

ABCMO BASICS

- The American Board of Certification in Medical Optometry is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit corporation chartered to provide recognition and certification of optometrists with advanced competence in the specialty of medical optometry following completion of an accredited residency and written and oral examinations.
- The Board registry of those certified in Medical Optometry will provide valuable information to the public, practitioners and credentialing committees.
- For those completing residency on or after 2005, ABCMO certification requires completion of an accredited one-year residency with emphasis on medical optometry, passage of the ACMO written examination, documentation of current clinical privileges, an interview and adherence to the ethics and mode of practice specified by the Board..
- For those completing residency prior to July 1, 2006, passage of ABCMO is not required if application is made before 2012.
- Due to an establishing grant, the Board will initially offer certification at nominal cost.
- Certification in Medical Optometry is designed for those practicing, or seeking to practice, within accredited health care facilities, group or private practices having significant numbers of patients with primary or secondary diseases of the eye.
- The practice of optometry remains legally defined by licensure and while board certification can not affect scope of privileging, it signifies advanced training, experience and qualifications in Medical Optometry.
- Donations, grants and support-in-kind to the Board qualify as charitable contributions for tax purposes per 501(c)(3) regulations.
- The Board, and Directors, will cooperate with other organizations to support the advancement of the profession but will maintain independent and barred from conflicts of interest real, or perceived with other organizations or individuals.