



Eligibility Requirements Policy for Certification Examination for Competency in:

- **Cardiac Rhythm Device Therapy for the Physician**
- **Cardiac Rhythm Device Therapy for the Allied Professional**
- **Cardiac Electrophysiology for the Allied Professional**

Purpose:

The Purpose of this policy is to articulate and define the standard eligibility requirement held by the International Board of Heart Rhythm Examiners in order to qualify for one of the above stated certification exams and the documentation required from candidates in order to prove eligibility.

Policy:

1) **Applicants for the Cardiac Rhythm Device Therapy Examination for the Physician** must be a licensed physician involved in the practice of heart rhythm management. Physicians applying for the certification must also:

a. Have completed a fellowship in Cardiology (adult or pediatric) or Clinical Cardiac Electrophysiology

OR

b. Have documented a minimum of one year of direct, substantial involvement in the care of cardiac rhythm device therapy patients. Exposure includes a minimum of 100 device interrogations with reprogramming as needed. The devices should include pacemakers, implantable defibrillators, cardiac resynchronization devices and implantable loop recorders/cardiac monitors.

2) **Applicants for the Cardiac Rhythm Device Therapy Examination for the Allied Professional** must demonstrate that they are actively involved in the practice of heart rhythm management and that they have:

a. Successfully completed a formal comprehensive training program in electrophysiology that facilitates a minimum of 6 months didactic training and exposure to the field.

OR

b. Successfully completed the Registered Cardiac Electrophysiology Specialist (RCES) or Registered Cardiovascular Invasive Specialist (RCIS) examinations, or an equivalent examination, and a minimum of 12 months of clinical experience in cardiac pacing or electrophysiology with direct exposure to patient cases.

OR

c. Have a minimum of two years of experience in the field of cardiac pacing or electrophysiology with direct exposure to patient cases in the clinical or industry setting or exposure to technical cases in the industry setting.

3) Applicants for the Cardiac Electrophysiology Examination for the Allied Professional must demonstrate that they are involved in the practice of heart rhythm management and that they have:

a. Successfully completed a formal comprehensive training program in cardiac pacing or electrophysiology that facilitates a minimum of 6 months didactic training and exposure to the field. Additionally, allied professional applicants for the Cardiac Electrophysiology Examination must have a minimum of 6 months of involvement in the field of Electrophysiology with direct exposure to patient cases in the clinical or industry setting or exposure to technical cases in the industry setting.

OR

b. Successfully completed the Registered Cardiac Electrophysiology Specialist (RCES) or Registered Cardiovascular Invasive Specialist (RCIS) examinations, or an equivalent examination, and a minimum of 12 months of clinical experience in cardiac pacing or electrophysiology with direct exposure to patient cases.

OR

c. Have a minimum of two years of experience in the field of cardiac pacing or electrophysiology with direct exposure to patient cases in the clinical or industry setting or exposure to technical cases in the industry setting.

Required Documentation:

Upon submitting an application for the exam, all candidates must provide appropriate documentation as evidence of the candidate's eligibility:

Physicians

- Physicians must include **a copy of their current medical license from the state, province or country where they currently practice** with their application.
- Physicians must document their respective medical school and residency programs and the dates of completion on their applications.
- Documentation of the completion of the necessary fellowship training program(s) or direct involvement in managing device therapy patients for a minimum of one year will be required with the application.

Allied Professionals

- Allied Professionals must include at least **one letter of recommendation from a supervisor, employer or colleague with their exam application.**
- Letters of recommendation must verify that the candidate is currently working in the field of cardiac rhythm management, the duration of involvement in the field, or has worked in the field within the past two years.
- References are considered valid as of the day they are written and do not need to reflect or confirm a candidate's current or future employment situation.
- Accepted training programs for allied professional applicants include, without being limited to, Arrhythmia Technologies Institute, Prep MD and Cardiac Electrophysiology Institute of Australia.

IBHRE reserves the right to independently verify the licenses, credentials and employment status of all examination candidates. The candidate's signature on his or her Examination Application duly authorizes IBHRE to conduct such independent verification.

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