



RMSK

Prerequisite Information

Registered in Musculoskeletal® (RMSK®) sonography



APCA™

Alliance for Physician
Certification & Advancement

APCA.org
1-800-943-1709 • 240-386-1738



@APCA_Council

RMSK Prerequisite Information



APCA offers one prerequisite under which to apply for the MSK examination. All applicants, including existing APCA Certificants, must meet all requirements of the MSK prerequisite in order to apply.

Eligibility will not be determined by telephone, fax, or email. Applicants

must apply online and submit all fees and required supporting documentation before eligibility is determined.

Visit [APCA.org/MSK](https://www.apca.org/MSK) for a complete list of examination administration dates and the dates during which the online applications are accepted for each examination period.

Please note: Prerequisites apply to first-time applicants only. For more information, please visit [APCA.org/MSK](https://www.apca.org/MSK).



Musculoskeletal (MSK) sonography Prerequisite

Note: All listed items must be met and completed prior to submission.

Licensure

Must hold and be practicing as one of the following designations with a valid medical license in good standing without any conditions or restrictions to practice medicine:

- Doctor of Medicine (MD)
- Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine (DO)
- Doctor of Podiatric Medicine (DPM)
- Bachelor of Medicine, Bachelor of Surgery (MBBS) earned outside North America
- Doctor of Chiropractic (DC)*
- Nurse Practitioner (NP)*
- Physician Assistant (PA)*
- Doctor of Physical Therapy (DPT)*
- Physiotherapist \ Physical Therapist (PT)*

Required Clinical Musculoskeletal Ultrasound Experience

Performed and/or authorized diagnosis of a minimum of 150 musculoskeletal ultrasound studies within the preceding 36 months of application. No more than 5% (8 cases) of the 150 case log requirement can be labeled as therapeutic (injection or aspiration). For purposes of satisfying this requirement, these studies must be completed on actual patients in a clinical diagnostic** setting. Simulation is not acceptable for this attestation.

Recommended Continuing Medical Education (CME)

Although CMEs are not required to apply for the MSK examination, APCA highly recommends and encourages

applicants to earn a minimum of 30 CMEs in musculoskeletal ultrasound to assist applicants in preparing to take the MSK examination. Applicants do not need to submit CME documentation as this is only a recommendation and not a requirement.

Documentation Required with Application

1. Copy of a valid medical license in good standing without any conditions or restrictions to practice medicine as an MD, DO, DPM, MBBS, DC, NP, PA, DPT or PT.

2. **Important Change that Began in 2019:**

Completed third-party attestation form indicating the performance and/or authorized diagnosis of a minimum of 150 musculoskeletal ultrasound studies within the preceding 36 months of application. To download the form, go to [APCA.org/MSKAttestation](https://www.apca.org/MSKAttestation).

3. Applicants must maintain a patient log indicating the performance and/or authorized diagnosis of a minimum of 150 musculoskeletal ultrasound studies within the preceding 36 months of application. No more than 5% (8 cases) of the 150 case log requirement can be labeled as therapeutic (injection or aspiration). This log does not need to be submitted with the application but may be requested as part of a random audit. This docu-

mentation should be maintained by the applicant for at least 36 months following the date of application for the MSK examination.

4. Copy of a non-expired government-issued photo identification with signature; the first and last names on the identification must exactly match the first and last names under which you apply.

* Advanced-care professionals can earn and retain the RMSK certification. As APCA continues to research and evaluate the growing field of MSK imaging, there may be a need for future specialized exams for advanced-care professionals.

**Clinical diagnostic settings include hospitals, clinics and private practices. APCA does not accept volunteer, instructorship, unpaid, barter or veterinarian experience.

Note: The name on all supporting documentation must be consistent and must match the name under which you apply. If it does not, you will need to submit legal documentation of the name change (e.g., a marriage/divorce certificate) and all other supporting documentation.

Note: Prerequisite requirements are subject to change at any time. Applicants must meet current prerequisite requirements in effect at the time of application. APCA, in its discretion, may request from you or others information concerning matters that may be relevant to eligibility for certification and certification status. Documentation received in a language other than English must include a notarized translation in English. All documents, communications, and other information received by APCA become the property of APCA and will not be returned.

To print your own copy of the most current MSK prerequisite chart, visit [APCA.org/MSKprereq](https://www.apca.org/MSKprereq).