



August 27, 2024

ACP works with ABIM to improve transparency of exam refund policy for medical cancellation

As the ABIM initial certification exams are ongoing this month, ACP is happy to report that our [advocacy efforts](#) to establish more flexibility with medically required cancellations have resulted in a positive change for our members and other physicians taking the exams. Improved transparency and accessibility of ABIM's medical cancellation policy now should allow for those with unanticipated concerns, including pregnancy/lactation needs that cannot be accommodated by the scheduled testing site, to request a refund that would allow them to reschedule for a later date without financial penalty.

ACP was able to work with ABIM to make this change during August to meet the needs of those physicians who are attempting to achieve initial board certification in 2024. Any person who medically requires cancellation of their exam should follow the ABIM's updated procedures:

- ABIM's cancellations information webpage now includes medical necessity as a reason for consideration of a refund.
- ABIM now also provides an email address to communicate about refund needs, rather than just requiring people to use the generic cancellation form (which does not allow for a medical indication for cancellation).

Please note the time sensitive nature of requesting an eligible refund.