

The Advanced Pain Management Practitioner (APMP) Certificate Program—Prescriber Edition

Demonstrate Your Mastery of Pain Care in Today’s Regulatory Environment

The Advanced Pain Management Practitioner (APMP) certificate program—prescriber edition—is open to MDs, DOs, APRNs, and PAs. The program is designed to reinforce the expertise of those who have spent years practicing pain management, but who may not have the ability or desire to complete a fellowship training program. It demonstrates your knowledge and commitment in pain management, with a special emphasis on prescribing. The certificate is based on a learning-objective based outline that covers 13 key content areas. Before you apply for the certificate, download the curriculum and review the content carefully.

You will earn this certificate by:

- Documenting your professional education, continuing education, and your clinical experience
- Passing a rigorous 200-question examination on key pain management topics

This certificate of achievement for advanced standards of pain care is aligned with best practices as defined by the National Pain Strategy and the principles upon which the AIPM was founded. The certificate program was carefully created to include a solid overview of pain management, but it is not board certification and should not be represented as such.

Eligibility

To be eligible for the certificate you must be an MD, DO, APRN, or PA, have a master’s or doctoral degree, and have practiced for at least five years, during which time a minimum of 30% of your clinical work must have been working with people in pain. You must have completed 50 hours of continuing education within the previous two years that pertain to pain management, are deemed acceptable by your primary licensing body, and are accredited for your discipline.

Benefits

Earning this certificate demonstrates a defined body of knowledge of pain management that shows your employer, your peers, and your patients that you have taken a step above and beyond the norm in your commitment to providing optimal pain care. In addition, you receive

- Additional credibility in the field of pain management, particularly related to prescribing
- A printable certificate suitable for framing and display
- A listing as an Advanced Pain Management Certificate-holder in the Academy’s online directory

Representation of the APMP Certificate

After you pass the exam you will receive a printable certificate representing advanced achievement in pain management. It is acceptable to display the certificate in the place of practice, include it in CVs and applications for employment, and discuss this achievement in various biopic forms. The APMP examination does not replace licensure nor is it a board certification. The AIPM does not confer diplomate or fellow status for this certificate.

Fees

AIPM Members

- \$1,000 Certificate Program Fee
- \$1,500 Online Curriculum Overview Course (optional)

Non-members – Purchase includes 1 year membership

- \$1,250 Certificate Program Fee
- \$1,750 Online Curriculum Overview Course (optional)

*Bundle the Certificate Program with the COC and receive \$500 off!

Note: fees are non-refundable

Application

To apply for the APMP program, submit the application form (pages 5 and 6) and be sure to include all required documentation (page 7). Once your application is approved, you will be registered to take the exam and your contact information will be uploaded to Applied Measurement Professionals, Inc. (AMP). You have one year from the time of registration to schedule and complete the exam. If your application is denied, your fee will be refunded less a \$150 administrative fee.

Please keep in mind the following:

- Be sure your application is completed before submitting. Incomplete applications will be returned.
- Keep a copy of the completed application for your records.
- Email the application to: credentialing@aapainmanage.org or mail the application to: Academy of Integrative Pain Management, 975 Morning Star Drive, Suite A, Sonora, California 95370. If you are sending the application with a check, be sure to use a traceable method of delivery.

Preparing for the Exam

In order to pass the exam, you will need to score at least 70%. There are 200 questions on the exam, of which 180 will be graded.

To help prepare for the exam, you should thoroughly review the curriculum and assess the areas where you need extra study. [Download and review the APMP Curriculum](#) for free.

The primary reference is *Bonica's Management of Pain: 4th ed.* (Fishman SM, Ballantyne JC, Rathmell JP. Wolters Kluwer Lippincott Williams & Wilkins; 2010), and journal articles and other references are included at the end of each section in the curriculum. We highly suggest reviewing these resources in order to master the learning objectives.

In addition, we offer an optional Curriculum Overview Course to support your self-study. It is a study aid and is not intended to replace your self-study. [Register for the Curriculum Overview Course](#) in our [Online Pain Care Learning Center](#).

Scheduling the Exam

The exam is administered by Applied Measurement Professionals, Inc., (AMP) at designated computer-based testing sites throughout the US and Canada. Upon registration, you will be assigned a "candidate ID#" and AMP will email you within four days with instructions for scheduling. From the date of approval, you have one year to schedule and complete the exam. Exams are psychometrically validated and administered by computer-based testing. Exams can be scheduled Monday through Saturday, at 9:00 am and 1:30 pm, at more than [160 locations in the United States and Canada](#). Please also take note of the following:

- Once approved, be sure to keep track of the email from AMP, which contains your Candidate ID# and other important information for scheduling your exam.
- AMP Candidate Support Center can be reached at 888-519-9901.
- Exam results will be available immediately for those taking the test within the US and will be mailed to the address on file within two business day for those taking the exam in Canada.
- The Academy and AMP are responsible for the validity and integrity of the score they report. Occasionally, occurrences such as computer malfunction or candidate misconduct may cause a score to be suspect. The Academy and AMP reserve the right to void or withhold examination results if they discover their regulations have been violated.
- The Academy and AMP comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act. If you need special accommodations, call the AMP Candidate Support Center (888-519-9901) to schedule your exam and ask any questions about the accommodations for candidates with disabilities. TDD for deaf and hearing-impaired candidates is available 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. (Central Time) Monday through Friday at 913-895-4637. Callers must have compatible TDD equipment.

Rescheduling and Retaking the Exam

- *Rescheduling* the exam may be done one time at no charge by contacting the AMP Candidate Support Center at least two business days prior to the scheduled examination.
- *Retaking* the exam will be allowed two times for an additional \$100 administrative fee for each attempt.

Verifications

Verifications of certificates issued by the AIPM are conducted upon request. Should anyone inquire either online or directly with the AIPM as to the status of your certificate, we will verify your standing. We include your name, discipline, certificate number, issue date, and expiration date. Certificate information is available both on demand in the [clinician/member directory](#) on the AIPM website, and upon request with an official verification form signed by AIPM staff.

Maintenance of Certificates

Certificates must be renewed every three years. You must show an unrestricted license to practice in your primary discipline, completion of 25 units of qualifying continuing education per year (or 75 units over a three-year period), and you must pay the renewal fee. Members will have \$25 per year added to their annual membership dues. Non-members will be required to pay a fee of \$325 upon renewal.

Copies of clinical licenses, documentation of CMEs, and appropriate fees should all be submitted prior to the expiration of the certificate.

Disciplinary Actions

It is your responsibility to report to AIPM any changes in the status of your state-issued, clinical license. If at any time we discover that a certificate holder has not reported a significant change to the status of their license, the AIPM reserves the right to suspend or indefinitely revoke the certificate. If your APMP certificate has been temporarily revoked or suspended, you must do the following for reinstatement:

- Meet all requirements set forth by your clinical licensing body in order to restore license to an “unrestricted” status.
- Provide documentation of continuing education. The Academy requires certificate holders to complete 25 units of CME per year in order to *maintain* validity of their certificate. The same is true for those who wish to *re-instate* the validity of their certificate. CMEs will need to be submitted for every year that the certificate was lapsed, in addition to the CME that was required at the previous time of renewal.
- If necessary, provide an updated CV and contact information for AIPM records.
- Pay a one-time administrative fee of \$150 for reinstatement.
- Submit a signed attestation of compliance.

APPLICATION FORM

Please complete all portions of the application form and submit all requested documents. Incomplete applications will be rejected. Application and examination registration fees are not refundable or transferrable.

Your information

Name (last) _____ (first) _____ (M.I.) _____ (suffix) _____

Degree _____ Mobile Phone _____ Work Phone _____

Email _____

Mailing Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Country _____

Discipline or Specialty _____

Education _____

Residency _____

Board Certification Yes No If yes, what is the board certification? _____

Professional Work Experience (most recent first) _____

1. Approximately what percentage of your patients are chronic pain patients? _____

2. How often do you deal with cases of acute pain? _____

3. How did you learn about the APMP program? _____

4. Why do you wish to earn the APMP? _____

If you wish to have someone coordinate exam services on your behalf, please provide their contact information.

Contact Person Name _____ Relation to You _____

Phone Number _____ Email _____

Have you included the following items with your application?

- Academy Identification Number (if a member) _____
- Completed application form and fee
- Resume or Curriculum Vitae
- License(s) – include copies of all licenses in all states
- Official transcripts from your medical school (or an ECFMG) – photocopies are not acceptable
- Diplomas or certificates from any post-graduate training
- Certificates of completion for continuing education pertaining to pain management in the last two years

Examination Choice

- Computer-based testing by appointment – United States
- Computer-based testing by appointment – Canada

Sign and Return

I, the undersigned, do hereby make a voluntary application to the Academy of Integrative Pain Management. I certify that the information given by way of this application is true, honest, and completely represents me. I understand and agree that if granted a certificate, I will conform to all applicable local, state, and federal regulations and will conduct my professional behavior consistent with the highest standards of professional conduct as well as those codes of ethical conduct relating to my specialty. I have read and agree to abide by the “Regulations and Standards of Conduct” set forth by the Academy of Integrative Pain Management and I recognize that failure to abide may result in suspension or revocation of my certificate. I understand that any certificate awarded by the Academy of Integrative Pain Management does not in and of itself imply or grant license to practice within any state. I agree to the security and examination restrictions as stated in the Certificate Testing Candidate Information section of the examination and understand that failure to follow the rules of conduct as stated and/or as instructed by the examination proctor may result in my dismissal from the examination, unreported examination results, and forfeit of examination fee.

Furthermore, I understand and agree that the Academy of Integrative Pain Management and its affiliates assume no responsibility for my action or activities. I practice at my own risk and hereby release the Academy of Integrative Pain Management from any liability from any practice decision I make in the practice of pain management.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Printed Name: _____

Payment Information – (select one option)

Certificate Program Fee: \$1,000 (Members) Certificate Program Fee \$1,250 (Non-members)

Certificate/COC Bundle \$2,000 (Members) Certificate/COC Bundle \$2,250 (Non-members)

Enclosed is a check made payable to the Academy of Integrative Pain Management **OR**

Please charge to: Visa MasterCard Discover Amex

Credit Card # _____ Expiration (MM/YY) _____ CVC# _____

Signature _____ Date _____

Printed Name _____ Daytime Phone: _____

Appendix

Curriculum and Examination Development

With the ever-increasing need for professional development and prescriber education, the curriculum was not only developed as the primary means of preparation for the corresponding examination, but also to provide a sound guide for the best and most up-to-date practices in the field of Pain Management. In 2012, the Academy partnered with the University of New Mexico School of Medicine and contracted **George D. Comerchi, Jr., MD, FACP**, Professor of Internal Medicine at the Department of Internal Medicine at the University of New Mexico (UNM); **Brian M. Shelley, MD**, Director of Albuquerque Independent Medical Services, LLC, and Clinical Associate Professor of UNM Department of Family and Community Medicine; and **Daniel J. Duhigg, DO, MBA**, Assistant Professor of Psychiatry at UNM and Director of UNM Fellowship in Addiction Psychiatry; to compile the curriculum. They are all members of the faculty of the Chronic Pain and Headache Management, TeleECHO Clinic, which was recognized as a Clinical Center for Excellence in Pain Management by the American Pain Society in 2011. The specific content areas were determined by a job analysis conducted by Applied Measurement Professionals, Inc., in collaboration with the Academy's Curriculum Development Committee.

The following contributors represent thought leaders in the pain management field:

Alfred V. Anderson, MD, DC, Realief Neuropathy Center, St. Louis Park, Minnesota

Tom Arnold, DC, UNM Pain Center, University of New Mexico, Albuquerque, New Mexico

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Katherine Galluzzi, DO, Professor, Chair, and Director of the Department of Geriatrics, Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Kathy Hahn, PharmD, Pharmacy Manager and Pain Management Specialist, Bi-Mart Pharmacy, Springfield, Oregon

R. Norman Harden, MD, Medical Director, Center for Pain Studies, Rehabilitation Institute of Chicago, Associate Professor in Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation at Northwest University, Chicago, Illinois

John Jones, MD, Medical Staff Section Chief, Pediatric Anesthesia and Critical Care Services; Section Chief, Pain Management; Medical Director, Pain Services Phoenix Children's Hospital, Phoenix, Arizona

Joanna Katzman, MD, Director of the UNM Pain Center, the Interdisciplinary Pain Consultation and Treatment Center, and Director of the Chronic Pain and Headache Management TeleECHO™ Clinic, Project ECHO® University of New Mexico, Albuquerque, New Mexico

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George Simmons, DC, University of New Mexico, Albuquerque, New Mexico

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Brian White, DO, Attending Physician, Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation, Bassett Medical center, Cooperstown, New York

Lucy Whyte Ferguson, DC, Private Practice, Taos, New Mexico; Volunteer Faculty, Neurosurgery Department, UNM Medical School, Pain Center and Chronic Pain and Headache Management, TeleEcho™ Clinic, Project ECHO®

The APMP Curriculum was also reviewed by the following family physicians who are experts in their relative fields:

Rachel M. Franklin, MD, Professor of Family and Preventative Family Medicine, Medical Director, University Family Medicine Center, University of Oklahoma College of Medicine, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

Ruth Dubin, MD, PhD, FCFP, Chairman, Chronic Pain Committee of the College of Family Physicians of Canada; co-leader, ECHO Ontario Educational Initiative; Family Practice, Kingston, Ontario, Canada

Norman Wetterau, MD, FAAFP, FASAM, Tri-county Family Medicine, Clinical Associate Professor of Family Medicine, University of Rochester School of Medicine, Board Member of American Society of Addiction Medicine, Nunda, New York

Robert R. Leverage, MD, Professor and Vice Chair for Clinical Affairs, Chief Division of Hospital Medicine, Department of Medicine College of Medicine, University of Florida, Gainesville, Florida

CONTACT INFORMATION

Academy of Integrative Pain Management

General

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Phone: 209-533-9744

Fax: 209-533-9750

Website: www.aapainmanage.org

Email: info@aapainmanage.org

Professional Certificates

Website: www.aapainmanage.org/credentialing

Phone: 209-288-2205

Email: credentialing@aapainmanage.org

- General inquiries (e.g., deadlines, documentation)
- Specific application inquiries (e.g., confirm receipt)
- Financial (e.g., payment receipt)

Web/Account Support

Email: info@aapainmanage.org

- Contact information updates
- Log-in assistance
- Navigating the website
- Publication orders

Scheduling Computer-based Examination

Applied Measurement Professionals, Inc.

Phone: 888-519-9901

Email: info@goAMP.com

Website: www.goAMP.com

- Testing locations
- Accommodation for people with disabilities
- Rescheduling the examination