Grant Opportunities from the ABMS Research and Education Foundation

The American Board of Medical Specialties (ABMS) Research and Education Foundation (REF) seeks grant proposals on original research that provides insight into the process of achieving and maintaining the standards for medical specialty certification. These insights inform improvements in the structures, processes, and outcomes of certification.

Proposals fall under two themes: General Certification (funded by the ABMS REF) and Diagnostic Excellence Through Certification (funded by the Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation). Grants of up to $100,000 are available and will be awarded in 2024. **Letters of Intent must be submitted by January 30, 2024.**

In addition to the research insights achieved by the individual grantees, a key objective of the grant program is to facilitate a community of research practice around the mechanism of certification. This will be achieved through a judicious number of grantee interactions with each other, with ABMS medical specialty boards, and with the ABMS Visiting Scholars Program™.

**Research topics may cover:**

- **Personal attributes** (e.g., of certification candidates or board certified physicians and medical specialists)
- **Features of programs and organizations** (e.g., an ABMS Member Board, a residency program)
- **Broader ideas** (e.g., professionalism, competence, diagnostic excellence, or linking to outcomes)

The **General Certification** theme is funded by ABMS. Grant applications should align with the ABMS mission, which seeks to serve the public and the medical profession by improving the quality of health care through setting professional standards for lifelong certification in partnership with Member Boards.

These projects may span the full range of the ABMS mission and are not limited to any one area or topic.

The independent investigator, who is usually outside the direct Member Board community (e.g., not a paid or volunteer agent of ABMS, ABMS Member Boards, or ABMS Associate Members), consults with one or more ABMS Member Boards to develop the project. The investigator will submit the proposal directly to the REF.

The **Diagnostic Excellence Through Certification** theme is funded principally by the Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation. Grant applications should be aligned with the Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation’s Diagnostic Excellence Initiative, which seeks to strengthen accountability for diagnostic excellence, support growth and capacity of the field, and assess the potential for new technologies to improve diagnostic performance.

These proposals address improving the core medical activity of diagnosis as it touches on initial and continuing certification, also known as maintenance of certification.

The independent investigator collaborates with an ABMS Member Board, which submits the proposal directly to the REF.

Questions? Contact us at **REF-Grants@abms.org.**

ref.abms.org

Learn about applying for an REF research grant by registering for a webinar on November 30, where you will hear an overview of these grant programs and the application process and have time to ask questions. Can’t make it? Register anyhow to receive a link to the recording!

Go to **ref.abms.org** for details.