



MOCE

MAINTENANCE OF CERTIFICATION
ECHOCARDIOGRAPHY

www.echobords.org/MOCE

Maintenance of Certification in Echocardiography (MOCE) FAQ's

What is NBE's Maintenance of Certification in Echocardiography (MOCE)?

- MOCE is an annual initiative through which Diplomates will participate to maintain their Diplomate status, superseding the National Board of Echocardiography's (NBE) former static ten-year recertification (ReASCE, RePTE, and ReBasic PTE) process. It is a user-friendly, lifelong learning platform that can be accessed on mobile devices (app download required) or using Google Chrome web browsers.
- Diplomates will utilize their preferred platform to respond to 48 questions annually and sustain a ≥ 0.20 MDT value to maintain their Active status.

What led to this change?

- Longitudinal assessment is shown to be the best way to maintain in-depth knowledge and proficiency. In adopting this model, NBE can offer questions emphasizing practical knowledge in echocardiography that reflect a standard practice.
- With physicians' schedules becoming increasingly demanding, MOCE supports and enables personalized knowledge acquisition, assessment, and demonstration of proficiencies with minimal time commitment.

Are there eligibility requirements for MOCE?

- Eligible physicians will have a valid Diplomate status or enroll during the amnesty* period.
- Diplomates must possess an active, unrestricted license to practice medicine OR be enrolled and in good standing in an United States ACGME Accredited Program or equivalent.
- Diplomates must interpret echocardiograms in their medical practice. During the annual enrollment process, diplomates must report the approximate number interpreted annually.
- Diplomates must have earned fifteen (15) CME AMA PRA™ Category 1 credits devoted to echocardiography in the preceding three (3) years OR I have not yet earned 15 CME AMA PRA™ Category 1 credits related to echocardiography in the preceding three (3) years, or attest that this requirement will be completed within the next calendar year.
- Diplomates must participate in an Echo Quality Improvement program.
- Those who have passed an NBE exam but have NOT achieved board certification status (i.e. Testamur) should instead enroll in the Maintenance of Testamur in Echocardiography (MOTE) until Diplomate (NBE certified) status has been achieved.

What are examples of Echo Quality Improvement programs?

- Giving or attending lectures that are related to echocardiography or involvement in echo-related training.
- Providing feedback or advice to other physicians or sonographers.
- Integration of new guidelines or technology in echocardiography services.

Am I required to enroll in MOCE if my Diplomate status has not expired?

- No, it is not required.
- Participation is optional but highly encouraged and free of charge until your expiration date. Once the expiration date has passed, you will then be required to enroll, pay the \$85 annual fee, and complete the MOCE requirements to maintain your status.

When am I required to enroll and participate in MOCE?

Beginning in July 2024, new Testamurs must enroll and participate in the MOTE program the following year after passing their exam. After becoming NBE certified, new Diplomates must enroll and participate in the MOCE program the following calendar year and each year thereafter to maintain their status. For example, those who pass the Advanced PTEeXAM, Basic PTEeXAM, or ASCeXAM in July 2024 must enroll and participate in MOTE in 2025 and each subsequent year until certification is achieved and then transition to MOCE the year following certification.

Can I enroll in MOCE if my Diplomate status has expired?

- Yes. There is an amnesty period until December 31, 2027 for Diplomates with expired statuses. Amnesty allows expired NBE Diplomates to reinstate their status upon enrolling. If expired NBE Diplomates do not enroll and complete MOCE requirements during the amnesty period, they must retake the initial examination and reapply for initial certification to regain their status.
- Beginning in 2025, enrollment requires an \$85 annual fee.

How do I get started?

When the MOCE enrollment opens at the beginning of each year, you will be notified via the email address on file with NBE. Please ensure that your contact information is up-to-date and accurate. Once available, you will complete enrollment from your NBE user dashboard. Once your enrollment has been submitted, first time MOCE participants will receive a welcome email with instructions on logging in to begin answering questions in the MOCE platform. Returning MOCE participants will have access the next business day to their aimeQED account and questions. Once your enrollment has been submitted on NBE's website, you may either log into your aimeQED account (if a previous MOCE participants) to begin answering questions or if a first time MOTE/MOCE participant, you will receive a welcome email with instructions on accessing the MOCE platform.

What is the cost of MOCE?

Beginning in January of 2025, for required participants, the enrollment fee will be \$85 per year, due each January.

How many questions will there be?

- 12 multiple choice questions will be released each quarter.
- 48 total questions are required to be answered annually by December 31.
- A maximum of 12 questions can be answered per day per specialty.

How long will I have to answer each question?

There is a three (3) minute , or 180 second, time limit to answer each question.

How many answer choices does each question have?

There will be three (3) answer choices per question.

Can I answer all 48 questions in the last quarter of the year?

- MOCE was designed to be answered over time rather than all at once to promote continuous learning and knowledge retention. However, if you get behind and need to answer all 48 questions in the final quarter of a given year, you can only answer a maximum of 12 questions per day.
- You must answer 48 questions annually by 11:59 p.m. EST on December 31 and maintain a performance standard defined by a Measurement Decision Theory (MDT) value of ≥ 0.20 .
- Measurement Decision Theory (MDT) estimates the probability that candidates are keeping their knowledge up-to-date based on their pattern of responses to questions.

What if I do not answer all 48 questions in a year or maintain my MDT value ≥ 0.20 ?

- Any unanswered questions at the end of the year will be marked incorrect and negatively impact your MDT value.
- Diplomates who do not complete the annual MOCE requirements by December 31 will receive a Conditional status for that year.
- If a Diplomate required to participate fails to complete the annual MOTE requirements by December 31 for a second consecutive year, their status will be changed to Inactive.

Once Inactive, how do I regain Active MOCE status?

Diplomates designated Inactive **MUST** pass the initial exam(s) and submit initial certification documentation again to reinstate their "Maintenance of Certification in Echocardiography" status. Please consult the corresponding certification handbook for initial certification requirements or contact certification@echoboards.org for additional questions.

Can I get a refund for my \$85 annual enrollment fee if I decide not to answer one question or all of my questions?

No, there will be no refunds. Enrollees are expected to do their best to complete all 48 questions.

What happens to my aimeQED account on January 1st every year?

The aimeQED/MOCE platform closes on January 1 every year, and all aimeQED accounts are marked inactive to update statuses and add new questions. Your aimeQED account status will be reinstated once you enroll each year.

The NBE amnesty period allows Diplomates with expired statuses to participate in MOCE without having to apply for initial certification again. This opportunity will be available until the amnesty period expires on December 31, 2027.

Passed Last NBE Exam	2025 MOCE Fee	Required Participation in 2025
Before 12/31/2014	\$85	Yes
From 1/1/2015 - 1/31/2024	FREE	No- Optional
From 2/1/2024 and later	FREE	Yes

Questions and More Information:

If you have further questions or need more information about the Diplomate process, please email certification@echobords.org

If you have general questions about MOCE or your status, please contact MOCE@echobords.org.