

At a Glance: Certified Medical Director (CMD) - Initial Certification

Step One: General Eligibility

- Completion of a U.S. ACGME or AOA accredited post-graduate training program, or a Canadian Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons or College of Family Physicians accredited post-graduate training program; **OR** completion of relevant U.S. post-graduate training and successful attainment of U.S. state licensure to practice medicine
- Current, unrestricted, state license as an MD or DO in the U.S. or an equivalent license to practice medicine in Canada
- Completion of PALMed’s *Core Curriculum on Medical Direction in Long-Term Care* (or its equivalent) within five years of application submission. For details visit <https://paltmed.org/education> .
- Spend a minimum of 8 hours each month in service as a **medical director/associate medical director** in a post-acute and long-term care setting
- Between 2-4 years of experience as a clinician in PALTC within the past five years
- Between 2-3 years of experience as a Medical Director in PALTC within the past five years

Select one option each from step 2 and Step 3
Options for step 2 and step 3 are independent of each other.

Step Two: Clinical Education and Experience

Option 1

- Two (2) years of clinical practice in post-acute and long-term care within the past five (5) years **AND**
 - Current ABMS or AOA Certification in a Primary Specialty **WITH EITHER**
 - ♦ Completion of an ACGME or AOA accredited fellowship in geriatrics or other relevant clinical program completed within the preceding five years of application (e.g., pediatric, psychiatric, MR/DD)
- OR**
- ♦ ABMS *Certificate of Added Qualifications* in geriatric medicine or other equivalent certification (e.g., hospice, home care)

Option 2

- Three (3) years of clinical practice in post-acute and long-term care within the past five years **AND**
- Current ABMS or AOA Certification in a Primary Specialty **AND**
- CME: Sixty (60) hours of *AMA PRA Category 1 CreditsTM*, AAFP-approved, or AOA-approved credits in clinical medicine relating to post-acute and long-term care in the preceding four years. A minimum of 12 of these credits must come from **live coursework**. Up to 48 of these credits can come from self-study activities.

Option 3: Applicants who **do not hold** an ABMS or AOA certification in a primary specialty.

- Four (4) years of clinical practice in post-acute and long-term care within the past five years **AND**
- CME: Seventy-five (75) hours of *AMA PRA Category 1 CreditsTM*, AAFP-approved, or AOA-approved credits in clinical medicine relating to post-acute and long-term care in the preceding four years of application submission. A minimum of 15 of these credits must come from **live coursework**. Up to 60 of these credits can come from self-study activities.

Step Three: Medical Management Education and Experience

Option 1

- Two (2) years post-fellowship, within a five-year period preceding CMD application submission, in the role of medical director or associate medical director in a post-acute and long-term care facility/setting **AND**
- Completion of a fellowship in geriatric medicine within the past five years.

Option 2

- Two (2) years, within a five-year period preceding CMD application submission, in the role of medical director or associate medical director in a post-acute and long-term care facility/setting **AND**
- CME: 14 hours of approved CMD management courses within four years of submitting the CMD application.

Option 3: Requires pre-approval.

- Four (4) years, within a five-year period preceding CMD application submission, in the role of medical director or associate medical director in a post-acute and long-term care facility/setting **AND**
- In lieu of completing the Core: Completion of an Individualized Education Program (IEP) in post-acute and long-term care Medical Management equivalent to the Core Curriculum for a minimum of seventy-five (75) contact hours within five (5) years of application submission. A written plan for the IEP must be submitted and approved by the PALMed Certification Council **prior to completion of the program** and submission of the application. IEP coursework must be reviewed and approved by the Certification Council.