medical Examiners (ABIME) places you among the most premium and highest credentialed group of doctors in the Independent Medical Examination Field in your specialty. In order to become a Master CICETM one must complete the following requirements:

- 1) Current Status as an **ABIME CICE Certified Diplomat** and **Board of Registry Member** in good standing.
- 2) Successful completion and passing of more than one version (AMA4 or AMA5 or AMA6) of the AMA Guides Exam, at least **two** in the past **one** year. Applicants must have passed the exams on the first attempt. Any candidate failing their exam will not be eligible for the following two years.
- 3) 50 hours of IME related ABIME sponsored Training Credit within the last 5 years. These are Training Programs that directly receive hour for hour credit from ABIME for primary credentialing and recertification.
- 4) 100 hours of CME/CPD credit from any accredited training program related to your field/specialty in the past five years. This is in addition to the 50 hours of ABIME sponsored CME as outlined above in Item #2.
- 5) You must be a specialist in your field, recognized by an appropriate specialty authority in your jurisdiction and currently in good standing with that authority.
- 6) Currently licensed/registered to practice medicine and/or surgery with no significant adverse action against the professional practice registration or license by the authority in the last 10 years in your jurisdiction
- 7) Complete a Master CICETM application with one time MCICETM Diploma fee of US \$200.
- 8) Upon receiving the Status of MCICETM, a Diplomat is authorized to use MCICETM initials after their name for 5 years so long as the Diplomat is in good standing with ABIME. The MCICETM status must be renewed every 5 years.

Maintenance of MCICE Certification Through 5 Year Cycle

- ➤ Must pay all ABIME Board of Registry dues yearly.
- Must maintain original ABIME CICE status and keep it current before it expires.
- Must attend **30** hours of ABIME accredited CME training. Up to **24** hours of this can be from the credit used for current CICE certificate (concurrent credit permitted).
- Must have 100 hours CME/CPD credits in one on specialty from any accredited training program (subject to audit by ABIME).
- Successfully pass an AMA Guides Case Studies Based Open Book Exam.
- ➤ Pay \$300 MCICE recertification Fee.



AMERICAN BOARD OF INDEPENDENT MEDICAL EXAMINERS EXAM APPLICATION FORM ~ Please Complete & Sign All Pages of Application

The American Board of Independent Medical Examiners (ABIME) requests careful and thorough completion of this application form. Incomplete applications or errors will result in delay and possible disqualification. **Applications MUST BE COMPLETED LEGIBLY and mailed or faxed to 304-733-5243.** Completed application, supporting documentation as outlined below & payment of exam fee must arrive in the ABIME office before exam results can be released to the candidate.

Documentation required with the Application

Your file must be complete in order to receive exam results. The following documents are required to complete your file:

- 1. Photocopy of medical degree or relevant diploma and current, and unrestricted medical license(s)/practitioner registration for the state/province/territory in which you practice and, if applicable, proof of ABMS Board Certification or other specialty certification.
- 2. Photocopy of a certificate of completion from an ABIME approved impairment and disability training program with at least 15 hours of continuing medical education. (After attending the ABIME training program you will receive a certificate of attendance and are then eligible to sit for the ABIME Certification Exam. Both training and exam can be done at the same ABIME training program.)
- 3. Two passport size photos (mailed to us) & Current Curriculum Vitae.

Last Name:	First	Name:	Middle Initial:
Medical School:		City/State:	
Graduation Date (M/Y):	/Degree(s) (please	e circle): MD ó DO ó MB ó DC ó O	ther:
Professional License Issu	ning State, Territory or Province:	Lic. #:	Exp. Date:
Specialties:	_		
Company (if applicable):	:		
Address:			_
City:	State/Province:	Postal Code:	Country:
Phone: ()	Fax: ()	E-Mail Address:	
		r (if applicable): above information in ABIME's Publ	
		at you wish to take:	
Please indicate the date	and location of the exam f	for which you are applying:	
Examination Date:		_ City/State:	
Exam Fee - \$995 US pe	<u>r exam version</u> : Number	of Exams X US\$ 995 =	
·	ase make payable to <u>ABIME</u> d: UVisa UMasterCard	□Amex □Discover	
Card Number:		Expiration Date:/ Verif	ication Code:
Signature:		Date:	<u></u>

EXAM REFUND POLICY: (Please read carefully as registering for ABIME Exam constitutes your acknowledgement and acceptance of the following)

Please take notice that for the ABIME exam the fee is <u>non-refundable</u> after it is paid and can only be transferred for a \$100.00 fee to another exam location within the same calendar year. NO Substitutions are permitted. <u>NO Exceptions Allowed.</u> ABIME and its affiliates reserve the right to cancel or modify any activity for any reason with maximum liability of refund only of educational fees paid. ABIME and its affiliates hereby expressly disclaim any liability for damages incidental to or resulting from any cancellation or modification of any event. The laws of the state of West Virginia shall govern any disputes arising out of this agreement and venue shall lie exclusively in Cabell County, WV.

ABIME Examinee Agreement:

In making this application for American Board of Independent Medical examinersø(ABIME) certification exam and in consideration of its review and/or acceptance by the ABIME, I hereby agree to accept and be bound by all the terms and conditions governing ABIME exam and certification process including but not limited to any and all of CIMETM, CICETM, MCIMETM, or MCICETM designation rules (should I pass the exam and or receive the designation of CIMETM, CICETM, MCIMETM, or MCICETM from ABIME), as well as ABIME Code of Professional Responsibility and with established examination administrative procedures and policies including the refund policy of ABIME as well as the Exam Agreement and General Instructions (all of which are available at www.abime.org), as they now exist and as they may be amended from time to time in the future.

In further consideration of acceptance of my exam application by ABIME for CIMETM, CICETM, MCIMETM, or MCICETM designation, I hereby further agree to the following:

- 1. To indemnify and hold harmless the ABIME and each of its members of board of directors, trustees, officers, agents, employees and examiners, individually and collectively, from and against any claim or liability arising out of any act or omission related to or arising out of (a) the processing of this application, (b) the examination or the grading of it, or (c) the granting or failure to grant certification, recertification or CIMETM, CICETM, MCIMETM, or MCICETM designation;
- 2. That I will not receive and am not entitled to review my exam book or answer sheet once I have submitted them to ABIME after the exam. Nor would I demand or cause to demand on my behalf to receive or review my exam book or answer sheet or my exam grade or a copy of the exam report or related documents or to know of its contents, and I further understand that the contents of my exam report are confidential. I also agree that I would receive my exam result only in pass or fail grade and that the ABIME is the final arbiter of my exam results and its decision regarding my exam result shall be final and binding on me;
- **3.** That any certificate of CIMETM, CICETM, MCIMETM, or MCICETM designation or any diplomat designation issued to me shall be and shall remain the property of the ABIME and that I shall promptly return the certificate to the ABIME in the event my designation as a CIMETM, CICETM, MCIMETM, or MCICETM is terminated, either voluntarily or by action of ABIME or when it expires as stated on the certificate and ABIME shall charge a diploma production & shipping <u>fee of \$200</u> that may be discounted by 50% if I become ABIME Board of Registry (BOR) Member;
- **4.** That the CIMETM, CICETM, MCIMETM, or MCICETM designation or **any ABIME granted diplomat designation is not for life** and is therefore time limited and I hereby pledge to continue re-certification of the CIMETM, CICETM or MCIMETM designation as prescribed by ABIME every **five years**; If I fail to do so, I promise to refrain from using, displaying or advertising or cause others to advertise in any media the CIMETM, CICETM, MCIMETM, or MCICETM designation with my name. I further agree that after expiry of my CIMETM, CICETM, MCIMETM, or MCICETM designation and without recertification; my continuing use of the CIMETM, CICETM, MCIMETM, or MCICETM designation or any ABIME diplomat designation shall constitute professional dishonesty and a breach of ABIME code of conduct;
- **5.** That I am obligated to inform the ABIME immediately of any change in my professional status as described in this application occurring after its submission including but not limited to any action against my professional registration and or license by any jurisdiction, organization, institution or any professional organization, and I understand that my failure to so inform ABIME is grounds for my disqualification as a candidate for examination or as a CIMETM, CICETM, MCIMETM, or MCICETM designation or any ABIME granted diplomat designation, if I am recertified;
- **6.** That my name, along with names of all doctors certified with CIMETM, CICETM, MCIMETM, or MCICETM designation or any ABIME granted diplomat designation of the American Board of Independent Medical examiners will be published in ABIME *Board of Registry International Directory of Certified Specialists*, provided that I continue to pay the annual dues of ABIME Board of Registry and be in good standing with ABIME; such information will be posted on the ABIME website (www.theABIME.org). I understand that this information is available to the public;
- 7. This application for ABIME exam and in consideration thereof, the resulting agreement entered into as above between myself and ABIME shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of the State of West Virginia, regardless of the law that might otherwise govern under applicable principles of conflicts of laws thereof. The parties further agree that any suit, action or proceeding arising out of, or with respect to, this agreement, or any judgment entered by any court in respect thereof shall be brought in the courts of the State of West Virginia and venue shall lie exclusively in Cabell County, West Virginia.
- 8. I warrant that each of the statements made in support of this application are true, correct & I enter into this agreement voluntarily.
- **9.** I acknowledge that my personal information will be accessed, used and otherwise processed in accordance with the ABIME Data User Privacy Policy and the ACIME Privacy Policy.

I hereby authorize ABIME to request information from organizations referred to in this application, and to verify academic and/or clinical training and licensure deemed necessary to make a determination of my eligibility.

Applicant's Signature:	Date:
Print Your Name:	
Approval of Exam Application by ABIME: Signature:	Date:

ABIME Code of Professional Responsibility:

Each doctor certified by the American Board of Independent Medical Examiners (ABIME) has agreed to comply with the following Code of Professional Responsibility:

Physicians should:

- 1. Be honest in all relevant communications;
- 2. Respect the rights of the examinees and treat them with dignity and respect;
- 3. At the medical examination:
 - a. Introduce himself/herself to the examinee as the examining physician;
 - b. Advise the examinee they are seeing him/her for an independent medical examination, and the information provided will be used in the assessment and presented in a report;
 - c. Provide the examinee with the name of the party requesting the examination, if requested;
 - d. Advise the examinee that no treating physician-patient relationship will be established;
 - e. Explain the examination procedure;
 - f. Provide adequate draping and privacy if the examinee needs to remove clothing for the examination;
 - g. Refrain from derogatory comments; and
 - h. Close the examination by telling the examinee that the examination is over and ask if there is further information the examinee would like to add.
- 4. Reach conclusions that are based on facts and sound medical knowledge and for which the examiner has adequate qualifications to address;
- 5. Be prepared to address conflict in a professional and constructive manner;
- 6. Never accept a fee for services which are dependent upon writing a report favorable to the referral service:
- 7. Maintain confidentiality consistent with the applicable legal jurisdiction.

After completing all pages of this application, include payment and mail or fax or email, along with a copy of your <u>Current and Unrestricted Medical License or Registration</u> and <u>Current Curriculum Vitae</u> and other required documents to:

ABIME at 6470-A Merritts Creek Road, Huntington, WV 25702 Call (304) 733-0095 or (304) 733-0096; Fax (304) 733-5243; Email us at info@abime.org OR Visit our website at www.abime.org

ABIME National Directory Survey

Survey answers are used for the ABIME National Directory Listing of each physician.

Signature:	Date:	
Application, And To Verify Academic A	uest Information From Organizations Referred To In And/Or Clinical Training And Licensure Deemed Necessa publication of my information at ABIME's discretion.	This ary. I
D-IIIdii.	1 'ax.	
Name:	Phone: Fax:	
11. Your Office Manager/Office Contact:	Dlagge	
10. Memberships in Specialty Organization	ns:	
9. ABMS Board Certifications (proof must Directory):	t be submitted in order to list as Board Certified in the	
8. Total Hours of AMA Category 1 CME T within the past three years:	Training on impairment & disability evaluation completed	
7. Other Training in Impairment and Disab	pility Evaluation:	
6. Additional Degrees in Health-Related Fi	ields (for example: M.P.H., PhD., JD, Or Other):	
5. Number of Times Testified in Court or v	via Deposition:	
4. Approximate Number of IME/Disability	Examinations You Have Performed:	
3. Years Experience in Performing Impairn	ment and Disability Evaluations:	
(Minimum 5 years of practice required; howe	rever, if ABMS Board Certified or Member of a Specialty Colleg credited institute, this requirement may be waived.)	e or
2. Number of Years of Medical Practice:		
1. Number of Years of Residency or Post-I	Doctoral Training:	

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