Trainees are eligible for board certification in internal medicine following completion of categorical residency training.

Many internists practice a combination of full or part-time, inpatient and ambulatory medicine, consultative medicine, and/or may seek additional training in areas of focused practice, such as geriatric medicine or hospice and palliative care medicine (see below), or other forms of medical practice.

Trainees are eligible for board certification in a subspecialty area of internal medicine following completion of fellowship training.

Many fellowship training programs may include a research component.

A prerequisite for training in these fields requires completion of a categorical residency training program, although not exclusively in internal medicine.