

2024



American Podiatric Medical Licensing Examination (APMLE)

Part I Examination Dates	Registration Opens	Registration Deadline	Scheduling Opens
July 11, 2024	February 15, 2024	June 21, 2024	April 11, 2024
October 1, 2024	June 22, 2024	November 12, 2024	July 1, 2024

Part I Examination

-- IMPORTANT NOTICES -

All examination appointments <u>must</u> be scheduled through the Meazure Learning website. If you are unable to locate a site location within a 50-mile radius of you, please contact Candidate Support for assistance prior to scheduling.





Published By:

www.assessments.meazurelearning.com/programs/nbpme

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Introduction

The National Board of Podiatric Medical Examiners (NBPME) is a nonprofit corporation established in 1956.

The National Board of Podiatric Medical Examiners (NBPME) offers the American Podiatric Medical Licensing Examinations (APMLE), which are qualifying examinations currently recognized or utilized by legal agencies governing the practice of podiatric medicine in states, provinces, and federal agencies. Legal agencies may, at their discretion, grant successful candidates a license to practice podiatric medicine without further written examination.

The National Board organization consists of 11 members: an educator at one of the Colleges of Podiatric Medicine; one member who has had professional experience in statistics and test development; one member representing the consuming public; three individuals from state licensing boards; a podiatric physician currently in practice; and four individuals with experience: on the Council on Podiatric Medical Education, on the Council of Teaching Hospitals, as a member of a Specialty Board, and as a Director of a Podiatric Medical Residency Program. NBPME shall have the following liaison trustees; a member of the Board of Trustees of the American Podiatric Medical Association, a representative from the American Association of Colleges of Podiatric Medicine (AACPM), a representative from the American Podiatric Medical Students Association (APMSA), and a current member of the Federation of Podiatric Medical Boards who serve in a liaison capacity with the Board.

The NBPME has contracted with Meazure Learning to conduct its American Podiatric Medical Licensing Exam (APMLE) program for the Part I, Part II written, and Part III examinations.

The NBPME has contracted with the National Board of Osteopathic Medical Examiners® (NBOME®) to conduct its American Podiatric Medical Licensing Examination (APMLE) program for the Part II Clinical Skills Patient Encounter examination (Part II CSPE) starting in 2016.

At A Glance

This Candidate Information Bulletin provides details about taking the NBPME Part I examination. The steps below summarize that process.

TO TAKE THE APMLE PART I

- 1. Visit https://assessments.meazurelearning.com/Connect/APMLE/Account/Login to create an online account & register for your examination (see page 21).
- 2. Once your exam registration application has been approved, you will receive an email informing you that your application has been approved and ready for payment. Once you have paid, you will receive an email stating your application is complete. Your Notice to Schedule (NTS) email will be sent 90 days prior to your test date.
- 3. Prepare for your exam by using the content outline in this bulletin. The content outline in this bulletin is the basis for the exam (see page 16).
- 4. Take the scheduled exam, bringing your required identification to the test center.
- 5. You will receive your exam results from Meazure Learning approximately three weeks after you take the exam.

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

If you read this Bulletin and have further questions about the registration process, fees, test centers, Notice to Schedule, or how to access score reports, you may contact:

Meazure Learning Candidate Support

P.O. Box 570, Morrisville, NC 27560

Phone: (919) 572-6880

Email: candidatesupport@meazurelearning.com

Examination Overview

Exam Description

The National Board of Podiatric Medical Examiners (NBPME) offers the American Podiatric Medical Licensing Exams (APMLE), which are written qualifying exams currently recognized or utilized by legal agencies governing the practice of podiatric medicine in the states, provinces, and federal agencies listed in this bulletin beginning on page 13. Legal agencies may, at their discretion, grant successful candidates a license to practice podiatric medicine without further written examination.

The American Podiatric Medical Licensing Examination (APMLE) consists of four components: Part I, Part II written, Part II clinical skills patient encounter (Part II CSPE), and Part III. The written exams are designed to assess knowledge of basic sciences, clinical sciences and clinical decision making, and the Part II CSPE assesses communication and diagnostic skills in a clinical setting.

The **Part I examination** samples the candidate's knowledge in the basic science areas of general anatomy, including embryology, histology, genetics, and geriatrics; lower extremity anatomy; biochemistry; physiology; microbiology and immunology; pathology; and pharmacology.

The **Part II written examination** samples the candidate's knowledge in the clinical areas of medicine; radiology; orthopedics, biomechanics and sports medicine; anesthesia and surgery; and community health, jurisprudence, and research. Performance on the Part II written examination does not impact eligibility for the Part II CSPE.

The Part II CSPE assesses proficiency in podiatric clinical communication tasks. Candidates will be expected to perform a focused physical examination including podiatric and general medicine physical exam maneuvers appropriate for each patient presentation. Podiatric and general medical knowledge, verbal and written communication, and interpersonal skills will be assessed in each exam form. Performance on the Part II CSPE does not impact eligibility for the Part II written examination.

The **Part III examination** samples the candidate's clinical skills in evaluating, diagnosing, and treating patients. Examples of the application of knowledge may be measured through photographs, radiographs, and case presentations. Part III is the final step in the APMLE examination process, and successful completion of all parts are required to adequately demonstrate the ability to practice podiatric medicine with skill and safety in an unsupervised setting.

Requirements

Any candidates starting the NBPME's APMLE examinations after January 1, 2010, must take and pass the exams in sequential order. The Part I examination must be taken and passed before the Part II examinations may be taken. Likewise, the Part II examinations must be taken and passed before the Part III examination may be taken.

This examination sequence policy does not apply to or affect candidates who have taken any NBPME exam (whether Part I, Part II or Part III) prior to January 1, 2010. If you did take any exam prior to January 1, 2010, you must still pass Parts I and II before applying for Part III.

Beginning with the Class of 2015, and excluding the Classes of 2016, 2021, 2022, 2023, and 2024, there are two components to the Part II examination: the Part II written and the Part II CSPE. Candidates must pass the Part II written examination and the Part II CSPE before the Part III examination can be taken. Additionally, candidates must meet certain eligibility requirements prior to taking each examination.

To be initially eligible to take the **Part I examination**, a candidate must be confirmed by the dean of an accredited podiatric medical school as listed with the Council on Podiatric Medical Education of the American Podiatric Medical Association as a currently enrolled, second-year student or having attained equivalent training.

To be initially eligible to take the **Part II written examination**, a candidate must have passed the Part I examination and be confirmed as a currently enrolled, second-semester fourth-year student by the dean of an accredited podiatric medical school as listed with the Council on Podiatric Medical Education of the American Podiatric Medical Association.

To be initially eligible to take the **Part II CSPE**, a candidate must have passed the Part I examination and be confirmed as a currently enrolled as a fourth-year student by the dean of an accredited podiatric medical school as listed with the Council on Podiatric Medical Education of the American Podiatric Medical Association. Candidates who completed their fourth year prior to 2015 are not eligible to take the Part II CSPE.

To be initially eligible to take the **Part III examination**, a candidate must have passed the Part I and Part II examinations, including, where applicable, both Part II written examination and the Part II CSPE. A candidate must also receive authorization from the state board participating in the Part III program that will issue the license the candidate is seeking. The three states that require approval from them or from their 3rd-party vendor are MA, FL, and IL. If you are not applying in one of these three states, an approval by the board is not required.

For all examinations, once a candidate has been deemed eligible to take a particular APMLE examination, the candidate will remain eligible to take the examination.

Scheduling & Registration Process

Before you may test, you must:

- 1 Register for your exam and complete payment by the registration deadline for the desired window.
- 2 Receive your Notice to Schedule (NTS) email notification.
- 3 Log back into your online account using the information in the NTS email to schedule for your appointment to take the exam.

Registration Information

Please visit

https://assessments.meazurelearning.com/Connect/APMLE/Account/Login to access the online application. You will need to create an online account prior to completing & submitting your registration.

Note: If you do not register by the posted deadline date, you may not be able to take the examuntil the next exam administration.

EXAMINATION DATES

The upcoming examination dates for the Part I exam are:

Part I Examination Dates	Registration Opens	Registration Deadline	Scheduling Opens
July 11, 2024	February 15, 2024	June 21, 2024	April 11, 2024
October 1, 2025	June 22, 2024	November 12, 2024	July 1, 2024

NBPME PART | EXAM FEES

You are responsible for paying the \$925 examination fee to Meazure Learning. Payments made to Meazure Learning are accepted via MasterCard, Visa, or American Express after approval by the dean and state board (where applicable) in order for your application to be deemed complete.

AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT (ADA)

If you require testing accommodations under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), please include the request in your application. Reasonable testing accommodations are provided to allow candidates with documented disabilities recognized under the ADA an opportunity to demonstrate their skills and knowledge.

ADA accommodations will be reviewed and approved by the dean. Thirty days' advance notice is required for all testing arrangements. There is no additional charge for these accommodations. If you are requesting an accommodation that has not been previously approved by your school or is not a standard accommodation, documentation may be requested.

Registration Process

This online process will allow you to create a user profile, electronically submit your application for approval, and upon approval schedule your exam online. You will have access to an online service tool called "Connect," which will help you to manage your applications and testing appointments and allow you to view history of your Meazure Learning testing events and scores. This process eliminates paper application processing, expedites the registration process, and increases security of your personal information and credit card data. It will align with how you electronically manage your educational career. The details of this online process and creation of your personal dashboard will follow throughout this document.

To register an examination online, follow these steps:

1. Please visit https://assessments.meazurelearning.com/Connect/APMLE/Account/Login to access your online account.

Note:

- If you are accessing the online system for the first time, click "First-time user" to set up your username and password.
- If you previously registered using this online process, please log into your existing account using your original username and password.
- CREATING A NEW ACCOUNT IS STRICTLY PROHIBITIED. If you create multiple accounts, your exam results will be significantly delayed.
- 2. Once logged in, click "Create" to begin your appropriate application.
- 3. Complete your registration by clicking on "Submit" when you have entered all required information into the application form.
- 4. Once your registration is approved and up to 90 days prior to the examination window, Meazure Learning will send your Notice to Schedule (NTS) email notification. You must log in using the link in your NTS to schedule your exam.

Please see page 29 for instructions on creating an online account and submitting your application.

Scheduling Exam Appointments

Follow these steps to schedule an appointment:

- Log into your Meazure Learning account by going to the link in your Notice to Schedule (NTS) email to schedule your exam (for detailed instructions, see page 29).
- 2. If you must contact Meazure Learning, call (919) 572-6880 or email candidatesupport@meazurelearning.com to have your questions addressed.
- 3. For scheduling purposes, expect your appointment to last up to five hours. Four hours are allotted for exam completion and up to one hour is designated for check-in, breaks (unscheduled), and an end-of-exam questionnaire. Most candidates begin the exam within 30 minutes of their appointment time.
- 4. Make a note of when and where you have been scheduled for the exam. An appointment confirmation will be sent to the email address provided. If needed, you should ask for directions to the test center.

Note: Since seating at each exam site is limited; be sure to schedule your exam appointment as soon as you receive your NTS email notification to ensure you get the location of your choice. If you try to schedule and are not able to see any availability within a 50-mile radius, please contact candidatesupport@meazurelearning.com prior to scheduling to determine if arrangements can be made for a closer test location.

CONFIRMATION EMAIL

Upon completion of the scheduling process, a confirmation email is sent containing your examination password and the date time and location of the exam. If any information on the confirmation notice is incorrect, if you have not received your confirmation notice before your exam date, or if you lose your confirmation email, please contact candidatesupport@meazurelearning.com or call 919-572-6880 for assistance.

TEST CENTER LOCATIONS

Meazure Learning provides testing centers throughout the United States including within a 50-mile radius of the eleven schools of podiatric medicine Colleges - The American Association of Colleges of Podiatric Medicine (AACPM) . This includes exam sites in or near Chicago, Cleveland, Des Moines, Los Angeles, Miami, New York, Phoenix, and San Francisco. Testing is available at any Meazure Learning testing center.

You can go online to check for test locations at https://www.assessments.meazurelearning.com/test-site-cities/ and schedule your exam by referring to the link in your Notice to Schedule (NTS) email.

Refund/Rescheduling Policies

All requests for refunds must be made in writing to Meazure Learning by emailing candidatesupport@meazurelearning.com.

More than 28 days prior to your scheduled the exam date:

- You may request a refund.
- You may reschedule to another testing center for the same exam date up to 2 days before your testing appointment for a \$50 fee.
- You may transfer your exam to another window up to 2 days before your testing appointment for a \$100 fee.
 - To transfer, you must cancel any appointment already scheduled and pay a \$50 cancellation fee. Information on the process to cancel can be found in your confirmation notice.
 - Email Candidate Support at <u>candidatesupport@meazurelearning.com</u> to request a transfer and pay the \$100 transfer fee.

11 to 28 days prior to your scheduled exam date:

- If you cancel, you will not receive a refund.
- You may reschedule to another testing center for the same exam date up to 2 days before your testing appointment for a \$50 fee.
- You may transfer your exam to another window up to 2 days before your testing appointment for a \$100 fee.
 - To transfer, you must cancel any appointment already scheduled and pay a \$50 cancellation fee. Information on the process to cancel can be found in your confirmation notice.
 - Email Candidate Support at <u>candidatesupport@meazurelearning.com</u> to request a transfer and pay the \$100 transfer fee.

10 days or fewer prior to your scheduled exam date:

- You may reschedule to another testing center for the same exam date up to 2 days before your testing appointment for a \$50 fee.
- You may transfer your exam to another window up to 2 days before your testing appointment for a \$100 fee.
 - To transfer, you must cancel any appointment already scheduled and pay a \$50 cancellation fee. Information on the process to cancel can be found in your confirmation notice.
 - Email Candidate Support at <u>candidatesupport@meazurelearning.com</u> to request a transfer and pay the \$100 transfer fee
- You will forfeit your exam registration fee if you:
 - o Fail to appear for your scheduled exam.
 - o Appear without proper identification and are refused entry.
 - o Show up more than 30 minutes after the scheduled exam start time and are refused

admission to the exam.

Part I Examination Dates	Refund Deadlines	
July 11, 2024	June 13, 2024	
October 1, 2024	September 3, 2024	

Medical Emergencies

If you need to reschedule an exam appointment because of a **medical emergency**, you must email a written request and provide official documentation, such as a doctor's letter, to <u>candidatesupport@meazurelearning.com</u>. Such a request must be made within 5 days following the scheduled exam date. **No refund of exam fees is guaranteed.**

Taking Your Exam

WHAT TO BRING TO THE CENTER

Knowing what to expect when taking your exam may help you prepare for it.

This section contains:

- A list of what to bring to the exam.
- Regulations that will be enforced at the test center.
- An explanation of the computer testing process.

You should arrive at least 30 minutes before your scheduled exam appointment. This allows time for you to sign in and for staff to verify your identification.

Identification document. You must present a valid and current (not expired) form of identification before you may test. That identification document must:

- Be government-issued (e.g., driver's license, passport, state-issued identification card or military identification card);
- Contain both a current photo and your signature (if it does not, you must present two identification cards: one with your photo and one with your signature); and
- Have a name that exactly matches the name used on the NBPME registration and that matches the NTS (including designations such as "Jr." and "III").

If you cannot provide the identification listed above, contact Meazure Learning before scheduling your appointment to arrange an alternative way to meet this requirement.

IMPORTANT: Failure to provide appropriate identification at the time of the exam is considered a missed appointment. If you miss your appointment, or arrive late, you will forfeit your exam fees and be required to register again and pay another examination fee.

Test Center Regulations

To ensure that all candidates are tested under equally favorable conditions, the following regulations and procedures will be observed at each test center.

Failure to follow any of these security procedures may result in the disqualification of your exam. Meazure Learning reserves the right to audiotape and videotape any examination session.

References. No reference materials, dictionaries, books, papers, or study materials are allowed at the test center. If you are found with these or any other aids, you will not be allowed to continue the exam and your answers will not be scored.

Electronic equipment. Cell phones, PDAs, pagers, cameras, and tape recorders are not permitted in the testing room and must be powered off while stored in a locker. You will not be permitted to use any electronic devices or phones during breaks.

Personal items. Watches, outerwear that is not being worn while testing (sweater, jacket, etc.), briefcases, purses, etc., are not allowed in the test center. Pocket items (wallet, keys,

etc.) must be placed in a locker. Disposable ear plugs will be available from the test center administrator, if needed.

During the check-in process, we inspect all eyeglasses, jewelry, and other accessories to look for camera devices that could be used to capture exam content.

You will be required to remove your eyeglasses for close visual inspection. These inspections will take a few seconds and will be done at check -in and again upon return from breaks before you enter the testing room to ensure you do not violate any security protocol.

Jewelry outside of wedding and engagement rings is prohibited. Please do not wear other jewelry to the test center. Hair accessories, ties and bowties are subject to inspection. Please refrain from using ornate clips, combs, barrettes, headbands, tie clips, cuff links, and other accessories as you may be prohibited from wearing them into the testing room and asked to store them in your locker. Violation of security protocol may result in the confiscation of prohibited devices and termination of your exam.

You will be required to store all personal belongings (except for identification documents) in storage lockers. While the lockers are secure, they are small. Do not bring unnecessary items to the test center. The test center assumes no responsibility for candidates' personal belongings.

Food and Beverages. You may not eat, drink, or use tobacco during the test administration.

Guests/Visitors. No guests, visitors, or family members are allowed at the test center. Persons not scheduled to take a test are not permitted in the test center.

Misconduct or disruptive behavior. Candidates who engage in any kind of misconduct or disruptive or offensive behavior, such as giving or receiving help, taking part in an act of impersonation, removing test materials or notes from the testing room, rude or offensive language, or behavior that delays or interrupts testing, may be dismissed from the examination. Exhibiting abusive behavior toward any test center staff member may result in criminal prosecution.

Weapons. No weapons of any kind are allowed at the test center.

If questions arise. If at any time during the test you believe you have a problem with your computer or need the administrator for any reason, you should raise your hand. Test center administrators are not allowed to answer any questions pertaining to the test content. If you do not understand a question on the test, you should answer the question to the best of your ability.

Candidate Testing Experience (Video): <u>Meazure Learning | Test Center - Candidate Experience</u> (wistia.com)

Computer Testing Process

Your exam will be given by computer at a Meazure Learning test center using Meazure Learning's user-friendly, Microsoft Windows -based, computerized testing system. Before you start the exam, you will receive a personalized tutorial to the testing system. The tutorial is not included as part of the testing time. The test center administrator will provide you with a whiteboard to be used during testing. You may not bring your own scratch paper or pencil to the examination. The test center administrator will

At the beginning of the exam, you will be asked to read and signify assent to the terms and conditions of the Confidentiality and Conduct Agreement, which states:

CONFIDENTIAL AND CONDUCT AGREEMENT

Conduct occurring before, during or after testing that violates principles detailed in this Statement of Understanding may result in invalidation of examination results and/or other penalties and will be reported to CLIENT and regulating authorities.

This examination is highly confidential. The examination questions are the property of CLIENT. Unauthorized disclosure of the examination questions is prohibited under copyright laws. By signing this statement of understanding, you agree to maintain the confidentiality of this examination. You must therefore:

- Keep the examination content confidential, even after the examination. This also includes not discussing the content with anyone who took the examination before you, with you, or who has not taken the examination yet - Not use or be in possession of any electronic device (such as cell phones, cameras, watches, etc.) in the examination room;

- Realize that any recording or memorization of examination questions is strictly forbidden whether you intend to recreate parts of the examination for financial gain or not.

collect the whiteboard when you have completed testing.

Candidates will be observed at all times while they are taking this examination. This observation will include direct observation by proctors or camera monitors. Proctors may not necessarily inform you of their observations, but they are required to report behaviour that may violate the terms and regulations of CLIENT or other forms of irregular behaviour.

Any cheating and/or breach of confidentiality/security or any attempt to subvert the examination process by any candidate violates the purpose and principles of the examination. Any candidate, who carries out, takes part in or who witnesses such behaviour must report it to the proctor and/or CLIENT as soon as possible.

CLIENT strives to report results that accurately reflect the skill and performance of each candidate and represent a valid measure of their knowledge or competence as sampled by the examination. Accordingly, our standards and procedures for administering examinations have two related goals: giving candidates comparable opportunities to demonstrate their abilities; and preventing any of one person from gaining an unfair advantage over others. To promote these objectives, CLIENT reserves the right to cancel or withhold any examination results when, in the sole opinion of CLIENT, a testing irregularity occurs; cheating has occurred; there is an apparent discrepancy in, or falsification of, a candidate engages in misconduct or plagiarism; when aberrancies in performance are detected for which there is no reasonable and satisfactory explanation, or the results are believed to be invalid for any other reason.

The candidate agrees to abide by all regulations, as well as oral and written instructions controlling the conduct of the examination. These regulations are intended to preserve the integrity of the examination process by providing standard test administration conditions that yield valid and reliable results.

I have read, understand and agree to abide by the above statement

You will have four hours to complete the examination. The time remaining for your exam is displayed in the upper right-hand corner of the computer screen. There are no scheduled breaks. You must remain in your seat during the examination except when authorized to leave by a test center staff member.

The clock will continue to run and will not be turned off for unplanned, unscheduled breaks. If there is a power outage, the time will stop counting down. When power is restored, the examination will resume at the point where it left off.

Once the exam is finished, you will be asked to complete a brief, computer- delivered questionnaire about your testing experience.

Examination Results

Scores on the exam are determined by converting the number of questions answered correctly out of the number of questions administered to a scale that ranges from approximately 55 to beyond 75. The scale passing score has been set by the NBPME at 75, which corresponds to a level of achievement judged by the Board to represent minimum standards of practice.

Passing candidates will receive a score report with a "Pass" indicated. Scaled scores will not be provided to passing candidates. Failing candidates will receive a report with a failing scale score (between 55 and 74). **Examination reviews are not permitted.**

Failing candidates will also receive diagnostic indicators for each content area. The diagnostic indicators will be reported to failing candidates as follows:

- Below the level of minimum competence.
- At or above the level of minimum competence.

It should be understood that NBPME makes the data and information available but does not attempt to analyze or interpret it. Each State Board determines whether and how to accept and use APMLE results.

Note: There is no limit to the number of times you may take the examination, however, some states do place a limit on the number of times a candidate may be examined and still receive a license. You should consult individual State Boards for more information about any specific state requirements and limitations.

The total score scale makes it possible to compare candidates' scores on a specific examination to scores on other forms of the same examination given the standard adopted by the NBPME. The comparison is possible because the examinations are statistically "equated" each time a new form is administered.

The equating process makes appropriate adjustments so that equivalent scores on examination forms of different difficulty levels are made comparable. The purpose of equating is to maximize relative consistency in the Board standards for passing the examinations across forms.

Candidates' scores are converted to scaled scores so that they correspond to the same level of performance regardless of the form of the examination taken. In other words, a score of 75 on a specific examination has the same meaning as a score of 75 on any form of the examination. This means a candidate will not be penalized if the form of the examination taken is slightly easier or more difficult than the form given to another candidate.

Reporting of Exam Results

You will receive your examination results approximately three weeks following the exam. Any inquiries regarding how to access your score report may be directed to Meazure Learning Candidate Support by email at candidatesupport@meazurelearning.com or call (919) 572-6880. Due to confidentiality, results will.not be provided by phone or email.

Result pass/fail status will post to your online account approximately three weeks after the examination. If you are unsuccessful in passing your examination, please reach out to your school for additional diagnostic information.

When you sign the AMPLE Part I examination application form, you agree to have your:

- Passing Score, communicated as "PASS" and reported to the school in which you are enrolled or have graduated from.
- Failing Score, communicated as "FAIL" and reported to CASPR.
- Failing Score, communicated as "FAIL" with diagnostic indicators of areas of Marginal and/or
 Deficient performance, and reported to the School in which you are enrolled or have graduated
 from.

VOIDING EXAM RESULTS

If you do not want your examination scores released to you and communicated as denoted above, you must send a written request to candidatesupport@meazurelearning.com within 24 hours of taking the exam. If processed, this action is irrevocable.

The request not to have scores reported must include: 1) your name; 2) the name of the school where you are enrolled or have graduated from; and 3) the name of the examination for which you do not want your scores reported. No refund of any fees will be made on exams that are voided at a candidate's request. A new registration form and fee must be submitted in order for a candidate to retake the exam.

CERTIFIED SCORE REPORTING

A certified copy of your score report can be sent to any state licensing board or federal agency by placing an online order on the FPMB website at www.fpmb.org and clicking the "Order Reports" button. **FPMB** <a href="cannot provide score reports to candidates."

FPMB also maintains contact and other pertinent information for state licensing boards across the country on their website at https://www.fpmb.org/Resources/MemberBoardsInfo.aspx.

For additional information, contact the FPMB Executive Office at fpmb.org or 202-810-3726.

Comments/Questions/Concerns

Meazure Learning provides an opportunity for general comments about the test center experience at the end of the exam. Meazure Learning personnel will review candidate comments, but candidates will not receive a direct response.

If you are requesting a direct response about registration, scheduling, or test administration (test site procedures, equipment, personnel, etc.), please submit your request by emailing candidatesupport@meazurelearning.com.

Meazure Learning will investigate each concern and reply to comments within a reasonable length of time. Inquiries about score reports or about eligibility and procedures for re-examination may also be directed to the email address above.

Examination Integrity

Copyright

All proprietary rights in the examinations, including copyright and trade secrets, are jointly held by the NBPME and Meazure Learning. Federal law provides severe civil and criminal penalties for the unauthorized reproduction, distribution, or exhibition of copyrighted materials.

Score Validity

The NBPME shall either retain or reserve the sole right to determine whether an examination is valid or invalid. The acceptance of a candidate's application to take the examination or the scoring thereof or the release of said examination results to any party shall not act in any way to amend the right of the NBPME to determine whether such examinations or the scores achieved thereon are valid or invalid in whole or in part.

A determination that an examination and the scores achieved therein are invalid may be made at any time by the NBPME. The NBPME also reserves the right to cancel any scores that may already have been reported when subsequent information raises doubt of their validity.

Occasionally testing irregularities occur that affect a group of test takers. Such problems include, without limitation, administrative errors, defective equipment or materials, improper access to test content and/or the unauthorized general availability of test content, as well as other disruptions of test administrations (such as a natural disasters). When group testing irregularities occur, Meazure Learning will investigate to provide information to the NBPME. Based on this information, the NBPME may direct Meazure Learning to either not score the examination or invalidate the examination scores.

When appropriate, the NBPME will arrange with Meazure Learning to give affected test takers the opportunity to take the examination again as soon as possible, without charge. Affected test takers will be notified of the reasons for the invalidation and their options for retaking the examination.

The APMLE, prepared by the NBPME and administered by Meazure Learning, serves an important public function and no misconduct will be tolerated.

Candidate Misconduct

Before individual test results are canceled or invalidated, a candidate will be notified and given an opportunity to provide additional information.

If, during the administration of an examination, or after completion of the examination, a test supervisor believes misconduct is taking or has taken place, certain options shall be available to the test supervisor or Meazure Learning.

- A test administrator may dismiss a candidate from the test and file a report with Meazure Learning stating the action and the reasons for dismissal.
- A test administrator may choose not to dismiss the candidate from the test. Under such circumstances, the test administrator will file an irregularity report with Meazure Learning describing his or her observations.

In either event, when a test administrator reports to Meazure Learning that a candidate might have committed misconduct during an examination, that candidate's test record is reviewed by Meazure Learning and the NBPME.

GROUNDS FOR DISMISSAL

Any candidate who does not have positive identification, who uses unauthorized aids, or does not follow the testing procedures can be dismissed from the test center. The NBPME may choose to have the test scores of such candidates canceled.

A candidate who is believed to be engaging in misconduct and does not heed the administrator's warning to discontinue the behavior may be dismissed from the test center. All of the following behaviors are considered to be misconduct:

- Giving or receiving assistance of any kind.
- Using any unauthorized aids.
- Attempting to take the examination for someone else.
- Failing to follow testing regulations or the instructions of the test administrator.
- Creating a disturbance of any kind.
- Removing or attempting to remove examination questions.
- Tampering with the operation of the computer or attempting to use it for any function other than taking the examination.

ALTERED SCORE REPORTS

Misconduct extends beyond behavior at the test center. Schools, state licensing agencies and medical staff offices at hospitals and residency programs all must rely on the integrity of score reports provided by NBPME. Any attempt to alter or misrepresent an official score report will be considered a serious breach of examination integrity.

INVALIDATION OF RESULTS

The NBPME has the right to question any test score when the validity is in doubt because the score may have been obtained unfairly. Meazure Learning, acting on behalf of the NBPME, will undertake a confidential review of the circumstances giving rise to the questions about score validity. If there is sufficient cause to question the score, Meazure Learning will refer the matter to the NBPME, which will make the final decision on whether or not the score is to be withheld or invalidated. In the event the NBPME determines that a candidate's individual test results will be withheld or invalidated, or that a group of results will be withheld or invalidated, the NBPME will notify the candidate or group.

APPEALS PROCEDURE FOR MISCONDUCT

Upon written request or application in accordance with the appeal procedure, a candidate whose individual score is withheld or invalidated due to specific individual misconduct may, within 15 business days of the notification, submit a written request for a hearing.

The purpose of the hearing will be to provide an opportunity for the candidate to produce sufficient credible evidence that the decision to invalidate his or her score was made in error and that he or she should have the score validated.

The appeal process is not available should a group of candidates' scores be withheld or invalidated.

The determination as to whether an appeal shall be granted to an individual candidate is made by the NBPME taking into consideration the circumstances of the invalidation decision.

The hearing procedures shall be as follows:

- 1. The time, date, and place of the hearing will be set by the NBPME.
- 2. The hearing will be conducted by three members of the NBPME.
- 3. At the hearing, the candidate may present such evidence as he or she deems proper and necessary. The candidate may be accompanied by an attorney and witnesses of choice.
- 4. The NBPME may request the appearance of any witnesses at the hearing as it deems necessary.
- 5. At the end of the hearing, the three NBPME committee members will evaluate the information presented and reach a conclusion, at its sole discretion, and may decide:
 - The candidate may retake the examination at a future date.
 - b. The candidate will not be permitted to retake the examination at any time. (In this case, the candidate may request reconsideration and reinstatement by the NBPME after one year.)
 - c. The test results represent a reasonable assessment of the candidate's

knowledge in the areas sampled, and the candidate's scores may be released.

- d. Some other action should be taken.
- 6. The candidate will be advised in writing by the NBPME of its decision at least 10 business days prior to the next deadline to file a registration for retesting.
- 7. The NBPME reserves the right to notify a candidate's college of any of the actions or decisions described above.

A complete set of procedures that apply to appeal hearings is available upon request.

LIMITATION OF LIABILITY

In no case shall the NBPME or Meazure Learning be liable to any test taker or group of test takers, either in contract or tort, when, acting in good faith, either cancels, invalidates, withholds, or changes a test score or result, as provided in the Bulletin. When appropriate, NBPME and/or Meazure Learning, at their discretion, shall provide affected test takers with an opportunity to retake an examination or shall provide a refund of the registration fee paid.

The following content outlines are the basis of the Part I APMLE exam. Each exam will contain questions about the subjects in its outline. The percentage of the exam devoted to each content area is noted.

Each test contains scored items that exactly match the test specification. In addition, each test contains other pre-test or equator items that are vital to the program but do not count in scoring. Pretest items are placed in the exam to collect data used to determine the item's suitability for inclusion in the test bank. These additional items do not necessarily follow the specifications and may affect a candidate's perception of how many items on a given topic are encountered.

Part I Exam Content Outline

205 questions—Four-hour content time limit

- I. General Anatomy 12%
- A. Head and neck
 - 1. Cranial nerves
 - 2. Musculoskeletal
 - 3. Angiology
- B. Thorax and abdomen
 - 1. Musculoskeletal
 - 2. Vertebral column
 - 3. Cardiovascular
 - 4. Pulmonary
 - 5. Abdominal organs
- C. Back
 - 1. Musculoskeletal
 - 2. Vertebral column
- D. Upper extremities
 - 1. Musculoskeletal
 - 2. Neurological
 - 3. Vascular
- E. Histology
 - 1. Cytology and cell biology
 - 2. Structure of tissues
- F. Neuroanatomy
 - 1. Central and peripheral nervous system structure and organization
 - 2. Somatosensory system
 - 3. Motor system
- G. Integumentary system
- H. Pelvis and perineum

II. Lower Extremity Anatomy - 25%

- A. Osteology
 - 1. Bony landmarks, associated structures, and ossification

- a. foot
- b. leg
- c. thigh
- d. Pelvis
- B. Arthrology
- 1. Joint classification, articulating facets, and ligamentous support
 - a. foot
 - b. ankle
 - c. knee
 - d. hip
 - e. pelvis
- C. Myology
 - 1. Muscle origins, insertions, and actions, fasciae, and retinacula
 - a. foot
 - b. leg
 - c. thigh
 - d. pelvis
- D. Angiology
 - 1. Arteries, veins, and lymphatics
 - a. foot
 - b. leg
 - c. thigh
 - d. pelvis
- E. Neurology
 - 1. Lumbar and sacral plexi and their cutaneous, somatosensory, and sympathetic branches to the lower extremity
- F. Embryology
 - 1. Limb bud and limb rotation
 - 2. Prenatal and postnatal development

III. Biochemistry - 9%

- A. Biological acids, bases and buffers
- B. Carbohydrate metabolism
 - 1. Glycolysis
 - 2. Glycogenesis
 - 3. Glycogenolysis
 - 4. Gluconeogenesis
 - 5. Glycosaminoglycans
- C. Bioenergetics
- 1. Electron transport and oxidative phosphorylation
 - 2. ATP and other energy-related compounds
- D. Amino acids and protein structure
 - 1. Function, synthesis, and metabolism
 - 2. Enzymes
 - 3. Three dimensional structures of proteins
 - 4. Protein-protein interactions
- E. Lipids and biological membranes
 - 1. Structure
 - 2. Function and metabolism of triglycerides
 - 3. Steroids, cholesterol, and lipoproteins
- F. Molecular Biology
 - 1. Nucleotide metabolism
 - 2. Structure and function of DNA and RNA
 - 3. Purine and pyrimidine
- G. Hormones, second messengers, signal transduction properties
 - 1. Growth factors
 - 2. Receptors
 - 3. Steroids and thyroid hormones
 - 4. Plasma transport receptors
 - 5. Glucose-regulating hormones
- H. Blood chemistry
 - 1. Heme metabolism
 - 2. Hemostasis and blood coagulation
 - 3. Plasma composition
 - 4. Molecular aspects of erythrocytes and hemoglobin
- I. Bone chemistry
 - 1. Molecular aspects of bone
 - 2. Calcium and phosphorus metabolism
 - 3. Parathyroid hormone
 - 4. Vitamin D
 - 5. Calcitonin
- J. Free radicals and antioxidants
- K. Nutrition
 - 1. Glycemic index

- 2. Calories
- 3. Vitamin deficiencies
- 4. Fasting and starvation
- 5. Absorptive state
- L. Genetics

IV. Physiology - 12 %

- A. Neurophysiology
 - 1. Properties of neurons
 - 2. Synaptic transmission
 - 3. Autonomic
 - 4. Motor
 - 5. Sensory systems
- B. Myophysiology
 - 1. Electrophysiology regulation of skeletal and smooth muscle function)
- C. Cardiovascular system
 - 1. Cardiac muscle
 - 2. Electrophysiology
 - 3. Cardiac mechanics
 - 4. Cardiac and peripheral hemodynamics
 - 5. Regional circulation
 - 6. Microcirculation and lymphatics
 - 7. Neural and hormonal regulatory mechanisms
- D. Pulmonary
 - 1. Mechanisms of ventilation
 - 2. Volumes and capacities
 - 3. Gas exchange
 - 4. Acid base
 - 5. Control of respiration
- E. Renal and urinary physiology
 - 1. Glomerular filtration
 - 2. Tubular mechanisms
 - 3. Volume regulation
 - 4. Renin-angiotensin system
 - 5. Atrial natriuretic factor
 - 6. Acid-base balance
- F. Endocrinology

- 1. Hypothalamus
- 2. Pituitary
- 3. Thyroid and parathyroids
- 4. Adrenal
- 5. Pancreas
- 6. Reproductive
- G. Gastrointestinal physiology
 - 1. Hepatic
 - 2. Intestinal
 - 3. Stomach
 - 4. Gallbladder
 - 5. Salivation
 - 6. Swallowing
- H. Bone metabolism
 - 1. Osteoclast
 - 2. Osteoblast
 - 3. Stress/strain
- I. Exercise physiology
 - 1. Thermoregulation
 - 2. Exercise
- J. Hematology
 - 1. Coagulation
 - 2. Platelet
 - 3. Erythrocytes
 - 4. Leukocytes

V. Microbiology and Immunology – 14%

- A. Bacteriology
 - 1. Bacterial structure and function
 - 2. Gram-positive infections
 - 3. Gram-negative infections
 - 4. Acid-fast bacilli infections
 - 5. Spirochete infections
 - 6. Mycoplasma infections
 - 7. Transmission
 - 8. Systemic manifestations
- B. Mycology

- 1. Fungal growth
- 2. Structure and classification
- 3. Clinical techniques
- 4. Superficial and systemic infections
- 5. Transmission
- C. Virology
 - 1. DNA and RNA infections
 - 2. Structure
 - 3. Replication
 - 4. Transmission
 - 5. Systemic manifestations
- D. Parasitology
 - 1. Protozoal and parasitic infections
 - 2. Transmission
 - 3. Classifications
 - 4. Systemic manifestations
- E. Emerging drug resistance
 - 1. Mechanisms of drug resistance (mutation)
 - 2. Susceptibility testing
- F. Immunology
 - 1. Nonspecific and specific immunity
 - 2. Cells of the immune system
 - 3. Structure and function of antigens
 - 4. Antibodies and complement
 - 5. Humoral resistance
 - 6. Cell-mediated immune responses
 - 7. Immediate and delayed hypersensitivity
 - 8. Transplantation and tumor immunology
 - 9. Immunodiagnostic methods
- G. Zoonotic infections
 - 1. Definitions
 - 2. Mode of transmission
- H. Infection prevention and treatment
 - 1. Sterilization techniques
 - 2. Antimicrobial agents
 - 3. Vaccines

- I. Laboratory testing
 - 1. Principles
 - 2. Collection and handling of specimens
 - 3. Culture and sensitivity

VI. Pathology – 14%

- A. General principles
 - 1. Cell function
 - 2. Growth and repair
 - 3. Cell injury and death
 - 4. Inflammation
- B. Laboratory testing
 - 1. Principles
 - 2. Collection and handling of specimens
 - 3. Culture and sensitivity
 - 4. Synovial fluid analysis
 - 5. Handling of surgical specimens
- C. Disorders
 - 1. Musculoskeletal system
 - 2. Nervous System
 - 3. Integumentary systems
 - 4. Peripheral vascular systems
 - 5. Cardiovascular system
 - 6. Hematopoietic system
 - a. leukemia
 - b. anemias
 - c. sickle-cell
 - 7. Immune System
 - a. allergic and sensitivity reactions
 - b. immunosuppressive states
 - 8. Pulmonary system
 - 9. Urogenital and/or reproductive systems
 - 10. Renal systems
 - 11. Gastrointestinal system
 - 12. Endocrine system
 - 13. Hepatic and extrahepatic biliary system
 - 14. Renal system

- 15. Reproductive systems
- 16. Genetic

VII. Pharmacology – 14%

- A. General principles
 - 1. Routes of administration
 - 2. Absorption
 - 3. Distribution
 - 4. Biotransformation
 - 5. Metabolism
 - 6. Excretion
 - 7. Dose-effect relationships
 - 8. Factors altering pharmacological effects
 - 9. Drug resistance
 - 10. Pharmacogenomics
- B. Mechanisms of drug action
 - 1. Drug receptor interactions
 - 2. Structure-activity relationships
- C. Drug interactions
 - 1. Potentiation
 - 2. Neutralization
 - 3. Genetic factors
 - 4. Drug-drug
 - 5. Supplements
 - 6. Food
- D. Adverse effects
 - 1. Allergies
 - 2. Toxicity
 - 3. Specific side-effects
 - 4. Teratogenic effects
- E. Anesthetics
 - 1. General anesthetics
 - 2. Local anesthetic
- F. Central nervous system and autonomic agents
 - 1. Anticonvulsants
 - 2. Psychotropic agents
 - 3. Skeletal muscle relaxants

- 4. Neuromuscular blocking agents
- 5. Antidepressants
- G. Glycemic agents
 - 1. Insulin
- 2. Oral, inhaled and injected hypoglycemic agents
- H. Anti-infectives
 - 1. Antibiotics
 - 2. Antifungals
 - 3. Antivirals
 - 4. Antiprotozoals
 - 5. Antiparasitics
- I. Anti-inflammatories
 - 1. Steroids
 - 2. NSAIDs
 - 3. DMARDs
 - 4. Biologics
- J. Analgesics
 - 1. Opioid agonists and antagonists
 - 2. Non-opioids
- K. Cardiovascular agents
 - 1. Cardiac glycosides
 - 2. Antiarrhythmics
 - 3. Antianginal
 - 4. Anticoagulants and fibrinolytics
 - 5. Antihypertensives
 - 6. Vasodilators
 - 7. Statins
- L. Respiratory agents

- 1. Bronchodilators
- 2. Beta 2 agonists
- 3. Leukotriene inhibitors
- 4. Anticholinergics
- 5. Steroids
- 6. Biologics
- M. Gastrointestinal agents
 - 1. Proton pump inhibitors
 - 2. H-2 blocker
 - 3. Antiemetics
 - 4. Motility
 - 5. Antidiarrheal
- N. Complementary and alternative agents
 - 1. Cannabinoids
 - 2. Vitamins
 - 3. Supplements
 - 4. Herbal
- O. Chemotherapeutic agents
 - 1. Antineoplastics
 - 2. Antirheumatics
 - 3. Immunosuppressants
- P. Uricosuric
- Q. Other pharmaceutical agents
 - 1. Hormone therapy
 - 2. Bisphosphonates
 - 3. Antihistamines
 - 4. Growth factors
- R. Toxicology

Create Your Online Account

Below are steps that outline how to create your online account, apply for, and schedule your APMLE Part I examination.

Important:

If you have applied for Part I, II or III through a previous system, please use the same email address in order for you to have access to any historical data. If you have never before applied, please use a valid PERSONAL email address when creating your account. Payment for the examination fee must be made by credit card once the application is approved by dean and/or state board.

Step 1: Create your online account.

Create your online account (First-time Users)

- A. Visit https://assessments.meazurelearning.com/Connect/APMLE/Account/Login and then create your online account by selecting "First Time User."
- B. Acknowledge that you have read and agree to the Meazure Learning Data Privacy Policy.
- C. Complete all required information:
 - Username
 - Email address
 - Password
 - Demographic Data
- D. Click on "Create Account"
- E. You will receive an Account Activation email.
 - You must click on the link in the email within 24 hours. After 24 hours you must recreate your account.
 - This will validate your email address.
- F. Visit https://assessments.meazurelearning.com/connect/APMLE and then select "Sign In."
- G. From the Login Page, enter your existing username and password.

OR

Log in to your account (Existing Users)

- A. Visit https://assessments.meazurelearning.com/Connect/APMLE/Account/Login and then select "Access My Account."
- B. From the Login Page, enter your existing username and password.

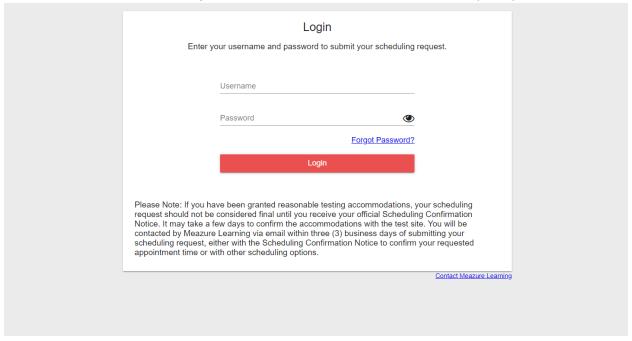
Step 2: Apply for your exam.

- A. Log in with your Meazure Learning account to view your Dashboard. Click on "Create" next to the exam name under "My Testing Activities" to complete your application.
- B. Once you have completed your application, click on "Submit."
- C. Your application will then be submitted for approval.
- D. Once approved, you will receive a notification email that your application is approved and ready for you to submit payment.
- E. You will need to sign back into your online account and provide payment to complete the application.
- F. After the payment is processed, you will promptly receive a notification email outlining the

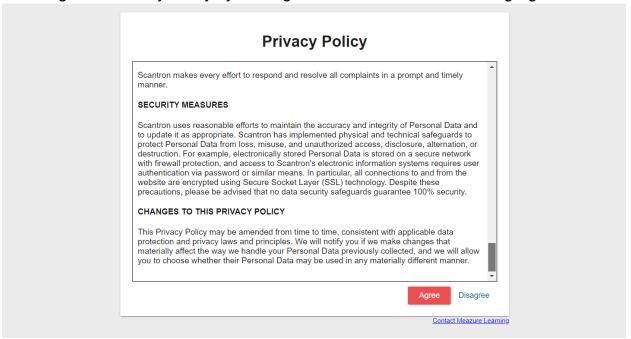
necessary next steps to schedule your exam.

Step 3: Schedule your exam.

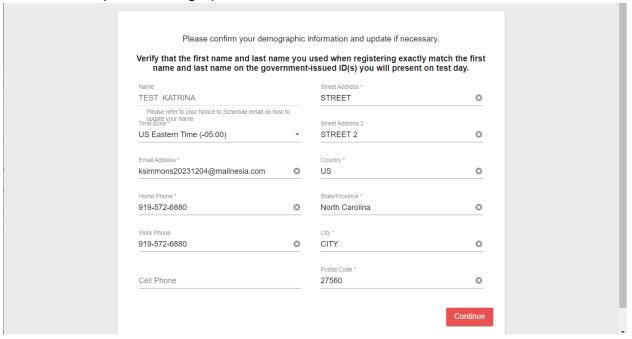
1. Enter username and password from the Notice to Schedule (NTS) email and then click Login.



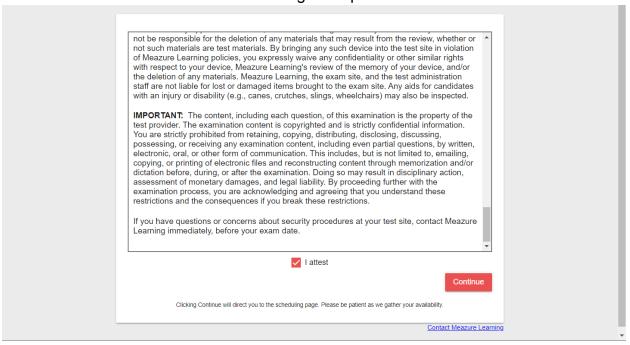
2. Agree to Privacy Policy by reading to the bottom and then clicking Agree.



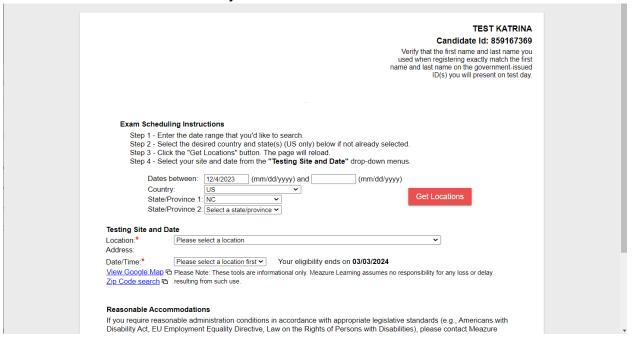
3. Enter/Update demographic information and click Continue.



4. Read the Examination Admission Requirements, check the box next to I attest, and click Continue. The screenshot is missing the top.



5. Enter the date & location you wish to test and click Get Locations.



- 6. Choose a test site and date/time and click Submit.
- 7. A thank you page will appear when your registration request is submitted successfully.