

## Frequently Asked Questions

### Certified Medical Director Program

As of 9/16/2025

#### FAQs: Initial CMD Certification

**1. What is the CMD credential?** CMD stands for **Certified Medical Director**, a designation given to post-acute and long-term care medical directors by PALTmed's Certification Council. Recertification is required every six years.

**2. Is there an exam for CMD certification?** The credential is based on experience, education, and competency. There is not a test for certification, and PALTmed membership is not required for CMD certification.

**3. In what settings can medical experience qualify for the CMD credential?** Post-acute and long-term care (PALTC) settings include:

nursing facilities, skilled nursing facilities, assisted living, hospice, home healthcare, CCRC, PACE, LTACH, and VA settings

**4. What is the deadline for CMD applications?** Applications are accepted and reviewed throughout the month, so there isn't a set deadline:

- Once an application is received with payment, it could take **up to 30 days** for the submission to be reviewed by certification staff. *(Please allow that amount of time for a response regarding the status of your application.)*

**5. Is the Core Curriculum offered in person or online?** Both parts of the Core can be completed virtually. For more information, click the *Education* tab on [www.PALTmed.org](http://www.PALTmed.org).

**6. How long will it take me to complete Core part 1?** It is recommended that you allow up to two months to complete Part 1, which has 30 modules.

- An individual can register for both parts of the Core at the same time. However, Part 1 must be completed before the start date of Part 2 (Core Synthesis).
- Questions about the Core Curriculum can be sent to [education@paltmed.org](mailto:education@paltmed.org).

**7. Why can't I find my CMD application when I sign into the PALTmed site?** The certification portal is **separate** from the PALTmed site. Please contact [certification@paltmed.org](mailto:certification@paltmed.org) if you need assistance or try logging in at <https://paltmed.hub.cloudgeneration.com/Courses> for the CMD application portal.

**8. CME: How can I access my PALTmed transcript?** Visit <https://learn.paltmed.org/> to login. Select "transcript" in the menu bar. Contact [education@paltmed.org](mailto:education@paltmed.org) if assistance is needed.

**9. CME: What's the difference between clinical and management credits?**

Remember that we accept CME credits from other organizations (UpToDate, state chapters, etc.).

- Clinical CME: Clinical credit hours are AMA PRA category 1 credits, AAFP-approved, or AOA-approved credits on topics such as:

diabetes, stroke, pressure ulcers, falls, hypertension, dementia, or other clinical issues seen in the long-term care patient population.

*For initial certification, this CME requirement is **in addition to** credits earned from the Core Curriculum.*

- **Management CME:** Management topics relate to the management and leadership responsibilities in the post-acute and long-term care settings:

billing and coding, communications with patients and staff, ethics, risk management, QI, leadership, cultural diversity, regulations, or other topics that pertain to the management responsibilities of the post-acute and long-term care Medical Director.

*For initial certification, management CME requirements are **in addition to** credits earned from the Core Curriculum.*

**Transcripts:** Since we have access to an applicant's PALMed transcript, individual certificates from PALMed do not need to be uploaded to the portal –

- Applicants can review and download their PALMed transcript by visiting <https://learn.paltmed.org/>.
- They can also contact [education@paltmed.org](mailto:education@paltmed.org) for assistance.

**10. When will I hear back about the status of my submission?** Once an application is submitted, the certification staff will reach out to the applicant **within 30 days** to provide an update or to request additional information.

**11. How can I get my CMD certificate to display in my office?** Visit the application portal at <https://paltmed.hub.cloudgeneration.com/Achievements>. Then click the “graduation cap” icon.

**12. How can the public or my employer verify my credential status?** The CMD Online Directory is available at <https://paltmed.org/cmd-directory>. Or you can contact [certification@paltmed.org](mailto:certification@paltmed.org).

**13. What's my CMD renewal date?** Visit <https://paltmed.org/cmd-directory> and enter your last name only. Then click the logo next to your name to see your designation details. Contact [certification@paltmed.org](mailto:certification@paltmed.org) if assistance is needed.

**14. How can I find out more about the CMD application process?**

- For first-time certification, visit <https://paltmed.org/certification/initial-certification>
- For recertification/reinstatement, visit <https://paltmed.org/certification/recertification>

**Please contact [certification@paltmed.org](mailto:certification@paltmed.org) if you have any questions!**