

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.

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.

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 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 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 PALTmed transcript, individual certificates from PALTmed do not need to be uploaded to the portal –

- Applicants can review and download their PALTmed transcript by visiting <https://learn.paltmed.org/>.
- They can also contact 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.

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 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 if you have any questions!