



AMERICAN BOARD OF  
FOOT AND ANKLE SURGERY®

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# Changes to the ABFAS Board Certification Process

## Effective September 2020

ABFAS works continuously to review its certification process and as a result is announcing changes to the certification process effective in September 2020. While these changes don't have a major impact on the types of examinations ABFAS will require for certification, the changes do impact the number of examinations necessary for board certification.

The ABFAS Board's goals through the new certification process:

- Simplify the certification steps with **fewer exams**
- Save candidates **time** and **money**
- Changes to the PGY 1 & 2 In-training (ITE) examinations will provide residency directors with **additional knowledge** of how their residents are **progressing**
- Candidates will be able to use their **passing** ITE score for **qualification** purposes upon payment of a qualification fee.

	Current	As of September 2020
<b>In-training Examinations</b>	<p><b>PGY 1 &amp; 2</b> take same examinations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Foot Didactic – 90 Items</li> <li>• Foot CBPS – 8 Cases</li> </ul> <p><b>PGY 3</b> <b>(&amp; PGY 4 where applicable)</b> <b>in PMSR/RRA programs</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Foot and RRA Didactic – 90 Items</li> <li>• Foot and RRA CBPS – 4 Foot/4 RRA</li> </ul>	<p><b>PGY 1 &amp; 2</b> <b>(&amp; PGY 3 in 4-year programs)</b> take same examinations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Foot Didactic – 80 Items</li> <li>• Foot CBPS – 8 Cases</li> <li>• RRA Didactic – 80 Items</li> <li>• RRA CBPS – 8 Cases</li> </ul> <p>Final Year Residents take new Board Qualification Examination Series (see below)</p>
<b>Part I Board Qualification</b>	<p>Foot Didactic – 80 Items Foot CBPS – 8 Cases RRA Didactic – 80 Items RRA CBPS – 8 Cases</p>	<p>Foot Didactic – 80 Items NEW Foot CBPS – 12 Cases RRA Didactic – 80 Items NEW RRA CBPS – 12 Cases</p> <p>Candidates will be able to use their passing ITE scores for qualification purposes upon payment of a qualification fee.</p>
<b>Part II Board Certification</b>	<p>Foot CBPS – 12 Cases Foot Case Review RRA CBPS – 16 Cases RRA Case Review</p>	<p><b>Board qualified prior to September 2020:*</b> NEW Foot CBPS – 12 Cases Foot Case Review NEW RRA CBPS – 12 Cases RRA Case Review</p> <p><b>Board qualified September 2020 or after:*</b> Foot Case Review RRA Case Review</p>

\*If you are, or become, Board Qualified before September 2020 under the current Part I examinations requirements, you will still need to fulfill the current Part II exam requirements to become certified (passing the Part II CBPS and Case Review).

If you take the CBPS exam to become certified in Spring 2019 or Spring 2020—you will take the current version of the Part II CBPS exam (12 Foot/16 RRA cases). If you choose to wait until after Spring 2020—you will take the NEW CBPS exam (12 Foot/12 RRA cases).

Please visit [abfas.org/2020](http://abfas.org/2020) or email us at [info@abfas.org](mailto:info@abfas.org) for additional information.