

ASAM VIRTUAL
REVIEW COURSE
in Addiction Medicine

2025



**BOARD EXAM
STUDY GUIDE**

<https://elearning.asam.org/review-course>

ABOUT THE STUDY GUIDE

Preparing for board exams can be challenging, and each learner has unique needs. Whether you are looking for a refresher after the live course or completing the course entirely on-demand, this complimentary study guide was designed to help you make the most of your 2025 Review Course experience.



In this guide, you will find:

- A suggested breakdown of topics aligned with the Review Course Weekly Office Hours, where you can interact with expert faculty, ask questions, and access additional practice questions.
- An overview of important dates relevant to the Board Certification Exams, ensuring you stay informed and on track.
- A list of topics with associated textbook chapters for optional further reading.
- Additional tips and suggestions to optimize your studying plan.

ASAM is dedicated to providing you with the support and resources you need to excel in your board exams.

Let this study guide be your companion on your journey towards certification.

STUDY TIP:

Customize this study plan to fit your needs. Focus on topics you know the least about and leave more familiar topics for later. If you're confident in certain areas, feel free to skip them.

REFERENCED RESOURCES



LECTURES AND OFFICE HOURS

<https://elearning.asam.org/review-course>

Access all recorded lectures, post-test questions, and weekly office hours by visiting the 2025 Virtual Review Course product in the ASAM eLearning Center.



BOARD EXAM STUDY TOOL (BEST)

<https://elearning.asam.org/board-exam-study-tool>

Looking for additional practice? Test your knowledge with over 500 practice questions mapped to the exam blueprint by registering for the BEST.



ASAM PUBLICATIONS

<https://www.asam.org/publications-resources/textbooks>

For a more in-depth overview of addiction medicine topics, purchase ASAM's textbooks: *The ASAM Essentials of Addiction Medicine, 3rd Edition*, and *The ASAM Principles of Addiction Medicine, 6th or 7th Edition*.

TIMELINE

TIMEFRAME

Week 0

ACTION

Preparation & Live Review Course:

- ☐ Review Course: July 23 – 24, 2025
- ☐ Learn more about the exam – Attend *Becoming Certified: Pathways, Insights, and Preparation Strategies* on **Thursday, July 24th at 6:20 pm ET.**
- ☐ Determine study plan
- ☐ Test your knowledge with BEST mock exam (*separate registration*)

Week 1

Neurobiology & History:

- ☐ Watch *Evolution of Addiction and Treatment: History and Impact*
- ☐ Watch *Neurobiology of Addiction: Key Concepts and Models*
- ☐ Test your knowledge by completing the post-test questions
- ☐ Attend Review Course office hour **Thursday, July 31st at 2:00 pm ET**

Week 2

Genetics, Pregnancy & Medical Co-Morbidities:

- ☐ Watch *Genetics and Gender: Impacts on Diagnosis and Care*
- ☐ Watch *Pregnancy and Newborns: Considerations from Science to Systems*
- ☐ Watch *Medical Co-Morbidities: Diagnosis, Prevention, and Complications*
- ☐ Test your knowledge by completing the post-test questions
- ☐ Attend Review Course office hour **Thursday, August 7th at 2:00 pm ET**

Week 3

Epidemiology & Stimulants:

- ☐ Watch *Stimulant Use Disorder: From Neurobiology to Public Health*
- ☐ Watch *Epidemiology: Core Concepts and Applications*
- ☐ Test your knowledge by completing the post-test questions
- ☐ Attend Review Course office hour **Thursday, August 14th at 2:00 pm ET**

Week 4

Prevention & Other Classes of Drugs:

- ☐ Watch *Prevention and Public Health: From Theory to Practice*
- ☐ Watch *Other Classes of Drugs: Pharmacology and Epidemiology*
- ☐ Test your knowledge by completing the post-test questions
- ☐ Attend Review Course office hour **Thursday, August 21st at 2:00 pm ET**

Study Tip: Reviewing on the go? Download audio-only lecture files from the eLC to listen to while you commute or work on other tasks.

TIMELINE

TIMEFRAME

ACTION

Week 5

Behavioral Addiction & Psychosocial Interventions:

- ☐ Watch *Behavioral Addiction: Criteria, Challenges, and Considerations*
- ☐ Watch *Psychosocial Interventions: Cognitive Behavioral Therapy and Motivational Interviewing*
- ☐ Test your knowledge by completing the post-test questions
- ☐ Attend Review Course office hour **Thursday, August 28th at 2:00 pm ET**

Week 6

Alcohol & Sedatives:

- ☐ Watch *Alcohol Use Disorder: Neurobiology, Diagnosis, and Treatment*
- ☐ Watch *Sedative Use Disorder: Research and Practice*
- ☐ Test your knowledge by completing the post-test questions
- ☐ Attend Review Course office hour **Thursday, September 4th at 2:00 pm ET**

Week 7

Psychiatric Co-Morbidities, Ethics & the Law:

- ☐ Watch *Psychiatric Co-Morbidities: Complexities of Diagnosis and Care*
- ☐ Watch *Ethics and the Law: Principles and Implications*
- ☐ Test your knowledge by completing the post-test questions
- ☐ Attend Review Course office hour **Thursday, September 11th at 2:00 pm ET**

Week 8

Pharmacology & Toxicology:

- ☐ Watch *Pharmacology and Toxicology: Principles, Applications, and Limitations*
- ☐ Test your knowledge by completing the post-test questions
- ☐ Attend Review Course office hour **Thursday, September 18th at 2:00 pm ET**

Week 9

Mutual Help & Treatment for Different Ages:

- ☐ Watch *Psychosocial Interventions: Mutual Help, Psychotherapy, and Social Support*
- ☐ Watch *Treatment for Different Stages of Life: Adolescents, Young Adults, and the Elderly*
- ☐ Test your knowledge by completing the post-test questions
- ☐ Attend Review Course office hour **Thursday, September 25th at 2:00 pm ET**

Study Tip: For additional support and accountability, consider finding a study buddy by connecting with other Review Course attendees or organize a study group with colleagues also preparing for the exam.

TIMELINE

TIMEFRAME

Week 10

ACTION

Opioids & Pain:

- ☐ Watch *Opioid Use Disorder: Science, History, and Clinical Implications*
- ☐ Watch *Pain and Addiction: Trends and Treatments*
- ☐ Test your knowledge by completing the post-test questions
- ☐ Attend Review Course office hour **Thursday, October 2nd at 2:00 pm ET**

Week 11

Cannabis, Nicotine & Final Review:

- ☐ Watch *Nicotine Use Disorder: Public Health and Practice*
- ☐ Watch *Cannabis Use Disorder: Science, Trends, and Clinical Implications*
- ☐ Review definitions, neurotransmitters, formulas, key regulations, and epidemiological data
- ☐ Test your knowledge with the BEST mock exam (*separate registration*)
- ☐ Attend Review Course office hour **Thursday, October 9th at 2:00 pm ET**

BOARD EXAM CERTIFICATION INFORMATION

American Board of Preventive Medicine (ABPM)

Beginning October 2017 through October 2025, physicians who have a primary American Board of Medical Specialties (ABMS) board (including current addiction medicine specialists with a primary ABMS board certification) may apply to take the exam and become or continue to be an addiction medicine specialist. To find out if you're eligible, visit: <https://www.TheABPM.org/am-i-eligible>

American Osteopathic Association (AOA)

As of May 26, 2021, MDs may also take the AOA addiction medicine certification exam. To find out if you're eligible, visit: <https://certification.osteopathic.org/addiction-medicine/board-policies/>

Study Tip: Need additional guidance on the ABPM Exam? Reach out to MI Cares for help preparing for certification. Visit: <https://micaresed.org/>

FURTHER READING

If you would like to explore the content covered in this course in greater depth, see the list of topics with their associated chapters in *The ASAM Essentials of Addiction Medicine, 3rd Edition*, and *The ASAM Principles of Addiction Medicine, 6th Edition*.

TOPIC	ESSENTIALS	PRINCIPLES
Week 1		
Evolution of Addiction and Treatment	26, 28-30	2, 7, 26, 30, 35, 36
Neurobiology of Addiction	1, 5	1, 4, 5, 62, 108
Week 2		
Genetics and Gender	38	38
Pregnancy and Newborns	22, 38, 90	38, 90
Medical Co-Morbidities	79-89	29, 31, 39, 79-89, 91
Week 3		
Epidemiology	3	3
Stimulant Use Disorder	12, 13, 54, 59	12, 59
Week 4		
Other Classes of Drugs	16-19, 21, 61	13, 16-19, 21, 61
Prevention and Public Health	7, 25, 33, 37	22, 24, 25, 28, 36, 37, 42, 73, 107, 121
Week 5		
Behavioral Addiction	44-46, 48	44-48
Cognitive Behavioral Therapy and Motivational Interviewing	63, 66, 74	63, 65, 66, 71
Week 6		
Alcohol Use Disorder	9, 27, 51, 55	9, 27, 41, 51, 55, 90
Sedative Use Disorder	10, 52, 56	10, 52, 56
Week 7		
Psychiatric Co-Morbidities	92-99	29, 31, 40, 92-99
Ethics and the Law	106, 111, 115-121	6, 49, 106, 115-117, 120
Week 8		
Pharmacology and Toxicology	8, 23	8, 23, 34, 50, 119
Week 9		
Mutual Help, Psychotherapy, and Social Support	32, 64, 68, 69, 71, 72, 76-78	32, 64, 68-70, 72, 74-78
Treatment for Different Stages of Life	22, 41, 43, 107-114	43, 54, 107, 109-114
Week 10		
Opioid Use Disorder	11, 53, 57, 58	11, 53, 57, 58
Pain and Addiction	91, 100-105	100-105
Week 11		
Tobacco Use Disorder	14, 20, 60, 67	14, 20, 60
Cannabis Use Disorder	15	15, 118

Study Tip: After reading a section or the entire chapter, take a moment to review what you've learned and summarize the main points in your own words.