At the American Board of Family Medicine (ABFM), we recognize family physicians sometimes experience delays in pursuing their initial and continuing board certification goals. The Entry/Re-Entry Process was created to help physicians gain certification after delays of three years or more.

ABFM provides you with a personalized portfolio where you can access the required certification activities for your initial certification or re-entry process, as well as track your ongoing progress toward continuous Family Medicine Certification over your practice lifetime.

**Certification Entry/Re-Entry Process**

- **Points Requirement** (50 points required per 3-year stage)
  - Self-Assessment
    - Minimum 1 KSA, 4 CKSAs, or 10 NJC articles
  - Performance Improvement
    - Minimum 1 PI activity
  - Additional Self-Assessment and PI Activities
    - Your choice

- **CME Requirement**
  - Complete 150 CME credits in the most recent three years prior to the exam
    - Minimum 50% from Division 1 Credit

- **Professionalism and Licensure Requirement**
  - Comply with ABFM Guidelines for Professionalism, Licensure, and Personal Conduct
  - Continually hold a valid and unlimited medical license

- **Submit Entry or Re-Entry Process Fee**
  - Submit a one-time $300 certification fee

- **Submit Application**
  - Submit application and accompanying full examination fee for the Family Medicine Certification Examination

- **Completion**
  - Successful Completion of Family Medicine Certification Examination

**Certification Entry Process**

You have three calendar years following the year in which you complete your residency training to pass the Family Medicine Certification Examination, earn 50 certification activity points, and obtain a medical license. After that, you will be required to complete the Certification Entry Process to take the exam and gain initial certification status prior to your 7-year board eligibility period expiring.

**Certification Re-Entry Process**

If your certification has been expired for more than three years, you must complete the Certification Re-Entry Process in order to take the exam and gain certification status. Physicians from the 2020 and 2021 stages who let their ABFM certification lapse have a limited time to re-gain certification before the Re-Entry Process is required.