



AMERICAN BOARD OF FAMILY MEDICINE

2013 Physician Quality Report System Maintenance of Certification (PQRS:MOC) Incentive Program

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2013 PQRS: Maintenance of Certification Incentive Program

INTRODUCTION

This guide provides information on how to fulfill requirements for the 2013 Physician Quality Reporting System: Maintenance of Certification Incentive Program (PQRS:MOC) for Diplomates of the American Board of Family Medicine. Read the entire guide carefully before starting the program, and use the PQRS:MOC Checklist provided to track your progress through the program.

The Physician Quality Reporting System (PQRS) is a reporting program that uses a combination of incentive payments and payment adjustments to promote reporting of quality information by eligible physicians. For 2013, if a physician successfully participates in PQRS reporting, that physician will be eligible to receive an incentive payment equal to 0.5% of his/her estimated total allowed charges for covered Medicare Part B services.

The Affordable Care Act (ACA) also requires that CMS provide, as part of the PQRS, an option for physicians to report data on quality measures through a Maintenance of Certification (MOC) Program (PQRS:MOC) operated by specialty boards of the American Board of Medical Specialties. PQRS:MOC is an incentive program that gives a physician the opportunity to receive an *additional* incentive payment of 0.5% by combining PQRS reporting with more frequent activities in Maintenance of Certification. This physician-only incentive will be paid at the same time as the 2013 PQRS incentive for those who participate in the ABFM MC-FP program more frequently than is required to qualify for or maintain board certification.

Please note that if you hold multiple specialty certificates, you cannot receive more than one additional 0.5% incentive payment, even if you complete a Maintenance of Certification program in more than one specialty.



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PQRS:MOC CHECKLIST

In order to qualify for the additional PQRS:MOC incentive, you will need to complete the following requirements:

- Complete MOC Attestation** (through [MOC Matters](#))
- Complete PQRS Reporting** for calendar year 2013
- Participate in MC-FP Program** throughout the calendar year 2013
- Complete Patient Experience of Care Survey** in calendar year 2013
- Complete MC-FP Practice Assessment Activity** (Part IV module) in 2013
 - Excluding: (1) *Hand Hygiene module with simulated data*; (2) *Cultural Competency MIMM*; (3) *Information Management MIMM*; and (4) *any other non-patient based activities approved for MC-FP*.
- Participate in MC-FP More Frequently** during calendar year 2013 by completing one of the following:
 - Part II (lifelong learning and self-assessment): Completion of an ABFM Self-Assessment Module (SAM) in calendar year 2013, regardless of whether or not you have already fulfilled the SAM requirement for your current stage or cycle.

OR

 - Part IV (performance in practice assessment): Completion of an ABFM approved Part IV activity in calendar year 2013, regardless of whether or not you have already fulfilled the Part IV requirement for your current stage or cycle.
 - Excluding: (1) *Hand Hygiene module with simulated data*; (2) *Cultural Competency MIMM*; (3) *Information Management MIMM*; and (4) *any other non-patient based activities approved for MC-FP*.

OR

 - Part III (cognitive skills assessment): Taking the secure examination in a year earlier than required to maintain your certification. More frequent examination participation must be within calendar year 2013.



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PQRS:MOC REQUIREMENTS

In 2013, if you successfully participate in PQRS reporting, you will receive an incentive payment equal to 0.5% of your estimated total allowed charges for covered Medicare Part B services. PQRS:MOC gives you the opportunity to receive an additional incentive payment of 0.5% by combining PQRS reporting with increased activities for Maintenance of Certification. *Note: If you hold multiple specialty certificates, you cannot receive more than one additional 0.5% incentive payment even if you complete a Maintenance of Certification program in more than one specialty.* **Please read the requirements carefully to ensure you are eligible to participate in the PQRS:MOC program.** A fee is required before access to this tool is granted.

In order to qualify, you must meet the following requirements:

- **Participate in PQRS reporting** by satisfactorily submitting data on quality measures for a 12-month reporting period either as an individual physician or as part of a group practice under one of the PQRS group practice reporting options. Submission can be accomplished via any of the approved PQRS reporting options—through Medicare Part B claims reporting, a CMS-qualified electronic health record, or through a CMS-qualified registry.
- **Participate in Maintenance of Certification for Family Physicians (MC-FP)** program during the 2013 reporting year. In order to be eligible for this additional 0.5% incentive payment, you must maintain a current certificate throughout calendar year 2013 (January 1, 2013-December 31, 2013).
- **Complete the following in 2013:**
 - A practice assessment that demonstrates the use of evidence-based medicine and an improvement activity based on that assessment. You can satisfy this requirement by completing nearly any of the ABFM-developed PPMs or approved alternative activities.
 - *Please note: The following ABFM Part IV activities **do not qualify** for the PQRS:MOC program: (1) Hand Hygiene module with simulated data; (2) Cultural Competency MIMM; (3) Information Management MIMM; and (4) any other non-patient based activities approved for MC-FP.*



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- A patient experience of care survey. You can fulfill this requirement by completing either (a) the ABMS patient survey module that is available on the [MOC Matters](#) website or (b) an institutional or departmental patient experience of care survey.
- **Participate in Maintenance of Certification "more frequently"** than is required to maintain board certification status. The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) asked each qualifying specialty Board to define what "more frequently" would mean in terms of their basic MOC requirements.

ABFM defines "more frequent" as the completion of one of the following:

- Part II (lifelong learning and self-assessment): Completion of an ABFM Self-Assessment Module (SAM) in calendar year 2013, regardless of whether or not you have already fulfilled the SAM requirement for your current stage or cycle.
- Part IV (performance in practice assessment): Completion of an ABFM-approved Part IV activity in calendar year 2013, regardless of whether or not you have already fulfilled the Part IV requirement for your current stage or cycle.
Excluding: (1) Hand Hygiene module with simulated data; (2) Cultural Competency MIMM; (3) Information Management MIMM; and (4) any other non-patient based activities approved for MC-FP.
- Part III (cognitive skills assessment): Take the secure examination in a year earlier than required to maintain your certification.



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COMPLETE PQRS REPORTING

To participate in the 2013 PQRS, individual eligible professionals submit data on quality measures for a 12-month reporting period via any of the following methods: claims-based, registry-based, qualified Electronic Health Record (EHR), or the Group Practice Reporting Option (GPRO). Registries, for purposes of the PQRS, are simply vendors that submit quality measure data to CMS on behalf of eligible professionals and according to certain standards.

There are multiple ways to fulfill the PQRS Reporting requirement.

1. Check with your organization to see if there are plans to complete the PQRS reporting incentive within your organization.
2. The ABFM is an approved registry for PQRS, and ABFM Diplomates are able to complete their PQRS activity online in their Physician Portfolio at no cost. To complete the ABFM Diabetes measure group registry for PQRS, log in to the ABFM website and access the “Physician Quality Reporting” option under “Spotlight Programs” from the physician portfolio.

Additionally, Diplomates have the added benefit of combining PQRS with their MC-FP activity. What this means is that any Diplomate who successfully completes the ABFM PQRS Diabetes module can continue the activity for MC-FP credit and CME credit by implementing a quality improvement plan along with a post-quality improvement data collection to complete the activity as a Performance in Practice Module (PPM).

3. The American Board of Medical Specialties (ABMS) in collaboration with the ABFM has developed an online resource called [MOC Matters](#) which also provides you with access to a CMS-qualified registry for PQRS reporting. The PQRS reporting through [MOC Matters](#) has more registry options to choose from besides diabetes. There is a cost for using [MOC Matters](#) which can be found on page 16.



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PARTICIPATE IN MC-FP PROGRAM

In order to be eligible for the PQRS:MOC additional 0.5% incentive, a physician must be participating in a qualified Maintenance of Certification program from January 1, 2013 through December 31, 2013. Participating in the ABFM MC-FP program means that a physician is complying with current requirements for all four parts of MC-FP.

The ABFM Maintenance of Certification for Family Physicians (MC-FP) program is qualified by CMS, and a list of qualified programs can be found at:

http://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Quality-Initiatives-Patient-Assessment-Instruments/PQRS/Downloads/Qualified_2013_MOC_Posting_Doc_05-28-2013.pdf.



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COMPLETE PRACTICE ASSESSMENT ACTIVITY

(Part IV Module)

You can satisfy this requirement by completing nearly any of the ABFM-developed PPMs or approved alternative activities. For a complete listing of available activities, please login to your Physician Portfolio and access the Part IV Modules tab.

ABFM Diplomates also have the added opportunity to combine PQRS participation with their MC-FP activity. What this means is that any Diplomate who successfully completes our 2013 PQRS module can continue the activity for MC-FP credit and CME credit by implementing a quality improvement plan along with a post quality improvement data collection to complete the activity as a Performance in Practice Module (PPM), which will also satisfy this requirement.

The practice assessment must include patient population data which most ABFM modules qualify excluding: (1) Hand Hygiene module with simulated data; (2) Cultural Competency MIMM; (3) Information Management MIMM; and (4) any other non-patient population based activities approved for MC-FP.



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COMPLETE PATIENT EXPERIENCE OF CARE SURVEY

For 2013, PQRS:MOC requires the physician to complete a patient experience of care survey in calendar year 2013. There are two options available to fulfill this requirement:

- Complete a patient experience of care survey administered by your institution or department. If you, your department, or division participated in this type of survey in 2013, it will count toward meeting the requirements for PQRS:MOC, even if the results were not specific to you. The survey must be completed between January 1, 2013 and December 31, 2013. Survey results are not required to be shared with CMS for all physicians; however if audited, CMS may require details to be provided about the survey completed. Approximately 3% of the registry's participants will be randomly selected for audit, so it is important that you maintain any/all data in the survey.

or

- Complete the patient experience of care survey available through [MOC Matters](#). This module provides you with access to a patient experience of care survey including step-by-step instructions for administration, tracking of progress, and access to aggregate results (survey results are not shared with CMS; however, CMS may ask you to provide information about the survey).

There is a cost associated with using MOC Matters and access to using the patient experience of care survey. The cost will vary depending upon which option you choose: 1) Patient Survey with Internet and/or Interactive Voice Response (IVR), and 2) Patient Survey with Internet Response Only. Please see Page 17 for detailed pricing information.



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Here is an example of the Patient Survey available on [MOC Matters](#):



Patients Matter™

Your feedback is important to us!

Please take a moment to complete an **anonymous** survey which will help your doctor improve care for you and other patients.

Your **privacy will be protected**; no personal information will be reported to your doctor or any other individual or organization. Your responses to the survey questions will be completely **confidential**.

Your **participation is voluntary**. You may choose to answer the survey or not. If you choose not to, this decision will not affect the health care you receive at your doctor's office.

To complete the survey, take the following steps:

- Visit the website: <https://patientsmatter.abms.org/>
- Or Call 855-515-3528
- Enter the number_____on the first page where it asks for the survey number (this number identifies your physician, not you specifically)
- Complete the survey

Thank you for participating!

If you have any questions, please email support@cecity.com.

45 completed patient surveys are required to successfully complete this activity. It is likely that you will need to ask more than 45 of your patients to complete the survey in order to achieve this result.



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PARTICIPATE IN MC-FP MORE FREQUENTLY

CMS permits each qualified MOC Program to define “more frequently” as it feels appropriate, as long as a physician participates more frequently than is required to maintain their board certification status. The ABFM has defined “more frequently” as the completion of one of the following:

- Part II (lifelong learning and self-assessment): Completion of an ABFM Self-Assessment Module (SAM) in calendar year 2013, regardless of whether or not you have already fulfilled the SAM requirement for your current stage or cycle. The SAM module must be completed between January 1, 2013 and December 31, 2013.

There are sixteen different SAM modules to choose from on the ABFM website: Asthma, Care of the Vulnerable Elderly, Cerebrovascular Disease, Childhood Illness, Coronary Artery Disease, Depression, Diabetes, Health Behavior, Heart Failure, Hospital Medicine, Hypertension, Maternity Care, Mental Health in the Community, Pain Management, Preventive Care and Well Child Care.

or

- Part IV (performance in practice assessment): Completion of an ABFM-approved Part IV activity in calendar year 2013, regardless of whether or not you have already fulfilled the Part IV requirement for your current stage or cycle. This would be an additional Part IV practice assessment besides the one practice assessment required for the PQRS:MOC incentive.

The practice assessment must include patient population data which most ABFM modules qualify excluding: (1) *Hand Hygiene module with simulated data*; (2) *Cultural Competency MIMM*; (3) *Information Management MIMM*, and (4) *any other non-patient based activities approved for MC-FP*. See the ABFM physician portfolio for access to the Part IV activity listing.

or

- Part III (cognitive skills assessment): Take the secure examination in a year earlier than required to maintain your certification. The exam must be successfully completed in calendar year 2013 to qualify.



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COMPLETE MOC ATTESTATION

CMS requires that you confirm that you have fulfilled the “more frequently” requirement by submitting the attestation through [MOC Matters](#), in order to earn the PQRS:MOC incentive bonus. Upon completion, your information will be transmitted to the ABFM for validation that you are participating in MC-FP and you are participating more frequently than is required.

American Board of Family Medicine

To qualify for the additional 0.5% incentive payment, you must meet all of the MOC:PQRS program requirements. The following attestations are designed to provide the American Board of Family Medicine with the information needed to validate and track your progress within your MOC cycle.

Please complete Parts 1 and 2 of the attestation. You may exit out and return to the module as needed. Please be sure to save your data prior to exiting. Once all questions have been answered in both parts, click the Next button to submit your attestation.

Questions? Need Help? Please contact the American Board of Family Medicine at 877-223-7437 or help@theabfm.org

Attestation Part I

I will complete 2013 PQRS reporting in compliance with CMS rules. If you would like access to a CMS-qualified registry, [click here](#).

Yes

I have participated in Maintenance of Certification this year.

Yes

I am currently in year ___ of my MOC cycle

Within my current Maintenance of Certification cycle, I agree to participate "more frequently" than is required to qualify or maintain board certification status and will fulfill the requirements outlined below.

Yes

I have completed a practice assessment in 2013.

Yes

I have participated in a patient experience of care survey in 2013.

Note: American Board of Pathology Diplomates are exempt from the CMS requirement to participate in a patient experience of care survey.

(Survey results are not shared with CMS; however, you may need to provide CMS with the survey questions upon request)

Yes

N/A (**American Board of Pathology Only**)



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GET STARTED

1. Participate in PQRS Reporting – determine how you plan to participate in PQRS reporting for 2013. There are multiple options available either through your organizational participation, the ABFM Diabetes PQRS registry, or the [MOC Matters](http://www.mocmatters.org) website at www.mocmatters.org.
2. Review all the requirements for the PQRS:MOC incentive program and confirm you will be able to meet all the requirements described in prior pages. If you have questions about how to meet the requirements, please contact the ABFM for assistance.
3. Access the [MOC Matters](http://www.mocmatters.org) website to register and use the tools available to qualify for the PQRS:MOC incentive. The following tools are available on [MOC Matters](http://www.mocmatters.org):
 - a. MOC Attestation
 - b. PQRS Reporting via a Registry
 - c. Patient Experience of Care Survey

[MOC Matters](http://www.mocmatters.org)™ offers two convenient ways to help you with PQRS:MOC reporting. The bundle offers everything in one package; however, if you don't need the complete package, you have the option of purchasing the different tools individually. See MOC MATTERS PRICE OPTIONS (next page) to determine which option is best for you.

4. Complete the requirements on the PQRS:MOC Checklist (page 4).



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[MOC Matters](https://mocomatters.abms.org) (<https://mocomatters.abms.org>) is a website developed by ABMS to assist physicians with completing the PQRS:MOC incentive program. This portal has access to a PQRS registry, a patient experience of care survey, and the required MOC attestation.



ABMS MOC™

MOC Matters™



**American Board
of Medical Specialties**
Higher standards. Better care.®



ABMS collaborates with its 24 Member Boards to develop and implement educational and professional standards for physicians involved in Board Certification (MOC) programs. MOC is a career-long process that continually assesses and enhances physicians' medical knowledge and skills to provide quality care to patients.

[Learn more about ABMS ▶](#)

Welcome to MOC Matters - tools and resources designed to increase the value of the Maintenance of Certification® program (ABMS MOC®) by aligning MOC with other physician assessment and reporting initiatives.

MOC:PQRS QUALIFIED BOARDS

If you are certified by one of these MOC:PQRS Qualified Boards and need access to the following:

- Attestation to meeting the MOC:PQRS requirements
- PQRS Reporting via a Registry
- Patient Survey

...then **START** by choosing your certifying board to learn more:

AMERICAN BOARD OF ALLERGY AND IMMUNOLOGY 	AMERICAN BOARD OF ANESTHESIOLOGY 	AMERICAN BOARD OF DERMATOLOGY 
AMERICAN BOARD OF FAMILY MEDICINE 	AMERICAN BOARD OF INTERNAL MEDICINE 	AMERICAN BOARD OF NEUROLOGICAL SURGERY 
AMERICAN BOARD OF NUCLEAR MEDICINE 	AMERICAN BOARD OF OBSTETRICS AND GYNECOLOGY 	AMERICAN BOARD OF PATHOLOGY 
AMERICAN BOARD OF PSYCHIATRY AND NEUROLOGY 	AMERICAN BOARD OF RADIOLOGY 	AMERICAN BOARD OF SURGERY 

DON'T SEE YOUR BOARD?

Are you certified by one of the Non-Qualified MOC:PQRS Boards and need to complete a patient survey?

PATIENT SURVEY ▶

**RETURNING USER?
LOGIN HERE**

USERNAME

PASSWORD

[Forgot password?](#) LOGIN ▶

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As you can see from the following screenshot, once you have opened the [MOC Matters](#) website and clicked on the AMERICAN BOARD OF FAMILY MEDICINE, you will have access to the following tools to help you complete your requirements:

How will these tools help me to qualify for MOC:PQRS?



MOC:PQRS Attestation: Through this module, you will be able to attest to meeting the MOC:PQRS requirements, including "more frequent" participation in MOC. Upon completion, your information will be transmitted to your Member Board for validation and submission to CMS.



PQRS Reporting via a Registry: This module provides individual physicians with access to a CMS-qualified registry for PQRS reporting. The PQRSwizardSM will give you step-by-step instructions to guide you through the reporting process.

If you choose to fulfill the PQRS reporting requirement elsewhere, for example, through Medicare Part B claims, a qualified electronic health record, a qualified data submission vendor for EHRs, or another qualified registry, you do not need to complete this module.



Patient Survey: This module provides you with access to a patient experience of care survey including step-by-step instructions for administration, tracking of progress, and access to aggregate results (survey results not shared with CMS; however, CMS may ask you to provide information about the survey). This module is optional. If your Board permits you to fulfill the MOC:PQRS requirement through participation in a patient survey administered by your institution, department, Part IV practice assessment module, or another organization, you do not need to complete this module. You may select from two options: 1) Patient Survey with Internet and/or Interactive Voice Response (IVR) and 2) Patient Survey with Internet Response Only. **NOTE:** American Board of Pathology Diplomates are exempt from the CMS requirement to participate in a patient experience of care survey.

These modules are offered as a bundled package as well as individually. Click CONTINUE to learn more about your options and register.

RETURNING USER? LOGIN HERE

USERNAME

PASSWORD

[Forgot password?](#)

From here, you will continue to the screen where you can purchase the items needed to complete your requirements. After registering on MOC Matters and creating your account, you will have a personalized dashboard which will give you access to the components you have purchased. Please remember that once you complete the Attestation online, you will no longer have access to any of the tools you purchased.



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MOC MATTERS PRICE OPTIONS

Physician needs may vary in completing the PQRS:MOC incentive program, so there are two options for purchasing the tools through MOC Matters. All ABFM physicians must complete the PQRS:MOC Attestation through the [MOC Matters](#) site for the incentive program.

OPTION 1: Purchase the PQRS:MOC Bundle - \$100

The PQRS:MOC bundle includes the following modules for a single registration fee of \$100.

1. PQRS:MOC Attestation
2. PQRS Reporting via Registry*
3. Patient Experience of Care Survey

**Note: There is no discount for not using the optional modules (the optional modules are #2. PQRS Reporting via Registry and #3. Patient Experience of Care Survey).*

Important: Use of the PQRS Registry and Patient Experience of Care modules WITHOUT completion of the MOC: PQRS Attestation will result in the following additional charges to the credit card used for the original purchase of the bundled package:

- PQRS Reporting via a Registry Only - \$99
- PQRS Reporting via a Registry and Patient Survey - \$159

OPTION 2: Purchase Individual PQRS:MOC Modules – individual cost

The PQRS:MOC Individual Module option allows you to purchase one or more of the available modules individually. The modules are listed below:

- MOC: PQRS Attestation - \$30
- PQRS Reporting via Registry - \$199
- Patient Survey with Web and/or Interactive Voice Response - \$60
- Patient Survey with Web Response Only - \$50



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If you choose to participate in PQRS:MOC reporting via these tools, you will need to provide your National Provider Identifier (NPI) and Board identification number upon registration. If you choose to participate in the PQRS registry option you will also need to provide your Tax Identification Number (TIN).

Please understand that you are completely responsible for saving all data used in completing the PQRS:MOC. Approximately 3% of the registry's participants will be randomly selected for audit, so it is important that you maintain any/all data.

PROGRAM ASSISTANCE

For assistance in the PQRS Maintenance of Certification for Family Physicians program, please contact the ABFM Support Center at 877-223-7437 or via email at help@theabfm.org.