



American Board of Emergency Medicine

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Emergency Medicine Organizations Call for End to Pediatric Merit Badges

East Lansing, MI (June 9, 2020)— The American Board of Emergency Medicine (ABEM) and the American Osteopathic Board of Emergency Medicine (AOBEM) will now provide letters of support that may be submitted to hospital credentialers to forego the need for additional short courses or certifications in the use of Emergency Ultrasound by emergency physicians. Physicians must be participating in the ABEM continuing certification process or the AOBEM Osteopathic Continuous Certification Program to obtain the letter.

The letter, signed by the ABEM, AOBEM, American Academy of Emergency Medicine, American Academy of Emergency Medicine/Resident and Student Association, American College of Osteopathic Emergency Physicians, Association of Academic Chairs of Emergency Medicine, Council of Residency Directors in Emergency Medicine, Emergency Medicine Residents' Association, and Society for Academic Emergency Medicine, such as the Focused Assessment with Sonography in Trauma (FAST) examination; the determination of the presence of cardiac activity and/or pericardial effusion; or, to assist with placement of central venous access catheters. ABEM-certified physicians can download the letter from their Personal Page on the ABEM secure portal (instructions). AOBEM-certified physicians can obtain a letter upon request to AOBEM.

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About ABEM

Founded in 1976, the American Board of Emergency Medicine (ABEM) develops and administers the Emergency Medicine certification examinations to physicians who have met all ABEM credentialing requirements. Its mission is to uphold the highest standards in the specialty of Emergency Medicine. ABEM has over 39,000 emergency physicians currently certified. ABEM is one of 24 Member Boards of the [American Board of Medical Specialties](#).

About AOBEM

The American Osteopathic Board of Emergency Medicine (AOBEM) was formed in 1980. It is one of eighteen boards of specialty certification of the American Osteopathic Association. The mission of the AOBEM is: "To protect the public through the certification of excellence in emergency medicine." The AOBEM has certified over three thousand emergency physicians. AOBEM certifies physicians in emergency medicine, and in the subspecialties of emergency medical services, medical toxicology, sports medicine, undersea and hyperbaric medicine, and hospice and palliative medicine.