



International Board for Certification of Specialists in Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery

IBCSOMS 2016 Certifying Examinations - Bangalore, India

The International Board for the Certification of Specialist in Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery (IBCSOMS) is wishes to announce that the next certification examinations will be administered in Bangalore in October 2016. After administering two successful examination in Japan the Directors of the IBCSOMS it was determined that India was the next logical site to offer certification examinations that would be the most beneficial to the patient populations and the oral and maxillofacial surgeons. The designation as a test site is carefully selected and we are pleased to offer certification examinations to qualified surgeons.

The application process for the Bangalore examinations is now available to all interested parties. You are encouraged to go to <https://www.ibcsoms.org/newuser/certificationprocess> to begin the application process. Information about the application process and the certification examinations can be found at www.ibcsoms.org. You are encouraged to direct your questions to info@ibcsoms.org.

Key deadlines can be found below.

October 2016 Examinations—Bangalore, India*

Application Process Opens	April 1, 2016
Application Process Ends	July 13, 2016
Applicants Notified of IBCSOMS Determination Candidates approved to participate should apply for Visa	August 5, 2015
Verification of Examination Participation	August 26, 2016
Candidates Scheduled for Examination and Notified	September 9, 2016

The MCQ administration will be October 11, 2016.

The oral examinations will be administered October 12-15, 2016.

***Please note that if an appropriate number of candidates have not applied to take the examination by August 26, 2016 the Bangalore, India examinations will be cancelled and those who have applied will be so informed.**



The IBCSOMS Certifying Exam

The International Board for the Certification of Specialists in Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery was founded three years ago in 2013 as an effort by the International Association of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons to develop a global standard for the specialty. This is unique in the fields of dentistry and medicine, professions that have usually subscribed to local certifying mechanisms developed by local or regional institutions. Since its establishment, a group of specialists representing over 18 countries has succeeded in creating a clinically relevant standard representative of the fundamental skills and knowledge required in all oral and maxillofacial surgeons, regardless of where they practice. This standard has been translated into a certifying process that begins with the verification of formal training in the core components and procedures of the specialty, a review of the documented surgical experiences of candidates, and assessment of a candidate's knowledge and ability to apply that knowledge in the management of common oral and maxillofacial surgery conditions by an examination conducted by a multinational group of specialists. The validity of the examination process is further confirmed by a statistical process commonly used in educational circles known as psychometrics.

Since the development of this highly sophisticated certification process, two successful administrations of the examination have been conducted in Osaka, Japan for 92 candidates, who have found the process challenging, but fair and comprehensive in its scope. This process has also allowed candidates to benchmark their training and qualifications against a global standard and this has been particularly interesting for those who come from smaller practicing communities.

An often-repeated question is "what is the value of this certification"? At this early stage in the IBCSOMS' history, the answer is still unknown. However, as a certifying process that adheres to the highest standards of the specialty with an examination that can be confirmed by psychometric analysis to be reliable in its ability to discriminate candidates who should pass from those who shouldn't, the potential uses of this process are extensive. Local licensing bodies may consider this as a valuable tool to verify credentials, training and ability for those seeking licensure. The IBCSOMS can also be used as an adjunct to existing local certification processes to improve their validity. There is



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currently a proposal for the development of sub-specialty certification in areas such as head and neck oncology and cleft and craniofacial surgery. The IBCSOMS examination would serve as a first step for these additional qualifications.

The IBCSOMS is planning the first administration of the examination in India in October, 2015. This historic initiative hopes to introduce the highly valid certification process to the second most populous nation in the world, in the hope that we will be successful in recruiting a large pool of qualified and experienced surgeons as Fellows of the IBCSOMS to serve the needs of the Board in future years. We hope you will be among the first to earn this important qualification, representing the highest standards of our profession as determined by your global community.

Mark Wong
Chairman IBCSOMS