



## American Board of Emergency Medicine

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

### **Emergency Medicine Organizations Call for End to Pediatric Merit Badges**

**East Lansing, MI (May 4, 2020)**—The Coalition on Medical Merit Badges—an alliance including every major Emergency Medical organization—issued a signed statement that certification by the American Board of Emergency Medicine (ABEM) or the American Osteopathic Board of Emergency Medicine (AOBEM) precludes any short-course requirement such as Pediatric Advanced Life Support (PALS) or Advanced Pediatric Life Support (APLS) to care for pediatric patients in an emergency department. ABEM- or AOBEM-certified emergency physicians who are in good standing with their medical staff, and who are participating in a continuing certification program should be allowed to opt out of PALS and APLS courses. ABEM and AOBEM certify that the appropriate knowledge and skills have been acquired and are maintained through continuing certification. The full statement is available [here](#).

The Coalition, formed in 2017, works to educate hospital stakeholders understand the extent of training and continuing education that board-certified physicians undertake to become and remain certified.

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#### **About ABEM**

Founded in 1976, the American Board of Emergency Medicine (ABEM) develops and administers the Emergency Medicine certification examinations to physicians who have met all ABEM credentialing requirements. Its mission is to uphold the highest standards in the specialty of Emergency Medicine. ABEM has over 39,000 emergency physicians currently certified. ABEM is one of 24 Member Boards of the [American Board of Medical Specialties](#).