The requirement for physicians to achieve board certification is intended to maintain the high professional standards of UC San Diego Health System (UCSDHS) medical staff, and to ensure consistency throughout departments. Department Chairs are responsible for compliance with this policy.

**Newly Appointed Medical Staff Members** - Newly appointed physician members of the medical staff shall obtain board certification by the appropriate credentialing board of the American Board of Medical Specialties (ABMS), or the American Osteopathic Association (AOA), or by the American Board of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery within five (5) years of their initial appointment.

**Current Medical Staff Members** – Active board certification in primary field or subspecialty, as appropriate to their delineation of privileges, is required for physicians with active medical staff privileges. For individuals appointed before Sept 1, 2009, who have not achieved board certification, certification should be achieved by August 31, 2014.

**Exemptions:**
Physicians with sufficient clinical training and experience may apply for an exemption to the board certification requirement. Indications for exemptions include individuals with foreign training which precludes certification by an American Board, or individuals who have allowed board certification to lapse and are no longer board eligible but have demonstrated ongoing clinical activity without quality concerns.

- a. A written request for an exemption, which includes the basis for exemption, must be made to the Department Chair.
- b. The Department Chair, after review of the request, may appeal in writing to the Vice Chancellor, Health Sciences for an exemption.
- c. The Vice Chancellor will evaluate the request and determine if an exemption is to be granted on a permanent or time limited basis.

Failure to maintain active board certification will be considered as possible grounds for non-reappointment or termination of medical staff privileges, unless an exemption has been granted by the Vice Chancellor, Health Sciences.

Dentists, podiatrists, psychologists and members of the Medical Staff without direct patient care (Affiliate Staff) are exempt from the Board Certification requirement.
BOARD CERTIFICATION EXEMPTION REQUEST

Instructions:
1. Department Chair to Complete Section “A” and submit to Vice Chancellor (MC 0602)
2. Vice Chancellor to Complete Section “B” and return to Department Chair
3. Copy to Medical Staff Administration (MC 8821)

SECTION A
Exemption Requested for (Print Physician Name):______________________________

Department: __________________________ Mail Code: __________________________

Department Chair Signature: __________________________ Date: ________________

I am requesting an exemption for the above named physician in accordance with UCSDHS Medical Staff Policy 18: Board Certification.

Rationale for board certification exemption request (Check ✓ One and include supplemental information):

A) Request for permanent exemption
   ☐ The physician listed above is foreign trained, which precludes certification by an American Board.
   ☐ The physician listed above is no longer board eligible, but has demonstrated ongoing clinical activity without quality concerns.

Please provide supplemental information to support the permanent exemption.

B) Request for time-limited exemption
   ☐ The physician listed above has either let his certification lapse, not met ABMS recertification requirements or has not completed the MOC requirements.

Please provide supplemental information including a plan and time frame for achieving board certification.

Submit to the Vice Chancellor, Health Sciences (MC 0602)

SECTION B

☐ Approved; Permanent exemption

☐ Approved; Time limited exemption. Expiration Date: ________________

☐ Denied

Signature: ____________________________________________________________________ Date: ________________

David Brenner, M.D.
Vice Chancellor, Health Sciences

Attachment: MSP 18 – Board Certification