



CBCMR

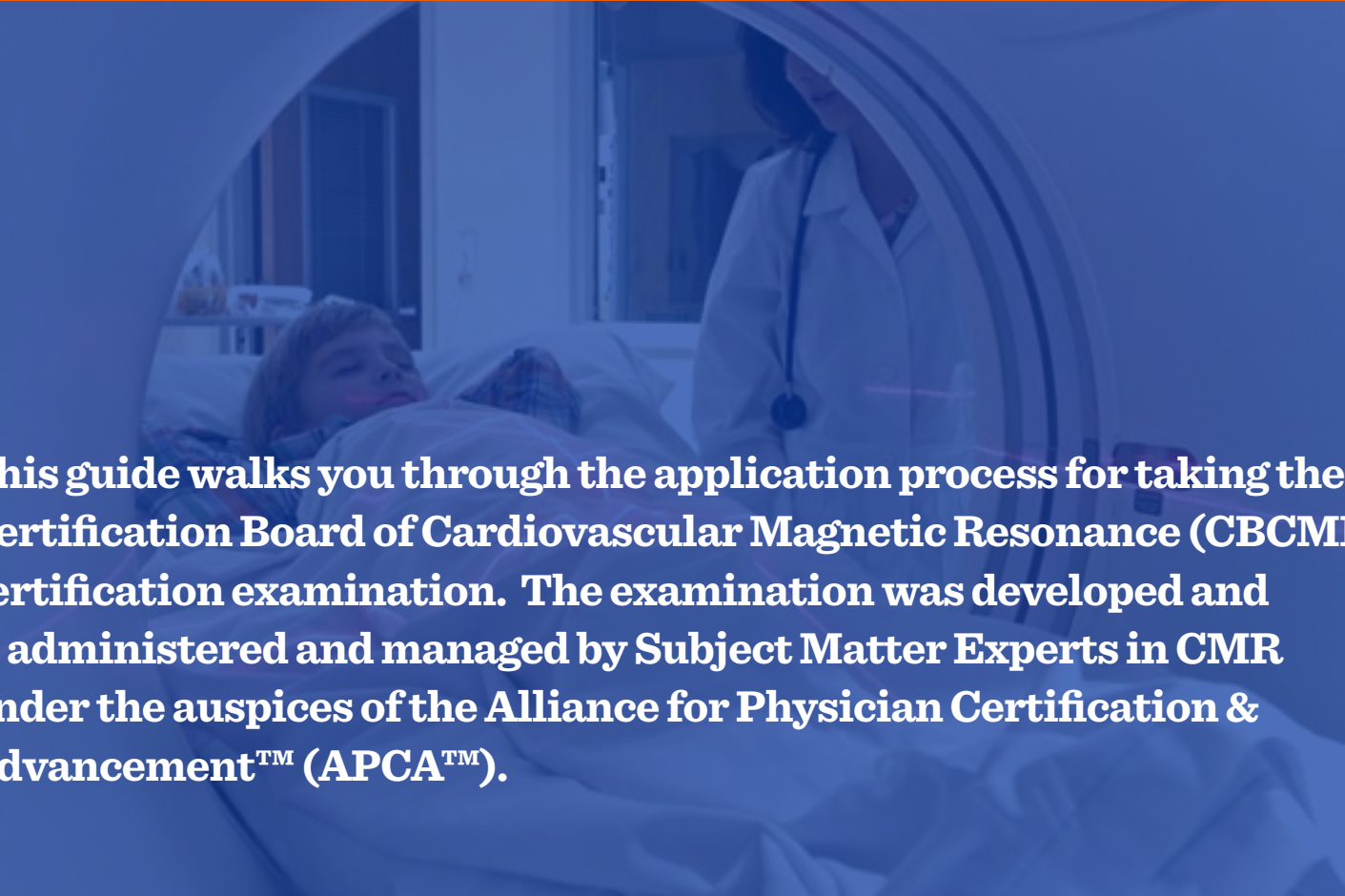
Certification How to Apply Guide

Certification Board of Cardiovascular Magnetic Resonance

**[APCA.org/CBCMR](https://www.apca.org/CBCMR)
240-631-8151**



About This Guide



This guide walks you through the application process for taking the Certification Board of Cardiovascular Magnetic Resonance (CBCMR) certification examination. The examination was developed and is administered and managed by Subject Matter Experts in CMR under the auspices of the Alliance for Physician Certification & Advancement™ (APCA™).

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The Alliance for Physician Certification & Advancement™ (APCA™) was created to exclusively meet the needs of the physician community and is part of the nonprofit Inteleos™ family of Councils spun out of the American Registry for Diagnostic Medical Sonography® (ARDMS®). The Inteleos Foundation oversees the philanthropic work for the organization.

APCA, supporting more than 18,000 physicians worldwide, is dedicated to helping physicians and advanced care providers secure certification in medical imaging and other specialties, offering outstanding customer care, and guiding maintenance of existing certifications.

To continue the advance of diagnostic medical imaging for superior patient care, APCA also offers physicians numerous volunteer opportunities. For information on how to volunteer, visit [APCA.org/Volunteer](https://www.apca.org/Volunteer).

For more information on APCA's certifications, including ABVM, CBCCT, CBNC, RPVI, RMSK and other international programs, please visit [APCA.org](https://www.apca.org).

Specialty Examination = Certification Earned

Steps to Application

2026 Examination Administration Dates

**Administration Window: April 28, 2026 – May 29, 2026;
Opens Jan 13, 2026**

Regular Deadline: April 1, 2026

Late Deadline: April 14, 2026

**Applying Online is Fast,
Easy, and Secure**

1. Check the CBCMR examination administration and application dates (listed above).

2. Before beginning the online application.
Review the CBCMR eligibility criteria (in this guide or at [APCA.org/CBCMR](https://www.apca.org/CBCMR)) to ensure you meet the requirements.

3. Visit [APCA.org/CBCMR](https://www.apca.org/CBCMR). Beginning January 16, fill out, pay for, and submit your application form with supporting documents at [APCA.org/MYAPCA](https://www.apca.org/MYAPCA).

As part of your application, you will be asked to acknowledge the APCA Confidentiality Agreement and Compliance policies. Review the agreements and policies at [APCA.org/Compliance](https://www.apca.org/Compliance) and check the status of your application by logging on to [APCA.org/MYAPCA](https://www.apca.org/MYAPCA).

4. Review process and approval timeframe.
Applications are reviewed in the order in which they are received, as expeditiously as possible. APCA receives the majority of applications on deadline dates so turnaround can take several weeks, depending on the number received and the completeness of the application and documentation.

5. Application approval and appointment scheduling.

APCA emails eligible Applicants an Examination Confirmation Letter (ECL) upon approval of their application and all required supporting documentation. ECLs may also be found by logging on to [APCA.org/MYAPCA](https://www.apca.org/MYAPCA). The letter indicates the examination for which you have been approved.

A website address and toll-free number are provided so you can schedule your examination appointment with Pearson. Test centers are located in the U.S., Canada, and many international locations.

If you are ineligible, you will be notified of your ineligibility and the reason(s) for that determination.

6. Prepare for the examination.
Review the full CBCMR Content Outline and Scope of Knowledge at [APCA.org/CBCMR](https://www.apca.org/CBCMR). A [tutorial is available](#) to assist you.

7. On examination day:
CBCMR examinations are administered on a computer in a secure Pearson test center. Test center policies are strictly enforced so be sure to review them carefully prior to your examination appointment.

8. After the examination. Results and a full score report will be available approximately 60 days after the close of the examination administration window. At that time, an email will be sent to you with instructions on how to access your score report in MY APCA ([APCA.org/MYAPCA](https://www.apca.org/MYAPCA)). CBCMR certification is currently valid for 10 years. CBCMR is committed to the global standards of physician excellence in patient care and is actively evaluating continued competence models.

Shortly after your CBCMR certification has been awarded, you will be mailed your certificate. Diplomates will be listed in the Directory of Certificants at [APCA.org/Directory](https://www.apca.org/Directory).

APPLY & MANAGE YOUR APPLICATION THROUGH [APCA.ORG/MYAPCA](https://www.apca.org/MYAPCA)

About the CBCMR Certification Examination

A fundamental goal of every professional or academic institution is to improve in areas of competence, quality, and effectiveness. Credentialing facilitates achievement of this goal. Certification provides a mechanism to demonstrate training and/or experience and meet an established standard of knowledge in accordance with practice guidelines.

The CBCMR examination assesses Candidates on their knowledge, skills, and abilities in the full range of tasks needed for physicians to practice CMR. This includes patient preparation, selecting appropriate protocols, conducting CMR studies in a spectrum of scenarios, interpreting the results and performing post-processing tasks.

To earn certification in CMR, Candidates must meet all requisite eligibility criteria and pass a secure, proctored examination. Please consult the full description of eligibility requirements by reviewing the CBCMR Certification information at [APCA.org/CBCMR](https://www.apca.org/CBCMR).

A Practice Analysis was conducted to establish the Examination Blueprint and will periodically be updated for the CBCMR examination to reflect the frequency and importance of CMR tasks performed by physicians.

The CBCMR certification examination will have one administration window each year, and will be administered at Pearson test centers located worldwide. Examination results will be available on **MY APCA** approximately 60 days after the close of the administration window.





Prepare for your examination day

Test Center Admission and Identification

When you arrive at the test center, be prepared to:

- Check in with a test center administrator
- Present a valid photo ID
- Have your palm scanned
- Take a test-day photograph

Special Accommodations

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), APCA will provide reasonable testing accommodations for Candidates with professionally diagnosed disabilities as defined by the ADA. Visit [APCA.org/ADA](https://www.apca.org/ADA). Requests for ADA consideration must be made at the time of application submission.

APCA Compliance Policies and Required Review

During the online application process Applicants are required to attest to their compliance with all APCA Compliance Policies. Applicants who have legal or disciplinary matters in their past must be prepared to disclose these at the time of application and to submit a required Compliance Review fee of \$150. Please review the APCA Compliance Policies ([APCA.org/Compliance](https://www.apca.org/Compliance)) to learn how the policies apply to you.

Compliance Pre-application Review

APCA will conduct a “pre-application review” for a \$125 non-refundable fee for individuals who wish to determine the impact of a previous violation of APCA Compliance Policies on their eligibility to apply for CBCMR certification. For more information regarding the pre-application process, visit [APCA.org/Compliance](https://www.apca.org/Compliance).

Be Prepared!

VIEW PEARSON WHAT TO EXPECT VIDEO AND A PEARSON PROFESSIONAL CENTER TOUR.

CBCMR Certification Eligibility Criteria

Medical Licensure

Applicants must, at the time of application, hold a current and unrestricted license to practice medicine in the U.S. or their country of residence.

Testamur Applicants – Candidates with a training medical license may apply to sit for the examination in a Testamur status provided that at the time of application they are in their Cardiology, Nuclear Medicine, or Radiology training. For details or documentation requirements visit APCA.org/CBCMR.

Board Certification

- **Cardiovascular Disease*** - Board Certified in Cardiovascular Disease by the American Board of Internal Medicine (ABIM), OR from an ABIM Cardiology subspecialty, OR in Cardiology from the American Osteopathic Board of Internal Medicine, OR in Cardiology from the American Board of Pediatrics
- **Nuclear Medicine*** (may carry additional requirements – see ** in next column) - Board Certified in Nuclear Medicine by the American Board of Nuclear Medicine OR the American Osteopathic Board of Nuclear Medicine
- **Radiology*** - Board Certified in Radiology by the American Board of Radiology OR the American Osteopathic Board of Radiology

All eligibility requirements must be completed prior to submitting a CBCMR application. Incomplete or incorrect applications will incur a penalty fee. Documentation must be in English or accompanied by a translation.

Physicians with Board Certification in Nuclear Medicine

Applicants who hold, or will hold, Board Certification in Nuclear Medicine which was obtained through the Diagnostic Radiology training pathway may meet the CMR requirements for Formal Training/Clinical Experience as outlined under “Formal CMR Training” on page 7.

**Applicants who hold, or will hold, Board Certification in Nuclear Medicine NOT through the Diagnostic Radiology training pathway must also provide documentation of 12 months of CMR specific training. For details or documentation requirements visit APCA.org/CBCMR.

Testamur Applicants - If you have not yet taken your Cardiology, Nuclear Medicine or Radiology Board you may apply to sit for the CBCMR examination in Testamur status provided that at the time of application:

- 1) you are in your Cardiology, Nuclear Medicine, or Radiology training or
- 2) you completed your fellowship/residency training within 24 months of applying for the CBCMR examination

For conversion information, see bottom of page 7.

***CMR Training and Board Certification Outside the U.S.** - If your Cardiology, Nuclear Medicine, or Radiology training was completed outside the U.S., you are required to submit at least one of the following:

- Evidence of certification from an equivalent medical specialty board in your country of practice accompanied by the name of the certifying organization
- If you completed a formal training program, but your country does not have a board exam in your specialty, you must provide a letter of completion from your Cardiology Nuclear Medicine or Radiology fellowship/residency program on institutional letterhead following CBCMR’s International Training Letter Template.
- **Testamur Applicants** - If you are currently in a Cardiology, Nuclear Medicine, or Radiology training program, you are permitted to apply in Testamur status.

Documentation to Verify Board Certification

For details or documentation requirements visit APCA.org/CBCMR.



Training/Experience in Cardiovascular Magnetic Resonance

Applicants must have completed one of the following to be eligible to sit for the CBCMR examination. Training and experience requirements are consistent with practice guidelines from societies involved in the fields of cardiovascular imaging. All documentation must be in English or accompanied by a translation.

Formal CMR Training

Physicians with Board Certification in Cardiology, Radiology, or Nuclear Medicine (Diagnostic Radiology) who have met at least one of the following:

- **COCATS 4 Task Force 8:** Training in Cardiovascular Magnetic Resonance Imaging: Level 2 (or 3) OR
- **SCMR Guidelines for Training in Cardiovascular Magnetic Resonance (CMR):** Level 2 (or 3) OR
- **European CMR Certification:** Level 2 (or 3) OR
- **ACR-NASCI-SPR Practice Parameter for the Performance and Interpretation of Cardiac Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI) and qualified according to Section III.A.1 - Physician with prior qualification in general MRI**

Note: If applying more than 36 months since completion of formal CMR training or the date provided on an SCMR verification letter/EuroCMR Certification document is more than 36 months prior to application, the applicant must be able to document 100 CMR cases in the previous 24 months, subject to audit (do not submit cases or case log with application).

Clinical CMR Experience (Temporary Pathway through 2029)

Applicants without formal CMR training may meet eligibility through Clinical CMR Experience by documenting:

- 3 years of cardiovascular magnetic resonance clinical practice (completed within the last 5 years), and
- 300 total cases DIRECTLY performed and interpreted, with case logs and attestation (at least 50% cases cine morphology and delayed enhancement)

Documentation to Verify Board Certification

For details or documentation requirements visit [APCA.org/CBCMR](https://www.apca.org/CBCMR).

Testamur Conversion to Diplomate

Upon passing the CBCMR examination, Testamur Candidates will retain this status until they provide documentation of Board Certification in their specialty and a current, unrestricted medical license to CBCMR. Once the appropriate documentation is received and approved, new Diplomates' names will be listed in the Directory of Certificants on the APCA website. Conversion from Testamur to Diplomate must take place within six years of passing the CBCMR examination OR candidates must apply for and re-pass the CBCMR exam.

Continuing Medical Education

Applicants must provide documentation of completion of 15 hours of AMA PRA Category I CME that are CMR-specific and completed in the 60 months prior to application submission for the CBCMR examination. For activities that do not have CMR in the title, candidates are responsible for providing course documentation.

Applicants trained outside the U.S are required to provide documentation of completion of 15 education or lecture hours that are CMR-specific and completed in the 60 months prior to application submission for the CBCMR examination.



Candidates should submit course or activity certificates or official CME transcripts. Self-attested CME documentation/lists will not be accepted.

Applicants are exempt from the CME requirement if an ACGME or AOA accredited training program or a formal training program from outside the U.S., was completed up to 36 months prior to the date of application for the CBCMR examination.

[APCA.org/CBCMR](https://www.apca.org/CBCMR)



Fees and Online Resources

Visit [APCA.org/CBCMR](https://www.apca.org/CBCMR) for information on submitting documentation and fees. Don't miss this opportunity to earn CBCMR Certification in 2026.

Examination Fees	Fees	Date
Regular Deadline	\$1,195	Jan 13, 2026 to April 1, 2026
Late Deadline	\$1,395	April 14, 2026
Refund Deadline	\$895	April 24, 2026
Multimodality discount if certified by any other APCA Certification	\$50	
Incomplete/Incorrect Application	\$75	

Regular registration is \$1,195, apply today!

Applications must be submitted by 11:59 pm Eastern Time on the date listed above to receive that fee. The application window will close at 11:59 pm Eastern Time on April 14, 2026. No exceptions.

Apply Early!

You'll Improve Your Chances of Obtaining Your Preferred Test Center Location and Appointment Time.

Additional Resources

Visit and bookmark [APCA.org/CBCMR](https://www.apca.org/CBCMR) to find the following:

- Apply for an Examination
- Prepare for an Examination
- Schedule an Examination
- Examination Content Outline and Scope of Knowledge
- CBCMR Tutorial
- Scoring Information
- CBCMR Eligibility Details and Documentation Templates
- CME Requirements Guidance



APCA does not discriminate against any person on the basis of age, gender, sexual orientation, race, religion, national origin, medical condition, physical disability or marital status.

Learn more at

[APCA.org/CBCMR](https://www.apca.org/CBCMR) • 240-631-8151 • CBCMR@inteleos.org

