



Eligibility Requirements Policy:
IBHRE Board Certification Examination in
Cardiac Electrophysiology for the Physician

Purpose:

The Purpose of the Eligibility Policy for the IBHRE Board Certification Examination for Competency in Cardiac Electrophysiology for the Physician is to articulate and define the standard eligibility requirement held by the International Board of Heart Rhythm Examiners in order to qualify for the examination and the documentation required from candidates in order to prove eligibility. This examination is NOT available to American Board of Internal Medicine (ABIM) eligible candidates. Physicians who have had all of their training in the United States and are eligible to sit for the ABIM Internal Medicine, Cardiovascular Medicine, and Clinical Cardiac Electrophysiology Board Exams should utilize that pathway to achieve Board Certification.

Policy:

1) **Applicants for the IBHRE Board Certification Examination in Cardiac Electrophysiology for the Physician** must be a licensed physician with active involvement in the clinical management and care of adult or pediatric patients. Physicians may apply to sit for one of the Cardiac Electrophysiology examinations:

- a. Adult Cardiac Electrophysiology
- b. Pediatric Cardiac Electrophysiology

2) Physicians applying for the IBHRE Board Certification Examination in Cardiac Electrophysiology must also have completed training equivalent to:

Track 1

- a. Graduation from an accredited medical school
- b. Successful completion of an internal medicine or general pediatric residency program
- c. Successful completion of an adult or pediatric cardiovascular medicine fellowship program
- d. Successful completion of a minimum of 1 year of cardiac electrophysiology training in either an adult or pediatric clinical cardiac electrophysiology fellowship program.
 - a. For pediatric EP applicants, this may be a pediatric fellowship, and adult fellowship, or a combination, totaling at least 12 months.

OR

Track 2

- a. Adult EP applicants completing training prior to the availability of authorized electrophysiology training programs (generally prior to 1995) may qualify either by satisfying Track 1 requirements, or by demonstrating a minimum level of cardiac electrophysiology practice experience consisting of at least 5 years of active clinical electrophysiology involvement in the management and care of adult electrophysiology patients.

OR

Track 3

- a. Pediatric EP applicants completing training prior to July 1, 2005 may qualify either by satisfying Track 1 requirements above, or by demonstrating a minimum level of practice experience consisting of at least 5 years of active pediatric electrophysiology experience. The candidate must be actively involved in the management and care of pediatric arrhythmia patients.

Required Documentation:

Upon submitting an application for the Certification Examination for Competency in Cardiac Electrophysiology for the Physician (MD EP) exam, all candidates must provide appropriate documentation as evidence of the candidate's eligibility:

- Physicians must include a copy of their current medical license from the state, province or country where they currently practice with their application.
- Physicians must document their respective medical school and residency programs and the dates of completion on their applications.
- Documentation of the completion of the necessary fellowship training program(s) or direct involvement in the therapy of electrophysiology patients for the minimum years stated will be required with the application.
- All candidates who have completed an adult or pediatric electrophysiology training program or have substantial clinical involvement in the management and care of EP patients will be required to support their application by submission of total numbers of ablations performed, and pacemakers/ICDs implanted.
- Fellowship programs should be accredited or otherwise deemed acceptable by IBHRE for the adult candidate.
- Pediatric fellowship programs should be associated with an accredited Pediatric Cardiology training program, or otherwise deemed acceptable by IBHRE for the pediatric candidate.

In review of the applicant's documentation of clinical experience, along with the IBHRE Review & Appeals Committee, IBHRE will defer to the following documents (or their updated versions as they become available) to cite appropriateness of a given training

experience, and/or relevant exposure and involvement in the practice of heart rhythm management:

- ACC/HRS Recommendations for Training in Adult Cardiovascular Medicine, Task Force 6 guidelines: Training in Specialized Electrophysiology, Cardiac Pacing and Arrhythmia Management
- ACCF/ASA/AAP Recommendations for Training in Pediatric Cardiology: Task Force 4 guidelines. (Circulation 2005; 112: 2555-2580)

IBHRE, at its discretion, may evaluate specific training requirements from country to country.

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