



# **2020 CAQ in Pediatric Craniomaxillofacial Surgery**

ABOMS

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***The recognized leader in Board certification of  
oral and maxillofacial surgery and related disciplines***



## Core Purpose

The mission of the American Board of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery is to assure the public of safe and care through the development and maintenance of high standards of certification and re-certification of Diplomates in the specialty.

## Core Values

- ❖ Patient First
- ❖ Integrity
- ❖ Fair and Valid
- ❖ Relevant
- ❖ Gold Standard of Excellence

## Organization

The American Board of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery (ABOMS) is the certifying Board for the specialty of oral and maxillofacial surgery in the United States and is recognized and approved by the Council on Dental Education of the American Dental Association.

A committee was authorized at the 1945 annual meeting of the American Society of Oral Surgeons to establish an American Board of Oral Surgery, which would conduct examinations for the certification of specialists in oral surgery. In 1946, the American Board of Oral Surgery was incorporated under the laws of the State of Illinois. During the following year, the American Board of Oral Surgery was approved by the Council on Dental Education of the American Dental Association and was authorized to proceed with the certification of specialists in oral surgery. The American Board of Oral Surgery was renamed the American Board of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery in 1978 to reflect the scope of the specialty. The name modification was incorporated under the laws of the State of Illinois.

The operation of the American Board of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery is entrusted to an eight-member Board of Directors. These Directors are Diplomates of the American Board of Oral and



Maxillofacial Surgery and Fellows of the American Association of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons. One Director is elected each year to an eight-year term by the House of Delegates of the American Association of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons. An Examination Committee composed of Diplomates of the American Board of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery is appointed by the Board of Directors to prepare and conduct the annual certification examination. The Board of Directors and its Examination Committee serve without salary.

### **Certification of Added Qualifications (CAQ) in Pediatric Craniomaxillofacial Surgery**

The Certificate of Added Qualification (CAQ) in Pediatric Craniomaxillofacial Surgery is designed for oral and maxillofacial surgeons certified by ABOMS who have demonstrated significant qualifications in this specialized area, and who conduct a practice with emphasis on, and commitment to, this focused component of oral and maxillofacial surgery.

Holding a CAQ does not bestow special privileges related to the practice of Pediatric Craniomaxillofacial Surgery. The possession of this CAQ does not comprise comprehensive qualification for surgical privileges nor does it imply exclusion of other practitioners of either Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery or other disciplines without this certification.

The goal of this ABOMS CAQ is to inform the public and our professional colleagues that the qualified oral and maxillofacial surgeon who holds this Certification has completed additional specialty education, a certification examination process, and is qualified to practice Pediatric Craniomaxillofacial Surgery as a focused specialty area of oral and maxillofacial surgery.



## Examination Eligibility

The ABOMS administers two eligibility pathways for qualification to take the CAQ Examination.

### Primary Eligibility Pathway Criteria

An applicant must:

1. Must be an ABOMS Diplomate, in good standing.
2. Must successfully complete or have completed, at a minimum, a one-year fellowship in Pediatric Craniomaxillofacial Surgery (e.g. Cleft Surgery, Craniofacial Surgery, Pediatric Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery training program) recognized by the American Board of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery. Qualifying fellowships will include programs accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation (CODA) and non-accredited, United States, fellowship training programs recognized by the Certification of Added Qualification in Pediatric Craniomaxillofacial Surgery Examination Committee and the ABOMS Board of Directors.
3. Must attest to having full, unrestricted hospital staff privileges to provide cleft and craniofacial surgical services.
4. Must submit a Surgical Case Log spanning no less than one year and no more than two years including a minimum of 40 operative cases of cleft, craniofacial, and specialized pediatric craniomaxillofacial procedures managed by the applicant as primary surgeon.
5. Must complete an Application for Examination through the ABOMS.

Complete an Application for Examination to be found on the ABOMS Website at, [www.aboms.org](http://www.aboms.org).

Remit a non-refundable Application Fee at the time of Application submission.



## **Alternate Eligibility Pathway Criteria**

This Alternate Eligibility Pathway is intended to apply to surgeons certified by the ABOMS and actively engaged in the practice of Pediatric Craniomaxillofacial Surgery, but who have obtained their training outside the established pathway of a fellowship program, who merit CAQ status.

An applicant:

1. Must be an ABOMS Diplomate, in good standing.
2. Must submit a Waiver Letter requesting exemption from the Fellowship certification requirement that addresses the following:
  - a. Training in lieu of completing a recognized Fellowship in in Pediatric Craniomaxillofacial Surgery (e.g. Cleft Surgery, Craniofacial Surgery, Pediatric Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery training program).
  - b. Current role in performing such surgery.
  - c. Identification of the interdisciplinary cleft palate/craniofacial team with which the applicant participates.
3. Must submit three (3) letters of recommendation from:
  - a. Practitioners with whom the applicant has collaborated with as part of an interdisciplinary team (e.g. surgical colleagues, speech and language pathologists, etc.).
  - b. Departmental Chair of the applicant's primary medical center
4. The Letters of Recommendation must attest that the applicant:
  - a. Is actively and consistently involved in Pediatric Craniomaxillofacial Surgery (e.g. Cleft Surgery, Craniofacial Surgery, Pediatric Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery).
  - b. Is an active surgeon and in good standing.
  - c. Has not undergone a formal review resulting in limitation of privileges in the practice of Pediatric Craniomaxillofacial Surgery/Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery.
5. Must have full, unrestricted hospital staff privileges to provide cleft and craniofacial surgical services.
6. Must submit a Surgical Case Log spanning no less than one year and no more than two years including a minimum of 40 operative cases of cleft, craniofacial, and specialized pediatric craniomaxillofacial procedures managed by the applicant as primary surgeon.



Complete an Application for Examination to be found on the ABOMS Website at:  
[www.aboms.org](http://www.aboms.org).

Remit a non-refundable Application Fee at the time of Application submission. (See page 8 for an outline of all Fees).

## **Surgical Case Log**

A surgical case log spanning no less than one year and no more than two years including a minimum of 40 operative cases of cleft, craniofacial, and specialized pediatric craniomaxillofacial procedures managed by the application as primary surgeon.

May not include surgeries and procedures performed in an office setting.

May not include surgeries performed while enrolled in a Fellowship program.

May not include cases performed in mission trips outside of the surgeon's primary country of residence, particularly if such cases do not reflect the structure of the applicant's regular practice in his or her primary institution.



A Surgical Case Log form is included as part of the on-line CAQ Application at: [www.aboms.org](http://www.aboms.org). The following represents an example of the information for the Log:

CASE 1	
Patient Identifier:	Date of Service:
Primary Diagnosis:	
Surgical Procedure:	
Primary Surgeon:	
Assisting Surgeon:	
Institution:	State:

### Examination Application Process

Once the Application has been completed and all required documentation received by the ABOMS administrative office, the CAQ Committee, in conjunction with the Board of Directors, will help determine an applicant's eligibility.

If an applicant's eligibility is approved, he/she will be notified of his/her Candidate status. The approved Candidate will then return to the ABOMS website and register for the next CAQ examination date.

An approved Candidate will be granted two opportunities to take the CAQ examination. A Candidate's failure to take or pass the CAQ Examination within these two opportunities will be required to submit a re-application; fulfill all eligibility requirements; and, remit an Application Fee in effect at the time of re-application.

At the discretion of ABOMS, a Reapplication may include additional evidence of continued participation in a Cleft/Craniofacial inter-disciplinary team; letters of recommendation; and, an updated Surgical Case Log.





## 2020 CAQ Deadlines

It is the applicant's responsibility to be aware and meet all deadlines.

CAQ Deadlines	
Examination Application Opens	April 1, 2020
Applications Due	June 1, 2020
Applicant Notification of Approval/Denial	Mid-July
Examination Administration	October 4, 2020 during the AAOMS Annual Meeting in San Antonio
Examination Results Mailed	November 18, 2020



## CAQ Pediatric Craniomaxillofacial Surgery Blueprint

The ABOMS CAQ in Pediatric Craniomaxillofacial Surgery is a secure, valid examination administered to Board applicants that test their knowledge in central principles of the specialty. The examination is made up of 100 questions.

### Cleft Surgery (45)

- General considerations
  - Patient evaluation
  - Feeding considerations
  - Presurgical orthodontic/orthopedic treatment
  - Interdisciplinary management
- Cleft lip repair
  - Unilateral cleft lip repair
  - Bilateral cleft lip repair
  - Primary nasal reconstruction
  - Complications
- Cleft palate repair
  - Palate repair techniques
  - Intravelar veloplasty
  - Fistula management and repair
  - Complications
- Management of Velopharyngeal insufficiency
  - Preoperative assessment
  - Surgical techniques
- Bone graft reconstruction of the cleft maxilla
  - Presurgical orthodontic and orthopedic treatment
  - Surgical techniques
  - Unilateral cleft bone graft
  - Bilateral cleft bone graft
  - Bone harvesting techniques
- Orthognathic surgery in the patient with cleft lip and palate
  - Diagnosis and treatment planning
  - Surgical techniques
  - Complications
- Secondary reconstructive procedures
  - Lip revision
  - Nasal revision and Rhinoplasty
  - Adjunctive surgical procedures



## **Craniofacial Surgery (35)**

- General considerations:
  - Patient evaluation
  - Diagnostic imaging
  - Treatment planning
- Non-synostotic (deformational) plagiocephaly
  - Diagnosis
  - Non-surgical treatment of plagiocephaly
  - Torticollis evaluation and management
- Non-syndromic Craniosynostosis:
  - Diagnosis
  - Surgical techniques
  - Complications
- Craniofacial Dysostosis Syndromes:
  - Genetics
  - Diagnosis
  - Surgical techniques and management
  - Stages of reconstruction
  - Complications
- Secondary reconstructive procedures
  - Surgery for secondary dysmorphology
  - Intracranial pressure management
  - Repair of cranial vault defects
  - Complications

## **Associated Conditions (20)**

- Hemifacial Microsomia
- Treacher Collins Syndrome
- Pierre-Robin Sequence
- Other syndromes
- Genetic considerations



## CAQ Certification Period

All Applicants (whether holding an unlimited or time-limited Diplomate Certification) that successfully passes the CAQ Examination will be issued a ten (10) year time-limited CAQ Certification. The effective date of the certification period will be January 1<sup>st</sup> of the year following the examination.

## CAQ Certification Maintenance

A Diplomate that holds a time-limited Certificate and a CAQ Certification must comply with all Annual Registration and Certification Maintenance requirements associated with the maintenance of his/her certification as an ABOMS Diplomate.

The following additional Certification Maintenance requirements must also be fulfilled as a condition of CAQ requalification:

30 additional hours of Category I continuing education programs specifically focused upon Pediatric Craniomaxillofacial Surgery.

Attestation of continued participation in an inter-disciplinary cleft/craniofacial team.

Successfully passing a CAQ Requalification Examination.





Contact: [yates@westtexasomfs.com](mailto:yates@westtexasomfs.com)  
Website: <https://elpasochildrens.org/cranial-and-facial-clinic/>

**Florida Craniofacial Institute**

4200 N. Armenia Ave.  
Ste. 3  
Tampa, Florida 33607  
813-870-6000  
Program director: Dr. Pat Ricalde  
Accreditation status: Unknown  
Contact: [admin@flcranio.com](mailto:admin@flcranio.com)  
Website: <http://flcranio.com/>

**Louisiana State University School of Medicine**

1501 Kings Highway  
Shreveport, Louisiana 71130-3932  
318-675-8068  
Program director: Dr. Jennifer Woerner-Houk  
Accreditation status: CODA-Approval without Reporting Requirements  
Contact: [jwoern@lsuhsc.edu](mailto:jwoern@lsuhsc.edu)  
Website: <http://www.lsuhscreport.edu/departments/ClinicalDepartments/OralandMaxillofacial/omfsfellowships/omfscleftlipcransurgery/index>

**MGH Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery Pediatric Research Fellowship**

Department of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery  
Massachusetts General Hospital  
55 Fruit St.  
Warren 1201  
Boston, Massachusetts 02114  
617-726-2000  
Program director: Dr. Maria Troulis  
Accreditation status: Unknown  
Contact: [mtroulis@partners.org](mailto:mtroulis@partners.org)  
Website: <https://www.massgeneral.org/omfs/education/fellowship.aspx?id=206>

**Posnick Center for Facial Plastic Surgery**

5530 Wisconsin Ave.  
Ste. 1250  
Chevy Chase, Maryland 20815  
301-986-9475



Program director: Dr. Jeffrey Posnick  
Accreditation status: Unknown  
Contact: [jposnick@drposnick.com](mailto:jposnick@drposnick.com)  
Website: <https://www.drposnick.com>

**University of Florida - Jacksonville**

College of Medicine - Jacksonville  
2nd Floor, LRC  
653-1 West 8th St.  
Jacksonville , Florida 32209  
904-244-3149  
Program director: Dr. Barry Steinberg  
Accreditation status: Unknown  
Contact: [barry.steinberg@jax.ufl.edu](mailto:barry.steinberg@jax.ufl.edu)  
Website: <https://hscj.ufl.edu/oral-maxillofacial/fellowship-pediatric-craniofacial/>

**University of Oklahoma - College of Dentistry**

1201 N. Stonewall Ave.  
Ste. 206  
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73117  
405-271-4441  
Program director: Dr. Kevin S. Smith  
Accreditation status: Unknown  
Contact: [ou-oms@ouhsc.edu](mailto:ou-oms@ouhsc.edu)  
Website: <https://dentistry.ouhsc.edu/ProspectiveStudents/ProgramsOffered/AdvancedEducationPrograms/OralandMaxillofacialSurgeryResidencyProgram.aspx#Cleft>

**University of Pittsburgh Medical Center (UPMC)**

3501 Terrace St.  
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15261  
412-648-6801  
Program director: Dr. Bernard J. Costello  
Accreditation status: CODA-Approval without Reporting Requirements  
Contact: [bjc1@pitt.edu](mailto:bjc1@pitt.edu)  
Website: <http://www.dental.pitt.edu>



## **Policy**

### **Applicants' Responsibilities**

The timely submission of applications and the accuracy of the information submitted therein are the sole responsibility of the applicant. The ABOMS recommends reading and following all instructions thoroughly.

It is the applicant's responsibility to keep a current address, e-mail and telephone number on file. The ABOMS does not share contact information with any other organization. Third party request for information on a Candidate's application, Board status, or results will not be granted. Throughout the certification process, it is necessary for the Board to communicate with Applicants on issues that are imperative. In addition, time-sensitive information regarding applications, test registration and results require direct contact.

The ABOMS will not be responsible for missed communications when the applicant does not have current information on file with the ABOMS Administrative Office. Applicants may check their contact information and the status of their applications by logging into their profile online at [www.aboms.org](http://www.aboms.org). Please allow one business day for electronic submissions to update on your profile and 1-2 weeks for processing of submissions made by mail.

### **Accommodation Policy for Applicants with Special Needs**

The ABOMS will make every effort to provide all appropriate and reasonable efforts to accommodate any requests in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act. Issues such as a second language, test anxiety, slow reading without an identified underlying physical or mental deficit, and failure to achieve a desired outcome are not learning disabilities and generally are not covered by the Americans with Disability Act.

Applicants that require special accommodations must contact the ABOMS administrative office to receive detailed information concerning documented disability or qualifying medical conditions.





## **Refunds**

When an application registers for an examination, significant costs are incurred by ABOMS. Therefore, all fees are non-refundable and non-transferable. Applicants must contact the Administrative Office by the designated deadline to request for fee deferment and/or extensions. All requests will be reviewed for consideration.

## **Appeal Mechanism**

A. Upon completion of the examination, the Candidate must contact the ABOMS headquarters if he/she believes the examination has not been conducted in a fair manner. The request with an explanation of why an appeal is needed must be made in writing and received via e-mail or certified mail within five (5) calendar days of his/her examination.

B. All appeals will be reviewed by the CBT Chair for evaluation and decision. During this time, results of the said exam will not be disclosed to the Candidate.

C. If the request is granted:

1. the result of the appealed examinations, regardless whether pass or fail will be discarded and never disclosed.
2. a second examination will be provided one year later at the regularly scheduled time.
3. a Candidate must resubmit any required application materials and submit an amended examination fee as defined by the OCE Chair.

D. Candidates on their last year of eligibility may appeal their examination however will lose their "Candidate" status. A Candidate cannot appeal two years in a row.

E. The ABOMS will not consider appeals based on Candidate result, examination content, delivery or scoring of the examination, or psychometric validation.

## **Receipts for Fees Paid**

Applicants who submit application materials online will receive e-mail confirmations including transactions numbers for any fees paid.



## **Release of Examination Results**

The ABOMS will not release any examination result information by phone, fax, or e-mail. The ABOMS does not report pass or fail information to third parties. The ABOMS reserves the right to withhold examination results if any application materials are found to be deficient, expired or inaccurate. All result letters for an examination are mailed out in identical envelopes on the same day. The ABOMS is not responsible for delays because of outdated contact information on file or mail service.

## **Contact Information**

### **ABOMS Administrative Mailing Address**

American Board of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery  
625 N Michigan Avenue, Suite 1820  
Chicago, IL 60611

**Website:** [www.aboms.org](http://www.aboms.org)

**Telephone:** 312-642-0070

**Fax:** 312-642-8584

### **Direct Examination Contact:**

Ms. Raquel Kalfus  
Credentialing Program and Operations Coordinator  
Extension \*122  
[RKalfus@aboms.org](mailto:RKalfus@aboms.org)

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