Guide to the

Certificate Maintenance Program

Protecting and serving the public by leading the certification standards in midwifery.

Welcome to the professional ranks of the Certified Nurse-Midwife (CNM) and Certified Midwife (CM).

Maintaining your current certification with the American Midwifery Certification Board (AMCB) is each CNM's and CM's professional responsibility to demonstrate continued competency in the practice of midwifery. As health care systems and technology are continually evolving, all CNMs and CMs have a duty to the public to ensure safe, high-quality care. Your certificate is valid for five years. During that time, compliance with the AMCB Certificate Maintenance Program (CMP) is mandatory in order to renew your certificate at the end of this cycle.

amcb

american **midwifery** certification board

CERTIFICATE MAINTENANCE PROGRAM

Certification for CNMs and CMs can be maintained by one of the following methods:

OPTION 1:

- Successfully complete three AMCB Certificate Maintenance Modules during the five-year certification cycle. One module must be completed in EACH of the three areas of practice
    - Antepartum and Primary Care
    - Intrapartum, Postpartum, and Newborn
    - Gynecologic, Sexual, Reproductive, and Primary Care

  Module downloads can be found on AMCB's website, **amcbmidwife.org.**

- You are responsible for paying annual fees and any applicable late fees for each year of certification as well as other charges or fees (e.g., for articles ordered). All fees must be paid in full by **December 31st** of the year your certificate will expire.

- Obtain **20 hours** of approved continuing education. The Certificate Maintenance Modules completed cannot count towards the required 20 continuing education hours. AMCB's continuing education policy can be found on our website, **amcbmidwife.org.**

- Completion of the online Recertification Application once all other CMP requirements are submitted.

First recertification? You will need to complete the Task Analysis in order to recertify. See more about the Task Analysis here.

OPTION 2: Reexamination Method

- Take the current AMCB Certification Examination no sooner than the fourth (4th) year of the current five-year certification cycle

- The exam must be passed by the end of the fifth (5th) year of the certification cycle.

- Once the exam is taken, you may not change to Option 1.

- The criteria for passing and retaking the exam is the same as those in effect for first time candidates at the time the exam is taken.

- Paying the National Certification Examination fee **($425)** in lieu of annual fees.

- Completion of the online Recertification Application once all other CMP requirements are submitted.

Please note:

Individuals who have not completed the requirements of the Certificate Maintenance program at the end of their five-year current certification cycle will not be issued a new certificate. Individuals without current/valid CNM/CM certificates my not be able to continue to practice midwifery depending on their state licensing/regulating bodies.

Enrollment In Certification Maintenance

You are automatically enrolled in the Certificate Maintenance Program when you pass the certification exam. You will be sent an Annual CMP Invoice the following year. The invoice must be completed and returned to AMCB Headquarters with the appropriate fee by May 31st or late fees will be assessed. Be sure to notify AMCB directly of any address, telephone number and/or email changes. Name changes must be submitted with appropriate documentation, i.e. a copy of Marriage License, Divorce Decree, Court Document, or Passport, serving as proof of name change.

Fees

- The annual fee for the Certificate Maintenance Program is **$70** and is subject to change without notice.
- A **$50** late fee is assessed if the Annual CMP Invoice and fee are received at AMCB Headquarters past the May 31st deadline.
- The fee for each Article Set is **$75**. If you have access to the articles by other means, there is no need to order an Article Set.

Certification Maintenance Modules

Certification Maintenance Modules are self-paced, independent education tools. The focus of each module will rotate through the three areas of practice:

- Antepartum and Primary Care
- Intrapartum, Postpartum, and Newborn
- Gynecologic, Sexual, Reproductive, and Primary Care

Module completion promotes new learning and facilitates review of clinical midwifery practice. A module consists of specific learning objectives identified in areas of practice that may be new, changing, or essential to practice. Each module identifies 15-20 articles to facilitate completion of the learning objectives. Modules can be taken online by logging onto the AMCB website, **amcbmidwife.org**. If you need help accessing the online user portal, contact our office at **410-694-9424.**

EACH CERTIFICATE MAINTENANCE MODULE INCLUDES:

- Objectives for selected topics
- Reference list related to objectives
- Open-book multiple choice test
- Survey
- The total number of questions per module ranges from **65-100**.

Lapsed Certification

Certificants are expected to keep their certification current. If the CMP requirements are not completed by the end of the five-year cycle, certification lapses, and no new certificate is issued. Individuals who have lapsed are not allowed to use the title CNM/CM or present themselves for employment as a CNM/CM. Once the certificate has lapsed, the individual must pay the exam fee (previous fees paid into CMP do not apply to the recertification exam fee), take and pass the certification exam, and submit an average of 10 continuing education contact hours for each completed year since the date of last certification.

Retirement

Certificants who are permanently retired from midwifery practice and who no longer have clinical or professional requirements may choose to be placed in the Retirement Category. For more information, please contact our office.

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