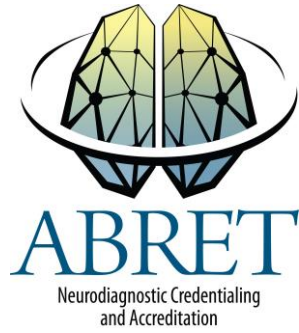


ABRET Neurodiagnostic Credentialing & Accreditation

EXAMINATION POLICIES 2024



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ABRET NEURODIAGNOSTIC CREDENTIALING & ACCREDITATION

POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

Application Process

Section:	APP-1	# Pages:	1
Origin date:	2016	Distribution:	External
Last Revised:	2022		

Candidate must abide by the following application procedures for the EEG, EP, neurophysiologic intraoperative monitoring, long term monitoring, neuroanalyst, autonomic professional and magnetoencephalography exams.

Procedure

- I. Candidates must read the current handbook for candidates.
- II. Candidates will select and submit all information required to meet the criteria for selected eligibility pathway or candidates may submit a petition to be reviewed by the Eligibility Committee.
- III. Candidates will follow the application procedure outlined in the handbook for Candidates.
- IV. Candidate will submit payment for exams and any other fees in full before being allowed to examine.
- V. Application files are randomly selected for audit.
- VI. EEG, EP, CNIM, CLTM, NA-CLTM and CAP candidates will receive a notification their application is accepted and are eligible to test.
- VII. CMEG candidates will receive information on accessing the modules for the certification program.

ABRET NEURODIAGNOSTIC CREDENTIALING & ACCREDITATION

POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

Petition to Rescore EEG, EP, CNIM, CLTM, or CAP Exams

Section:	APP-2	# Pages:	1
Origin date:	1993	Distribution:	External
Last Revised:	2015		

The contracted testing agency reviews the examination score sheet on request.

PROCEDURE:

- I. The candidate completes the Request for Handscoring form on the contracted testing service provider's website and pays the fee.
- II. A report of the evaluation is sent to the candidate and the ABRET executive office.
- III. If an error occurs on the part of the contracted testing agency, both the candidate and ABRET are notified. ABRET acknowledges errors if they occur and changes the pass/fail status of a candidate if appropriate.

ABRET NEURODIAGNOSTIC CREDENTIALING & ACCREDITATION

POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

Exam challenges

Section:	APP-3	# Pages:	2
Origin date:	2005	Distribution:	External
Last Revised:			

ABRET will provide every candidate with an opportunity to question the reliability, validity, and/or fairness of a test and its questions ABRET will investigate each challenge or complaint and acknowledge it in writing to the complaining candidate.

PROCEDURE:

- I. Candidates may comment about any test question or questions, test procedure by
 - A. Logging comments during the examination or,
 - B. Submitting a comment in writing to the Executive Director within 14 days of the exam.

- II. Required information
 - A. Comment forms and letters should describe the basis for the content challenge or complaint in as much detail as possible, including:
 1. candidate's name and contact information;
 2. name and contact information of other persons alleged to be involved;
 3. names and contact information of others who may have knowledge of the facts;
 4. date and location of the test administration; and
 5. remedy desired by candidate.
 - B. A written letter of complaint must be submitted no later than fourteen calendar days after taking the exam to the ABRET Executive Office.

- III. Procedure
 - A. Comments regarding exam validity will be reviewed by the Exam Committee upon referral by testing company staff.
 - B. If deemed necessary, the question will be amended or eliminated and scored adjusted.

- C. Examination materials shall not be available for review by candidates. Scored answer sheets and test questions are not open to public inspection or subsequent review by the candidate.
- D. Other complaints will be reviewed and investigated by the ABRET Executive Director in Consultation with the ABRET President and the Chair of the Exam Committee.
- E. A candidate may appeal a decision to the ABRET Board of Directors. Appeals shall be limited to written briefs.
- F. The decision of the Board of Directors shall be final.
- G. A passing score is required for certification in all instances.

ABRET NEURODIAGNOSTIC CREDENTIALING & ACCREDITATION

POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

Special Needs

Section:	APP-4	# Pages:	1
Origin date:	1993; 2017	Distribution:	External
Last Revised:	2022		

The testing service provider makes arrangements for special needs individuals taking the EEG, EP, CNIM, CLTM, NA-CLTM, or CAP Exam.

PROCEDURE:

- I. Along with the application and fee, the candidate must complete the form requesting special accommodations. All special needs requests are handled by the testing agency.
 - A. The form will be sent to the testing service provider for review and accepted based on the criteria in accordance with the American Disabilities Act. The form must be signed by a physician and special requests listed, i.e. extra time, quiet room, reader, additional lighting, etc.
 - B. The testing service provider makes reasonable arrangements to meet the individual's needs.
 - C. If concerns arise, the testing agency contacts the Executive Director who confers with the President.
- II. Testing Center proctors will make every effort to assist in the accommodation and examination needs of candidates with disabilities.
- III. If a candidate appears to be having difficulty the Proctor Manual states the candidate should be asked if anything can be done to improve their examination experience. Some possibilities may be to adjust the contrast of the monitor, the height of the chair, or adjusting the screen angle.

ABRET NEURODIAGNOSTIC CREDENTIALING & ACCREDITATION

POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

Examination Transfer

Section:	APP-6	# Pages:	1
Origin date:	1992	Distribution:	External
Last Revised:	2020		

A candidate who has applied for the ABRET Examinations may not transfer to another testing period.

PROCEDURE:

- I. A candidate who has applied and been accepted for an ABRET examination may reschedule their examination session within the assigned testing window. Fees may apply.
- II. Candidate must cancel their appointment with the Testing Center (Prometric) according to their policy, more than 24 hours prior to their scheduled session or examination fees are forfeited.
- III. If candidates do not take the examination within the testing window, they must reapply and pay for the examination again. Fees do not transfer.
- IV. In the event of an emergency, a candidate can petition the Board for a transfer or extension of the testing window. Documentation of the emergency must accompany the petition. This is determined on a case-by-case basis.

ABRET NEURODIAGNOSTIC CREDENTIALING & ACCREDITATION

POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

Eligibility Requirements for ABRET Examinations

Section:	APP-7	# Pages:	1
Origin date:	1993; 2016	Distribution:	External
Last Revised:	2024		

Health care professionals trained and currently practicing or studying neurodiagnostic technology are eligible to take the ABRET credentialing examinations if they meet published requirements outlined in one of the Eligibility Pathways.

PROCEDURE:

- I. Eligibility pathways will be recommended by the Practice/Eligibility Committee.
- II. Eligibility Pathways will be approved by the ABRET Board of Directors.
- III. Changes in eligibility requirements will be announced in advance and may be posted for public comment prior to implementation.
- IV. Eligibility Pathways will be published on the ABRET website and in the Candidate Handbook.
- V. All candidates must meet the published eligibility requirements.
- VI. Candidate may petition their eligibility.

ABRET NEURODIAGNOSTIC CREDENTIALING & ACCREDITATION

POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

Exam Handbooks

Section:	APP-8	# Pages:	1
Origin date:	1994; 2016	Distribution:	External
Last Revised:	2023		

Handbooks for the ABRET Examinations can be downloaded from the ABRET website.

PROCEDURE:

- I. Candidates may download the Examination Handbooks from the ABRET website at no charge.
- II. Candidate Handbooks are updated annually.
- III. Candidates must read the Handbook as part of the required application process.
- IV. Candidate Handbooks available on the ABRET website are ADA-compliant.

ABRET NEURODIAGNOSTIC CREDENTIALING & ACCREDITATION

POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

Petition of Eligibility

Section:	APP-9	# Pages:	1
Origin date:	2016	Distribution:	External
Last Revised:	2017		

Candidates may petition their examination eligibility by following a specified procedure.

PROCEDURE:

- I. Petitioning eligibility requires the submission of the online petition form found on the ABRET website and payment of fees.
- II. The petition form and additional documents submitted by the candidate will be reviewed by the Director of Programs and the appropriate ABRET Program Committee, as necessary.
- III. Petitions should demonstrate the candidate has met an equivalent level of required education.
- IV. A decision of eligible to apply or ineligible to apply for an ABRET exam will be reached, and the candidate will be notified of the decision.

ABRET NEURODIAGNOSTIC CREDENTIALING & ACCREDITATION

POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

Eligibility Review and Appeal Policy

Section:	APP-10	# Pages:	4
Origin date:	New	Distribution:	External
Last Revised:	2021		

To protect the public by providing rules of professional conduct for individuals seeking to become ABRET registered or certified technologists and personnel.
To investigate and determine eligibility for candidates.

PREAMBLE:

ABRET has developed this Eligibility Review and Appeal Policy to establish a fair process for addressing application and examination issues.

1. Eligibility.

A. Complete Application. Each individual is required to complete and sign an application in the form provided by ABRET, to pay the required fees, and to provide additional information as requested.

B. Standards of Practice.

i. If conduct has occurred that may be grounds for disciplinary action under the Violations to Standards of Practice and Disciplinary Process policy, then ABRET may place an application on hold while reviewing the matter.

ii. A criminal conviction may be grounds to deny or otherwise limit eligibility. Convictions of this nature include (but are not limited to) felonies involving rape, sexual abuse of a patient or child, and actual or threatened use of a weapon or violence.

iii. An individual convicted of a felony directly related to public health and safety or the profession will be considered for eligibility on a case-by-case basis.

iv. If a conviction resulted in a sentence that includes incarceration, then the individual is ineligible while in confinement.

C. Reinstatement of Eligibility. Following a period of ineligibility based

on this policy or noncompliance with the Violations to Standards of Practice and Disciplinary Process policy, the individual may apply for reinstatement of eligibility by demonstrating that he/she has been rehabilitated. Proof is by preponderance of the evidence. Unless adequate evidence is submitted, the individual will remain ineligible.

2. Examinations.

- A.** The examinations are the sole and exclusive property of ABRET and may not be used in any way without the express written consent of ABRET. No one is permitted to make or keep copies, excerpts, or notes of examination materials. For security reasons, examination materials (scored answer sheets, test books, computer applications, etc.) are not open to public inspection or review by a candidate. Individuals are prohibited from using or divulging information learned from the examinations.
- B.** A passing score is required for registration or certification in all instances. Failure to pass an examination may **not** be appealed.
- C.** ABRET may withhold an examination score pending resolution of an examination irregularity. ABRET may cancel an examination score if there is adequate reason to question its validity because of misconduct or other circumstances.

3. Grace Period. If an individual fails to meet the recertification deadline and his/her credential expires, then the individual may apply for reinstatement within a 3-month grace period after the expiration date.

- A.** In addition to the regular recertification application and fees, the individual is required to pay a late fee of \$100.
- B.** This grace period is not available to extend the time within which to complete recertification requirements.
- C.** Individuals seeking reinstatement after this grace period may proceed with an appeal as provided below in Section 5. If that appeal upholds the original denial, then the individual will be required to apply as a new applicant.

4. Initial Review & Determination. The Executive Director, in consultation with the ABRET President, will determine whether a candidate has met the requirements for registration, certification, or recertification. If an individual has not met the requirements, then ABRET may permit the individual another opportunity to supplement his/her application. The timeframe and other conditions for further review will be provided by ABRET and an additional fee may apply. If the outcome of this initial review is not favorable to the individual, then the individual may proceed with an appeal as provided below in Section 5.

5. Appeals Process.

- A.** A denial of eligibility for registration, certification, or recertification may be appealed. However, an individual may appeal the decision only if registration, certification, or recertification was denied for a reason other than failing an examination.
- B.** Individuals are required to meet all deadlines set by ABRET. However, in the event that an individual fails to meet an ABRET deadline due to circumstances beyond the control of the individual or other extraordinary conditions that have rendered it difficult or impossible for the individual to meet ABRET's deadlines, then the individual may request an exception through the appeals process described in this Section. No other procedures will be afforded to individuals who fail to meet ABRET deadlines.
- C.** The individual may request an appeal within thirty (30) days after receipt of the denial letter. After this time, the individual may not request an appeal.
- D.** All appeals must be submitted in writing and sent to ABRET by traceable mail or delivery service.
- E.** The appeal request must include an explanation of why the denial was inappropriate because of a material error of fact or a failure to follow ABRET's rules. If the Executive Director determines that the request is frivolous, then the appeal will not proceed.
- F.** The individual will be allowed a period of thirty (30) days after ABRET's receipt of the appeal request in which to submit a written brief in support of his/her appeal.
- G.** The Executive Director may file a written response to the appeal brief.
- H.** An appeal of a denial will be forwarded to the Eligibility Committee. The Chair of the Committee will appoint two members of the Committee to review the appeal. These two members may not: (a) review any matter in which their impartiality might reasonably be questioned, or (b) review any matter which presents an actual, apparent, or potential conflict of interest.
- I.** The Committee will render a decision based on the written record. Documentation not previously submitted to ABRET will not be considered. An oral hearing is not permitted.
- J.** The Committee may accept, reject, or modify the decision of the Executive Director. In order to overturn a denial, the individual must demonstrate that the denial was inappropriate because of a material error of fact or a failure to follow ABRET's rules. Proof is by preponderance of the evidence.

- K.** The decision of the Committee is final.
- L.** The individual will be notified of the Committee's decision.
- M.** Only one appeal per application is permitted. If that appeal upholds the original denial, then the individual must complete and submit a new application in order to seek registration or certification at another time.
- N.** The individual is responsible for all expenses incurred by him/her related to the appeal of a denial of eligibility and must pay an appeal administrative fee.

ABRET NEURODIAGNOSTIC CREDENTIALING & ACCREDITATION

POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

Statement on Endorsement of Professional Meetings and Workshops

Section:	BOD-2	# Pages:	1
Origin date:	1993; 2017	Distribution:	External
Last Revised:	2020		

ABRET does not endorse the content of professional meetings and workshops. However, ABRET does acknowledge that meetings, workshops, and other educational tools are valuable methods of study for the candidate.

PROCEDURE:

- I. ABRET may announce relevant continuing education programs on Social Media outlets. The candidate is responsible for obtaining additional meeting or workshop information and registration materials.
- II. ABRET recognizes national providers of continuing education in neurodiagnostic:
 - ASET
 - ACNS
 - ASNM
 - AES
 - ACMEGS

ABRET NEURODIAGNOSTIC CREDENTIALING & ACCREDITATION

POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

Voluntary Credentialing in Neurodiagnostic Technology

Section:	BOD-4	# Pages:	2
Origin date:	1993	Distribution:	External
Last Revised:	2021		

ABRET supports the concept of voluntary registration by examination for health care professionals in the field of neurodiagnostics.

Registration and certification focus specifically on the individual and are indications of current knowledge and competency.

PROCEDURE:

- I. The objective of ABRET is to establish competency neurodiagnostic technologists by:
 - A. Establishing a standard of requisite knowledge in each modality through a Practice Analysis.
 - B. Establishing and measuring the level of knowledge required for certification by means of objective written (computer based) examinations.
 - C. Formally recognizing individuals who successfully complete the requirements of the examination with credentials.
 1. Upon successful completion of the EEG exam, technologists may use R. EEG T. for professional identification.
 2. Upon successful completion of the EP exam, technologists may use R. EP T. for professional identification.
 3. Upon successful completion of the neurophysiologic intraoperative monitoring exam, technologists may use CNIM mark for professional identification.

4. Upon successful completion of the long term monitoring examination, technologists may use the CLTM mark for professional identification.
5. Upon successful completion of the examination in Autonomic Testing, technologists may use the CAP mark for professional identification.
6. Upon successful completion of the certification program and examination in Magnetoencephalography, technologists may use the CMEG mark for professional identification.
7. Upon successful completion of the NeuroAnalyst examination, neuroprofessionals may use the NA-CLTM mark for professional identification.

II. Encouraging continued professional growth in each field

III. Requiring recertification for maintenance of knowledge

ABRET NEURODIAGNOSTIC CREDENTIALING & ACCREDITATION

POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

Statement on Equivalency of Other Neurodiagnostic Registration or Certification

Section:	BOD-15	# Pages:	1
Origin date:	1993	Distribution:	Internal
Last Revised:	2021		

1. Possession of other neurodiagnostic registration or certification, national or international, does not fulfill ABRET registration requirements, consequently, the R.EEG T., R.EP T., and R.EEG/EP T. titles are reserved only for those who successfully complete ABRET registry exam requirements.
2. Possession of other neurodiagnostic registration or certification, national or international, does not fulfill ABRET certification requirements, consequently, the CNIM, CLTM, NA-CLTM and CAP titles are reserved only for those who successfully complete ABRET certification requirements.
3. Possession of other neurodiagnostic registration or certification, national or international, does not fulfill ABRET certification requirements, consequently, CMEG is reserved only for those who successfully complete ABRET certificate program in Magnetoencephalography.
4. All candidates must meet current eligibility requirements in order to participate in the examination processes. Candidates may file for a petition of eligibility.
5. ABRET discourages the use of job designations or functions such as EEGT, EPT, ENDT, etc., after an individual's name in the form of a title.

ABRET NEURODIAGNOSTIC CREDENTIALING & ACCREDITATION

POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

EEG, EP CNIM, CLTM, and CAP Examinations

Combine with

Section:	BOD-19	# Pages:	1
Origin date:	1993	Distribution:	External
Last Revised:	2020		

The Board of Directors of ABRET is responsible for offering credentialing examinations annually.

PROCEDURE

- I. The Board of Directors contracts with a testing service to administer ABRET credentialing exams throughout the year.
- II. Candidates must successfully complete the examination in order to be credentialed by ABRET.

ABRET NEURODIAGNOSTIC CREDENTIALING & ACCREDITATION

POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

Nondiscriminatory & Impartiality Practice Statement

Section:	BOD-22	# Pages:	1
Origin date:	1994	Distribution:	External
Last Revised:	1923		

ABRET does not discriminate on the basis of age, sex, race, religion, national origin, marital status, or handicapping condition. ABRET promotes objectivity in certification.

PROCEDURE:

- I. ABRET is operated in accordance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (42 U.S.C. d et seq.), Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (42 U.S.C. 70b), and the Age Discrimination Act of 1975 (42 U.S.C. 6101 et seq.), no individual shall, on the ground of race, sex, color, creed, national origin, age or handicap be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be otherwise subjected to discrimination under any program of services by this Board.
- II. ABRET also complies fully with The Americans with Disabilities Act, EEOC, and other regulatory agencies. Questions concerning compliance should be directed to the Executive Director.
- III. ABRET promotes the importance of impartiality in carrying out certification activities. This includes managing conflict of interest and ensuring the objectivity of its certification activities.
- IV. An annual Impartiality Threat Analysis is performed by the executive office.

ABRET NEURODIAGNOSTIC CREDENTIALING & ACCREDITATION

POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

Release of Credential Information

Section:	EXO-6	# Pages:	1
Origin date:	1991	Distribution:	External
Last Revised:	2020		

The Executive Office releases the name, credential number and dates.

PROCEDURE:

- I. Interested parties may request registry or certification information
 - A. Credentials may be verified online on the ABRET website.
 - B. Requests may be made to the Executive Office.
 - C. Credential verification forms are available from the office or website.
- II. Appropriate information must be provided for the verification.
 - A. The request must include the name of the technologist at the time of registration or certification.
 - B. The Executive Director or staff sends a confirmation of the registry or certification along with the name, number and date of registration or certification and expiration, if applicable, to the requesting party.
 - A. If there is uncertainty of the candidate's status, additional information is requested.
- III. Information on the status of a candidate currently in the exam process is not released without written consent of the candidate.
 - A. The Executive Director may upon written authorization from a candidate, confirm or deny that a candidate is currently in the exam process.
 - B. Candidate scores are not released to a third party other than to the candidate's program in the program reports sent quarterly to the neurodiagnostic accredited and recognized programs/schools.

ABRET NEURODIAGNOSTIC CREDENTIALING & ACCREDITATION

POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

Names on Certificates of Registration

Section:	EXO-9	# Pages:	1
Origin date:	1994	Distribution:	External
Last Revised:	1996		

ABRET certificates do not include credentials along with names.

PROCEDURE:

- I. The ABRET certificates of registration/certification include only the name of the technologist or credentialed individual.
- II. No other certification, designation or credentials are placed on the certificate since ABRET cannot be responsible for verification of credentials.
- III. Candidates are expected to provide their legal name for the certificate and credential database.

ABRET NEURODIAGNOSTIC CREDENTIALING & ACCREDITATION

POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

Examination Rules

Section:	RUL-1	# Pages:	2
Origin date:	1993	Distribution:	External
Last Revised:	2020		

Candidates must abide by the following rules for all ABRET credentialing/certification examinations.

PROCEDURE:

- I. Admission requires a current driver's license, passport, or US Military ID. Temporary or paper copies are not accepted.
- II. No books of other reference materials may be taken into or removed from the examination room.
- III. No Electronic devices than can be used to record, transmit, receive, or play back audio, photographic, text, or video content, including but not limited to, cell phones, laptops, tablets, Bluetooth devices, wearable technology (such as smart watches), MP3 players (such as iPods), pagers, cameras, and voice recorded are permitted to be used and cannot be taken into the examination room.
- IV. No questions concerning content of the examination may be asked during the testing period. The candidate should listen to the instructions given by the Proctor, read the instructions provided on the computer, and should carefully follow directions.
- V. Candidates are prohibited from leaving the testing room while their examination is in session.
- VI. Bulky clothing, such as sweatshirts (hoodies), jackets, coats, and hats (except hats worn for religious reasons), and most types of jewelry may not be worn while taking the examination.
- VII. All watches and "Fitbit" type devices cannot be worn during the examination.
- VIII. No food/beverages are permitted inside the testing room.

- VIII. ABRET prohibits certain behaviors, including (but not limited to) the activities listed:
- A. Copying test questions
 - B. Copying answers
 - C. Permitting another to copy answers
 - D. Falsifying information required for admission to an examination
 - E. Impersonating another examinee
 - F. Taking the examination for any reason other than for the purpose of seeking accreditation
- IX. Violation of any of the rules listed above may lead to forfeiture of fees, dismissal from the testing room, and cancellation of test scores.

Complaints and challenges must be submitted in writing within fourteen days after taking the examination. ABRET will not consider late submissions. The procedure for submitting complaints and challenges is contained in the ABRET policy on exam challenges.

ABRET NEURODIAGNOSTIC CREDENTIALING & ACCREDITATION

POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

Admission into the ABRET Examination Sessions

Section:	RUL-2	# Pages:	1
Origin date:	1993	Distribution:	External
Last Revised:	2017		

Candidates must bring an Admission Notice and a current government issued photo identification in order to gain admission to the exam.

PROCEDURE:

- I. The testing service provider a scheduling authorization e-mail notice to candidates approximately once they are notified the candidate is eligible to test.
- II. Candidates must present the scheduling authorization and a current government issued photo ID to gain admission to the testing center.
- III. If a candidate does not receive a scheduling authorization at least two weeks following the eligible to test status, he/she should contact the contracted testing agency by phone.
- IV. Candidate must contact the testing center where they are scheduled no later than noon, EST, of the second business day PRIOR to the scheduled appointment in order to reschedule.
- V. Late candidates are admitted to the exam at the discretion of the Proctor.
- VI. There are no refunds. Candidate must sit for the examination within their three-month time frame indicated on their scheduling authorization.

ABRET NEURODIAGNOSTIC CREDENTIALING & ACCREDITATION

POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

Confidentiality of Exam Results and Materials

Section:	RUL-4	# Pages:	1
Origin date:	1993	Distribution:	External
Last Revised:	2020		

ABRET is committed to protecting confidential and/or proprietary information related to its mission and its certification programs (i.e. applicants; candidates; certificants; and the examination development, maintenance, and administration process). The confidentiality policy applies to all ABRET employees, Board members, committee members, consultants, and other individuals who are permitted access to confidential information.

PROCEDURE:

- I. ABRET and the contracted testing agency consider individual written exam results confidential. ABRET will release the individual test scores ONLY to the individual candidate. CAAHEP Program Directors will receive the results of their graduates included on the individual CAAHEP Program School Report.
- II. Confidential materials include, but are not limited to: an individual's application, application status, personal applicant /certificant information, exam development documentation (including job analysis study reports, technical reports, and cut score studies), exam items and answers, exam forms, and individual exam scores and are considered the sole property of ABRET.
- III. To ensure the security of the examination, all test materials are confidential and will not be released to any person or agency.
- IV. Personal information submitted by applicant /certificants with an application or recertification application is considered confidential. Personal information retained within the applicant/certificant database will be kept confidential.
- V. If ABRET is required by law to disclose confidential information, the individual(s) whose information is released will be notified to the extent permitted by law.

ABRET NEURODIAGNOSTIC CREDENTIALING & ACCREDITATION

POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

Use of ACNS Guidelines

Section:	RUL-6	# Pages:	1
Origin date:	1992	Distribution:	External
Last Revised:	2016		

ABRET examinations utilize the American Clinical Neurophysiology Guidelines.

PROCEDURE:

- I. ABRET uses the American Clinical Neurophysiology Society (ACNS) Guidelines as a reference for testing and evaluation of candidates taking the ABRET Examination.
- II. ACNS guidelines are available at no cost on the ACNS website, www.acns.org.

ABRET NEURODIAGNOSTIC CREDENTIALING & ACCREDITATION

POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

Passing Score for ABRET Examinations

Section:	RUL-7	# Pages:	1
Origin date:	1990; 2017	Distribution:	Internal
Last Revised:	2024		

Candidates must correctly attain at least the minimum passing score to be successful on ABRET examinations.

PROCEDURE:

- I. ABRET determines the minimum passing score for written examinations based on psychometric standards and the judgment of the qualified board members.
 - A. The panel discusses the concept of 'minimally competent' for certification purposes.
 - B. Psychometric standards and test statistics are considered in the process.
- II. A cut score study is performed for new forms of an examination.
 - A. ABRET reviews the cut score annually at the Board Meeting.
 - B. The Testing Company enforces the cut scores determined by ABRET.
 - C. The cut-score is the number of items a candidate must answer correctly.
- III. The scoring for ABRET examinations is based on an equating system. Equating considers the examination's difficulty level and scales the score to provide the highest level of fairness to the candidate.

ABRET NEURODIAGNOSTIC CREDENTIALING & ACCREDITATION

POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

Violations to Standards of Practice and Disciplinary Process

Section:	RUL-8	# Pages:	12
Origin date:	1993	Distribution:	Internal
Last Revised:	2021		

To protect the public by providing rules of professional conduct for ABRET registered or certified technologists and personnel. To investigate and apply sanctions for violations by registered technologists and certified professionals. ABRET does not warrant the performance of any individuals.

PREAMBLE

ABRET Neurodiagnostic Credentialing and Accreditation is a nonprofit credentialing board for Electroencephalographic (“EEG”) Technologists, Evoked Potential (“EP”) Technologists, Long Term Monitoring (“CLTM”), Neurophysiologic Intraoperative Monitoring (“CNIM”) Technologists, Autonomic Testing Professionals (“CAP”), and Magnetoencephalographic Technologists (“CMEG”). ABRET encourages and promotes quality technical and clinical standards world-wide for neurodiagnostic technologists and laboratories through certification and accreditation.

Individuals seeking to become ABRET Registered Technologists and Certified technologists should recognize their responsibilities, not only to their patients, but also to society, to other health care professionals and to themselves.

The ABRET Board of Directors is composed of individuals who are qualified in EEG, EP, Long Term Monitoring, Neuroanalysis, Intraoperative Monitoring, Autonomics, Magnetoencephalography experts, technologists, and physicians engaged primarily in direct patient care, research, or in neurodiagnostic instruction and education. The members of the Board are elected for a term of three years initially and may be reelected. There are three officers elected from the Board members: the President, Secretary and Treasurer, who comprise the Executive Committee in addition to the Executive Director. The Executive Director is ABRET’s chief of staff and manages and directs all routine operational and administrative activities of the organization.

ABRET has developed a *Code of Ethics* and this Disciplinary Policy to articulate standards of conduct required for certification and continued certification of EEG, EP, CLTM, NA-CLTM, CNIM, CAP, and MEG neuroprofessionals. This policy was also adopted to establish a fair process for addressing noncompliance. Matters are investigated by the Ethics and Disciplinary Committee and presented for judgment

before the Disciplinary Hearing Committee. These committees operate independently of one another. The ABRET Board of Directors is available to hear appeals of Disciplinary Hearing Committee decisions and is the final decision-maker on behalf of ABRET. This policy is intended to protect the public from misconduct by a credential holder and also to protect credential holders from unfounded complaints.

I. General Principles. Individuals must:

- A. be truthful, forthcoming, and cooperative in their dealings with ABRET;
- B. be in continuous compliance with ABRET's rules (as amended from time to time by ABRET);
- C. respect ABRET's intellectual property rights and abide by ABRET's reasonable test administration rules;
- E. abide by laws related to the profession and to general public health and safety; and
- F. carry out their professional work in a competent and objective manner.

II. Grounds for Disciplinary Action. ABRET may deny, suspend, revoke, or take other action regarding an application or certification if an individual is not in compliance with this Disciplinary Policy. Grounds for disciplinary action include (but are not limited to):

- A. Ineligibility for certification, regardless of when the ineligibility is discovered;
- B. An irregular event in connection with an ABRET examination including (but not limited to) copying answers, copying examination materials, and causing a disruption in the testing area;
- C. Providing fraudulent or misleading information;
- D. Unauthorized possession or misuse of ABRET credentials, examinations, and other intellectual property;
- E. Misrepresentation of certification status;
- F. Failure to provide requested information in a timely manner;
- G. Failure to inform ABRET of changes or adverse actions;
- H. Gross negligence or willful misconduct in professional work;
- I. Accepting primary responsibility for interpretation of testing or monitoring for purposes of clinical diagnosis and treatment (Individuals who are licensed or otherwise authorized by practice standards to provide interpretation are excluded.);
- J. Failure to maintain a current professional credential as required by the jurisdiction in which the individual practices (this may include a license, certificate, or registration);
- K. The conviction of, plea of guilty to, or plea of no contest ("nolo contendere") to a felony or misdemeanor related to public health and safety or the profession;
- L. Disciplinary action by a licensing board or professional organization other than ABRET; and

- M. Other failure to maintain continuous compliance with ABRET standards, policies, and procedures.

III. Sanctions.

- A. ABRET may impose one or more of the following sanctions for a violation of this Disciplinary Policy:

1. Denial or suspension of eligibility;
2. Denial of certification;
3. Revocation of certification;
4. Non-renewal of certification;
5. Suspension of certification;
6. Reprimand;
7. Probation;
8. Notification of other legitimately interested parties; or
9. Other corrective action.

C. The sanction must reasonably relate to the nature and severity of the violation, focusing on reformation of the conduct of the individual and deterrence of similar conduct by others. The sanction decision may also take into account aggravating circumstances, prior disciplinary history, and mitigating circumstances. No single sanction will be appropriate in all situations.

IV. Compliance with ABRET Standards, Policies, and Procedures. An individual must be in continuous compliance with all ABRET standards, policies, and procedures. Each individual bears the burden for demonstrating and maintaining compliance at all times.

V. Non-Payment of Fees. Failure to pay fees when due results in automatic expiration of certification.

VI. Contact Information Changes. An individual must notify ABRET within ninety (90) days of any change in name, address, telephone number, or email address.

VII. Adverse Actions. An individual must notify ABRET of any development bearing on certification. Developments which must be reported to ABRET include (but are not limited to) arrests, complaints, inquiries, indictments, and charges pending against the individual before a state or federal regulatory agency, professional certification organization, or judicial body directly relating to public health and safety or the profession, or any matter described in Section 2, above. An individual must report events such as (but not limited to) suspension, revocation, or expiration of

a state license to practice, being sued by a patient, or being investigated or reprimanded by a state regulatory board. The individual must notify ABRET within ninety (90) days after he/she first learns of the development and must provide documentation of the resolution of the matter within ninety (90) days after resolution.

VIII. Complaints.

- A. Persons concerned with possible violation of ABRET rules are encouraged to contact ABRET. The person should submit a written statement identifying the persons alleged to be involved and the facts concerning the alleged conduct in detail, and the statement should be accompanied by any available documentation. The statement should also identify others who may have knowledge of the facts and circumstances concerning the alleged conduct. The person making the complaint should identify him-/herself by name, address, email address, and telephone number. However, ABRET will consider anonymous complaints as long as sufficient information is provided to enable ABRET to conduct an appropriate investigation.
- B. Actions taken under this Disciplinary Policy do not constitute enforcement of the law. Individuals bringing complaints under this Disciplinary Policy are not entitled to any relief or damages by virtue of this process.

IX. Establishment of Ethics and Disciplinary Committee and Disciplinary Hearing Committee.

- A. The ABRET President will appoint (i) an Ethics and Disciplinary Committee and (ii) a Disciplinary Hearing Committee, to consider alleged violations of this Disciplinary Policy or any other ABRET standard, policy, or procedure.
- B. Each of these Committees will be composed of five members drawn from former Directors or current ABRET certificants.
- C. A committee member's term of office on the committee will run for three years and may be renewed.
- D. A committee member may not simultaneously serve on more than one committee and may not serve on any matter in which his or her impartiality might reasonably be questioned, or which presents an actual or apparent conflict of interest.
- E. At all times during ABRET's handling of the matter, ABRET must exist as an impartial review body.

1. In order to avoid actual, apparent, or perceived conflicts of interest, no member will be permitted to serve on the ABRET Ethics and Disciplinary Committee, Disciplinary Hearing Committee, or Board of Directors whenever:
 - a. A member has formed an opinion on the matter; or
 - b. A member is employed by, has been employed by, or is related to either the affected individual, or the member has special knowledge that could bias his/her decision relative to either the individual or ABRET.
 2. If at any time during the review of a matter by ABRET, the affected individual, a member of the Board of Directors or a committee member identifies a situation where the judgment of a member of the Ethics and Disciplinary Committee, Disciplinary Hearing Committee, or Board of Directors may be biased, prejudiced, or partial:
 3. The member must make full disclosure of such matter by reporting the possible conflict or bias immediately to the committee chair or to the President regarding the Board of Directors; and
 4. The remaining members of the committee or the Board of Directors will determine whether the member must recuse him/herself and will not be permitted to vote or participate in any action taken upon any subject of such matter.
 5. In such an event, the President may appoint another individual, *pro tem*, to a committee for such matter.
- F. Each Committee will elect its own Chair.
- G. Committee action will be determined by majority vote.
- H. When a committee member is unavailable to serve by resignation, disqualification or other circumstance, the President of ABRET will designate another individual to serve as an interim member.

X. Disciplinary Review Procedures.

- A. Initial Evaluation by President.

1. Upon receipt of a complaint or an adverse action notice, the Executive Director will confer with the President. The President or the Executive Director may request supplemental information.
2. If the Executive Director and President determine that the complaint is frivolous or that the adverse action is not relevant to certification, no further action will be taken.
3. If the Executive Director and President determine that ABRET lacks jurisdiction over the complaint or the person(s) who are the subject of the complaint, then they may refer the matter to the appropriate governmental agency or another entity engaged in the administration of law.
4. If the Executive Director and President determine that the complaint is not frivolous or that the adverse action may be relevant to certification, it will be forwarded to the Ethics and Disciplinary Committee for investigation.
5. Individuals submitting adverse action notices and persons submitting complaints will be notified of the decision of the Executive Director and President.

C. **Audits.** ABRET may conduct one or more compliance audits. If ABRET discovers a possible violation of ABRET rules, the Executive Director will confer with the President to determine whether the allegation will be forwarded to the Ethics and Disciplinary Committee for investigation.

D. **Procedures of the Ethics and Disciplinary Committee.**

1. The Ethics and Disciplinary Committee will investigate the allegations after receipt from the President. The Committee may contact the individual who submitted the complaint, the individual in question, and others who may have knowledge of the facts and circumstances surrounding the allegations.
2. If the Committee determines after such investigation that the facts are inadequate to sustain a finding of a violation of ABRET rules, no further action will be taken. Individuals submitting adverse action notices and persons submitting complaints will be notified of this decision.
3. If the Committee finds that good cause exists to question whether a violation of an ABRET rule has occurred, the Committee will transmit a statement of following information to the individual by (i) certified mail, return receipt requested, or (ii)

overnight delivery by a nationally recognized express transportation company (with confirmed delivery):

- a. The applicable rule;
 - b. The facts constituting the alleged violation;
 - c. That the individual may request an oral hearing (in person or by phone) or a review by written briefing for the disposition of the matter, with the individual bearing his or her own expenses;
 - d. That the individual will have thirty (30) days after receipt of the statement to notify the President and the Committee if he or she disputes the allegations, has comments on available sanctions, and/or requests an oral hearing in person, an oral hearing by phone, or a review by written briefing;
 - e. That, in the event of an oral hearing in person or by phone, the individual may appear in person with or without the assistance of counsel, may examine and cross-examine any witness under oath, and produce evidence on his or her behalf;
 - f. That the truth of the allegations or failure to respond may result in sanctions including revocation;
 - g. That if the individual does not respond, or if the individual responds but does not dispute the allegations, comment on available sanctions, or request a review or hearing, then the individual waives his/her right to further review and appeal, and consents to the Ethics and Disciplinary Committee rendering a decision on the evidence before it and applying available sanctions.
4. The Ethics and Disciplinary Committee may offer the individual the opportunity to negotiate a specific sanction. Any agreed-upon sanction must be documented in writing and signed by ABRET and the individual.

E. Procedures of the Disciplinary Hearing Committee.

1. **Written Review.** If the individual requests a review by written briefing, the Ethics and Disciplinary Committee will forward the allegations, the record of its investigation, its determination of a violation, its recommendation regarding sanction(s), and the response of the individual to the Disciplinary Hearing Committee. Written briefing may be submitted within thirty (30) days following receipt of the written review request by the Disciplinary Hearing Committee. The Disciplinary Hearing Committee will render a decision based on the record below and written briefs (if any) without an oral hearing.

2. Oral Hearing. If the individual requests a hearing:
 - a. The Ethics and Disciplinary Committee will:
 - (1) Forward the allegations, the record of its investigation, its determination of a violation, its recommendation regarding sanction(s), and the response of the individual to the Disciplinary Hearing Committee; and
 - (2) designate one of its members to present the allegations and any substantiating evidence, examine and cross-examine witnesses, and otherwise present the matter during the hearing.
 - b. The Disciplinary Hearing Committee will:
 - (1) schedule a hearing after the request is received, allowing for an adequate period of time for preparation; and
 - (2) send a Notice of Hearing to the individual by (i) certified mail, return receipt requested, or (ii) overnight delivery by a nationally recognized express transportation company (with confirmed delivery). The Notice of Hearing will include a statement of the time and place selected by the Disciplinary Hearing Committee. The individual may request modification of the time and place for good cause. Failure to respond to the Notice of Hearing will be deemed to be the individual's consent for the Ethics and Disciplinary Committee to administer any sanction that it considers appropriate.
 - c. The Disciplinary Hearing Committee will maintain a verbatim oral or written transcript.
 - d. ABRET and the individual may consult with and be represented by counsel, make opening statements, present documents and testimony, examine and cross-examine witnesses under oath, make closing statements and present written briefs as scheduled by the Disciplinary Hearing Committee.
 - e. The Disciplinary Hearing Committee will determine all matters relating to the hearing.

f. Formal rules of evidence will not apply. Relevant evidence may be admitted. Disputed questions will be determined by the Disciplinary Hearing Committee.

g. The right to the hearing may be forfeited if the individual fails to appear without good cause

(1) In all written reviews and oral hearings:

(a) The Disciplinary Hearing Committee may accept, reject, or modify the recommendation of the Ethics and Disciplinary Committee, either with respect to the determination of a violation or the recommended sanction.

(b) Proof will be by preponderance of the evidence.

(c) The Disciplinary Hearing Committee will issue a written decision following the review or hearing and any briefing. The decision will contain factual findings, conclusions regarding ABRET's rules, and any sanctions applied. It will be mailed promptly to the individual by (i) certified mail, return receipt requested, or (ii) overnight delivery by a nationally recognized express transportation company (with confirmed delivery).

F. If the decision rendered by the Disciplinary Hearing Committee finds that the allegations are not established, no further action on the matter will occur.

G. If the decision rendered by the Disciplinary Hearing Committee is not favorable to the individual, then the individual may appeal the decision to the ABRET Board of Directors.

1. Individuals submitting adverse action notices and persons submitting complaints will be notified of the decision of the Disciplinary Hearing Committee.

XI. **Appeal to the Board of Directors.**

A. A Director may not: (a) review a matter at the appeal stage if he/she investigated the matter as a member of the Ethics and Disciplinary Committee or heard the matter as a member of the Disciplinary Hearing Committee; (b) review any matter in which his/her impartiality might reasonably be questioned, or (c) review any matter which presents an actual, apparent, or potential conflict of interest.

- B. The individual may request an appeal within thirty (30) days after his/her receipt of the Disciplinary Hearing Committee's decision. After this time, the individual may not request an appeal.
- C. All appeals must be submitted in writing and sent to ABRET by traceable mail or delivery service.
- D. The appeal request must specify a valid basis for the appeal. If the Executive Director and the President determine that the request is frivolous, then the appeal will not proceed.
- E. The individual will be allowed a period of thirty (30) days after ABRET's receipt of the appeal request in which to submit a written brief in support of his/her appeal.
- F. The Ethics and Disciplinary Committee may file a written response to the appeal request.
- G. The Board of Directors will render a decision based on the record below and written briefs (if any) without an oral hearing. Alternatively, the Board of Directors may choose to conduct a new in-depth review of all the facts and rules (a "de novo" review). Only facts and conditions up to and including the time of the Disciplinary Hearing Committee's determination are considered during an appeal.
- H. In all reviews:
 - 1. In order to overturn a decision of the Disciplinary Hearing Committee, the individual must demonstrate that the Disciplinary Hearing Committee's decision was inappropriate because of: (a) material errors of fact, or (b) failure to conform to ABRET's rules. Proof is by preponderance of the evidence.
 - 2. The Board of Directors may accept, reject, or modify the decision of the Disciplinary Hearing Committee, either with respect to the determination of a violation or the recommended sanction. The Board of Directors will issue a written decision following the review and any briefing. The decision will contain factual findings, conclusions regarding ABRET's rules, and any sanctions applied. It will be mailed promptly to the individual by (i) certified mail, return receipt requested, or (ii) overnight delivery by a nationally recognized express transportation company (with confirmed delivery).
- I. A decision rendered by the Board of Directors is final.

- J. Individuals submitting appeals and persons submitting complaints will be notified of the decision of the Board of Directors.
- K. **Permanent Record.** All decisions of the Disciplinary Hearing Committee and/or Board of Directors will be filed as a part of an individual's permanent registration/certification record with ABRET.

XII. **Probation.**

- A. As provided above, ABRET may impose probation as a sanction. Probation may be appropriate when an individual requires greater supervision but is still able to perform useful professional services. The specific conditions of probation will be determined by ABRET, and may vary depending on the facts of the violation. Potential conditions include, but are not limited to: monitoring; education; training; supervision; counseling; limitations on a particular conduct or activity; reexamination; notification; and/or reporting.
- B. The probation period may be either a definite or indefinite term. If the probation is for an indefinite term, ABRET will establish a minimum probation period and at the conclusion of that period consider whether the individual has fulfilled the conditions of probation.
- C. Upon completion of the term and conditions of probation, ABRET will make a determination whether the conditions of probation have been completed successfully. If probation is determined not to have been successfully completed, then ABRET may impose further disciplinary sanctions, including revocation of certification.
- D. ABRET may stipulate that the probation is reciprocal, that is, may be imposed pursuant to a similar action (e.g., probation, suspension, practice limitation, etc.) taken by a state licensing agency, other regulatory body, or a professional organization other than ABRET. If ABRET imposes reciprocal probation, then it is the responsibility of the individual to report to ABRET as frequently as to the third party imposing probation. The individual must also report to ABRET the final result determined by the third party. Such reporting may include, but not be limited to, providing ABRET with copies of official paperwork and personal narratives detailing how the individual is meeting each and every condition of probation. ABRET reserves the right, in its sole discretion, to render its own decision and take independent action based on the progress or results of reciprocal probation.

- XIII. **Continuing Jurisdiction.** ABRET may take action under this Disciplinary Policy during the time when an individual's application is pending and at any time during certification. In addition, ABRET retains jurisdiction to review and issue decisions regarding any matter which occurred prior to the expiration or relinquishment of certification.

IXX. Release of Information. ABRET reserves the right to release information regarding an individual's application and certification record to state and federal authorities, licensing boards, employers, and others. This information includes (but is not limited to) ABRET's findings regarding review of the application, information indicating noncompliance with laws, regulations, or the policies of other private voluntary credentialing organizations, and the pendency or outcome of disciplinary proceedings.

ABRET NEURODIAGNOSTIC CREDENTIALING & ACCREDITATION

POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

Trademark Use

Section:	RUL-9	# Pages:	3
Origin date:		Distribution:	External
Last Revised:	2020		

ABRET permits laboratories and other facilities to use the ABRET name to state the fact of accreditation in accordance with this policy as long as active accreditation is maintained.

PROCEDURE:

- I. Ownership. The acronym “ABRET”, the name “ABRET Neurodiagnostic Credentialing and Accreditation,” and the accreditation certificates and other emblems of ABRET are the sole and exclusive property of ABRET and are subject to all applicable trademark and other rights of ABRET as owner under United States intellectual property law and international conventions. Facilities shall not use these items, or any other intellectual property owned by ABRET, except as expressly authorized in this policy or otherwise authorized in advance and in writing by ABRET.
- II. License. For the duration of accreditation, ABRET will permit an accredited facility to use the ABRET name and accreditation certificate for the sole purpose of indicating accreditation by ABRET. All goodwill associated with these items as used by accredited facilities inures solely to the benefit of ABRET.
- III. Permitted Uses. Facilities and credentialed technologists may display certificates, and may use the ABRET name on:
 - A. letterhead and business cards;
 - B. websites and social media;
 - C. signature lines; and
 - D. advertisements, brochures, and other promotional materials.
- IV. Conditions of Use
 - A. All use of the ABRET name must be accurate and supportive of ABRET objectives, and must do so in a manner that is compatible with the mission of ABRET.

- B. All use of the ABRET name must be truthful and not misleading. Specifically, a facility shall not use this name:
1. unless ABRET has made an official accreditation decision;
 2. in connection with services or testing areas in which the facility is not accredited;
 3. in any manner that reflects negatively on ABRET or its activities;
 4. in any manner that conflicts with ABRET policies and procedures;
 5. to state or imply that the facility has any relationship with ABRET other than as an accredited facility; or
 6. to state or imply that ABRET is endorsing or guaranteeing any product or service offered by the facility.
- C. Facilities shall not use the ABRET name (or a word or design that is confusingly similar to an ABRET trademark) as part of the facility's business name, logo, domain name, or product or service name.
- D. The ABRET name may not be the most prominent visual element on the facility's promotional materials. The facility's business name and/or logo, product or service name, and graphics should be significantly larger than the reference to ABRET accreditation.
- E. If space permits, then use of the ABRET name must be accompanied by an acknowledgement of ABRET ownership. This acknowledgement should appear as a footnote with the copyright notice, at the end of a printed document, or at the bottom of a webpage. Please include the following acknowledgement: The ABRET name is a registered trademark owned by ABRET Neurodiagnostic Credentialing and Accreditation and is used by permission.
- F. If accreditation ends, then the facility shall:
1. cease use of any statement that indicates active ABRET accreditation;
 2. return all certificates and other items provided by ABRET, without retaining copies; and
 3. not distribute any materials containing a statement of active ABRET accreditation that the facility might already have prepared.
- G. The facility is responsible for correcting (at its expense) any outdated or otherwise inaccurate reference to active ABRET accreditation.

- V. Quality Control. ABRET has the right to control the quality of all materials on which its name is used in a statement indicating active ABRET accreditation. ABRET will have access to the materials which the facility makes publicly available (such as business cards, letterhead, etc.). Also, the facility shall submit samples if requested by ABRET. If ABRET determines that the facility is not meeting the requirements of this policy, ABRET will notify the facility and provide an explanation. The facility shall correct the violation within 30 calendar days after receipt of the notice. ABRET is the final judge as to whether any use of the ABRET name is consistent with this policy.

- VI. Consequences of Misuse. ABRET is committed to protecting its intellectual property for the benefit of all accredited facilities and the general public as consumers. If a facility fails to comply with this policy or otherwise misuses an accreditation certificate, the ABRET name, or other intellectual property of ABRET, then ABRET may revoke or take other action with regard to the facility's accreditation status in accordance with the ABRET ACCREDITATION ADVERSE ACTION POLICY. If the facility is not accredited by ABRET at the time of the misuse, then ABRET will require corrective action as a condition of eligibility for accreditation should the facility seek accreditation at a later time. In addition, ABRET may pursue other remedies that may be legally available.

- VII. Further Information. If an individual has a question regarding use of these marks, please contact ABRET.

ABRET NEURODIAGNOSTIC CREDENTIALING & ACCREDITATION

POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

Recertification of ABRET Credentials

Section:	RUL-10	# Pages:	2
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ABRET credentials are time-limited.
Candidates must renew their credentials per current policies.

PROCEDURE:

- I. Recertification timelines
 - A. Candidates who passed the written EEG or EP examinations after 1997 or took oral examinations as part of their credentialing process, were initially issued 10-year certificates and required to recertify every ten years.
 - B. As of 2010, new and recertifying R. EP T. certificants are required to recertify every five years.
 - C. As of 2013, new certificants and recertifying R. EEG T. certificants are required to recertify every five years.
 - D. Candidates who earned a CNIM exam between 1996-2005 were certified for a period of ten years. Following the initial ten years, candidates are required to recertify every five years.
 - E. Candidates who earned a CNIM after 2005 were certified for a period of 5 years and are required to recertify every five years.
 - F. Candidates who earned a CLTM were certified for a period of five years and are required to recertify every five years.
- II. As of 2022, all R. EEG T. and R. EP T. lifetime credentials reverted to time-limited credentials, which must be renewed every five years.
- III. Renewal options
 - A. Certificants may retake the examination to renew their credential. Prerequisites are waived. Current examination fee must be submitted not later than the year of expiration.
 - B. EEG and EP certificants may submit 30 hours of credential-specific education and the fee prior to expiration of the credential.
 - C. CNIM and CLTM certificants may submit 50 hours of credential-specific education and the fee prior to expiration of the credential.
- IV. ABRET's responsibility

- A. The Certemy Credential Management System and Badge System will send a reminder to the email on file for each certificant with an expiring credential.
 - B. ABRET will publish information on acceptable continuing education, fees, deadlines, and submission options/instructions.
 - C. ABRET will process the renewal applications no earlier than the year of expiration.
 - D. ABRET will offer a grace period for renewals.
 - E. Renewing certificants will receive an offer for a new certificate at no charge.
- V. Certificant's responsibility
- A. Renewing a credential on time is the responsibility of the credentialed technologist.
 - B. Credentialed technologists must keep their information current with ABRET.
 - C. Credentialed technologists must stay aware of current recertification guidelines and processes.
- VI. Failure to renew
- A. If recertification is not completed within three months of expiration, credentials can no longer be used.
 - B. Technologists not renewing their credentials will be listed as "expired" in the online credential verification database. Their credential number will also be expired and cannot be reinstated.
 - C. Digital badges will convert to an "expired" status.
 - D. Technologists not renewing their credentials will need to meet current eligibility requirements and retake the credentialing examination to earn a new credential. Current testing fees will apply.

ABRET NEURODIAGNOSTIC CREDENTIALING & ACCREDITATION

POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

Auditing of Candidate Applications

Section:	RUL-18	# Pages:	2
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Last Revised:	2017		

ABRET will audit candidate exam applications to verify compliance with eligibility requirements.

PROCEDURE:

- I. Conditions under which an audit would be performed.
 - A. Standard procedure of random auditing
 - B. An irregularity or suspicious application
 - C. A complaint or report has been received regarding possible fraud or falsification
 - D. A candidate claiming to be a student or graduate of an accredited program
- II. Selection of documents
 - A. The Credential Management program will randomly select 40% of submitted applications for audit.
 - B. ABRET may request specific applications for review.
- III. Audit Process
 - A. The ABRET auditor obtains electronic access to the applications and any supporting documentation through a secure Credential Manager administrator log-on.
 - B. The applications are reviewed for any irregularities such as blanks, missing documentation or missing signatures.
 - C. The supplemental documentation forms are reviewed for any irregularities, such as misnumbering, overlap in documented times, and for errors resulting from failure to follow instructions.
 - D. The persons who signed the documentation forms are contacted for a standard interview, including, but not limited to:
 1. Verification that they know and have responsibility over the candidate
 2. Verification that they signed the forms
 3. Knowledge of examination and eligibility requirements
 4. Verification that the candidate's case log and application are accurate and true.

- IV. Results of Audit
 - A. The application will be released for continued processing by the ABRET Auditor.
 - B. Information cannot be verified.
 - 1. Information cannot be verified.
 - 2. Failure to respond to the Auditor.
 - C. The application is rejected for the current examination cycle due to, but not limited to, the following:
 - 1. Eligibility status could not be verified.
 - 2. Supplemental documentation (case logs, etc.) could not be verified.
 - 3. It was determined that candidate provided false information.
- V. Consequences
 - A. In the case of a delay, the candidate must submit proper documentation or obtain the proper signatures.
 - B. In the case of a rejection, the candidate may be eligible to reapply for a future examination; any future applications will automatically be audited.
 - C. In the case of a breach of the ABRET Code of Ethics via falsifying or forging information, the individual may be prohibited from taking the examination for a period or time, or banned. This decision will be made by the Ethics & Disciplinary Committee.

ABRET NEURODIAGNOSTIC CREDENTIALING & ACCREDITATION

POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

Emeritus Status

Section:	RUL-19	# Pages:	1
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Emeritus Status is available to credentialed technologists who retire in good standing.

PROCEDURE:

- I. Definition of ABRET Emeritus Status.
 - A. Emeritus Status is optional. Technologists may opt to keep credentials current by participating in continuing education to renew credentials according to recertification requirements.
 - B. Once Emeritus Status is granted, credentials not maintained after retirement will not show up as expired in the online database.
 - C. Certificants with Emeritus Status are not considered current in the field of neurodiagnostics.
 - D. There is no fee for maintaining Emeritus Status. No recertification fees are assessed.
- II. Eligibility for Emeritus Status
 - A. ABRET credentials must be current and in good standing.
 - B. Technologists must be retired from the field of neurodiagnostics.
 - C. The technologist must notify ABRET in writing that they wish to be granted Emeritus Status.
- II. Use of ABRET credentials once Emeritus Status is granted.
 - A. If a certificant wishes to utilize their credential in a title, they must include "ES" following the credential, i.e. R. EEG T.,es; CNIM, es; etc.
 - B. If a technologist with Emeritus status wishes to return to the field and use their credentials, they must submit 30 hours of continuing education completed within the last five years and pay the current recertification fee to reverse the status.

ABRET NEURODIAGNOSTIC CREDENTIALING & ACCREDITATION

POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

Privacy Policy

Section:	RUL-21	# Pages:	1
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Last Revised:	2016		

ABRET will protect candidate and customer information.

PROCEDURE:

- I. ABRET will release the individual test scores to the individual candidate and to the candidate's program (accredited and recognized).
- II. ABRET will not sell information to a third party. This includes information provided to ABRET for testing, accreditation or purchasing.
- III. ABRET will provide the names of passing candidates to the national neurodiagnostic society for publication.
 - A. Contact information may be provided.
 - B. Candidates may opt-out by contacting ABRET.
- IV. ABRET will make public the name, credential, certification number, issue date, and expiration date for each certificant by listing it to the searchable database on the ABRET website at http://www.abret.org/employers/credential_search/.

ABRET NEURODIAGNOSTIC CREDENTIALING & ACCREDITATION

POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

ABRET Recertification Credits (ARCs)

Section:	RUL-23	# Pages:	1
Origin date:		Distribution:	External
Last Revised:	2020		

ABRET will award Recertification Credits (ARCs) for approved activities.

PROCEDURE:

- I. ARCs are not formal continuing education units; they are hours recognized by ABRET that may be used toward recertification of ABRET credentials.
- II. ARCs are awarded for various ABRET activities, such as exam development activities (writing and review), participation on the ABRET Board of Directors, Subject Matter Expert activities, ASAP Recertification Exams, etc.
- III. Hours will be awarded to renew ABRET credentials and may be limited to a particular credential.
- IV. There may be limits placed on how many ARCs can be utilized per recertification cycle.

ABRET NEURODIAGNOSTIC CREDENTIALING & ACCREDITATION

POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

ABRET Recertification Credits for Clinical Instructors

Section:	RUL-24	# Pages:	1
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ABRET will award Recertification Credits (ARCs) to
Verified Clinical Instructors/Preceptors.

PROCEDURE:

- I. All CAAHEP Neurodiagnostic and Intraoperative Monitoring program preceptors/clinical instructors and preceptors/clinical instructors for formal education programs recognized by ABRET meeting requirements will be eligible to earn ARCs.
- II. Program Directors along with Clinical Managers will verify participation. Completion of the appropriate documentation is required.
- III. Clinical Instructors must be credentialed in the area in which they are instructing.
- IV. Hours will be awarded to renew the credential related to the instruction rendered.
- V. Credentialed Technologists/Preceptors will earn 3 hours for 1-6 months of clinical instruction and oversight of student technologists, and an additional 3 hours for 7-12 months of participation.
- VI. Technologists may submit up to 15 hours of ARCs awarded for clinical instruction for every 5-year recertification cycle.
- VII. Falsification of claims may result in disciplinary action according to ABRET's Code of Ethics.