Interventional Pain Management/Pain Medicine Board Certification is a volunteer process; however, it carries significant value and validates what we do on a daily basis. Board certification demonstrates a physician's exceptional expertise in a particular specialty and/or subspecialty of medical practice. The American Board of Interventional Pain Physicians (ABIPP) is a rigorous process of testing and peer evaluation which also assess technical competency of interventional techniques and knowledge of controlled substance management and practice management. ABIPP offers several pathways as shown below:

For Physicians with an ABMS Subspecialty in Pain Medicine

The examination process will consist of a theoretical examination for controlled substance management and practice management, followed by the Part II examination covering an oral examination and competency assessment of interventional techniques using cadavers. The examination process will take two days and will be offered on weekends for your convenience.

Application for Diplomate with Primary Certification and Certification in an ABMS Pain Medicine Board

For Physicians with a Primary ABMS Board Certification but without a Subspecialty in Pain Medicine

This pathway is for those who have not had an opportunity to complete a fellowship or obtain pain medicine subspecialty certification, but have been in practice for at least 6 years.

For those who have completed a fellowship you must complete 300 credit hours with 50 of them earned in hands-on cadaver workshops and have been practicing interventional pain management for at least 6 years (those with an accredited pain fellowship in pain medicine this requirement is waived and those with an unaccredited pain fellowship, this requirement is 3 years).

The process focuses on a theoretical examination focused on pain medicine, interventional pain management, controlled substance management, and practice management. Also required in the process is the Part II oral examination and technical competency of commonly performed interventional procedures.

Application for ABIPP Part I and/or ABIPP Part II for those without certification in pain medicine by the American Board of Medical Specialties (ABMS)

For Physicians without Primary Board Certification - Competency Certification

Physicians who have not obtained primary board certification, but have a fellowship or other training and have been practicing interventional pain management for at least 6 years (for those with accredited fellowship this requirement is waived and for those with unaccredited fellowship, this requirement is 3 years), you will be eligible for competency certification examination; however, this is not board certification.

Even though this pathway does not provide board certification, it will provide you with the ability to demonstrate your technical skills and competency in patient management. The examination process will consist of the Part I theoretical examination for controlled substance management and practice management, followed by an oral examination and competency assessment of interventional techniques using cadavers. The examination process will take two days and will be offered on weekends for your convenience.

Application for ABIPP Part I and/or ABIPP Part II for certification of physicians without Primary Board Certification