

MSK Examination Prerequisite

Musculoskeletal Ultrasound for Physicians and Advanced Care Providers

All requirements below must be met and completed prior to application submission.

AT A GLANCE

The chart provides a summary of requirements. Please read all pathway and documentation requirement notes below carefully and thoroughly before you submit an application.

Licensure	Clinical Experience	Documentation Required
Doctor of Medicine (MD) Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine (DO) Doctor of Podiatric Medicine (DPM) Bachelor of Medicine, Bachelor of Surgery (MBBS) Doctor of Chiropractic (DC)* Nurse Practitioner (NP)* Physician Assistant (PA)* Doctor of Physical Therapy (DPT)* Doctor of Naturopathic Medicine* Doctor of Oriental Medicine* Physiotherapist / Physical Therapist (PT)*	Minimum 150 studies Musculoskeletal ultrasound studies performed and/or authorized within the preceding 36 months.** No more than 5% (8 cases) may be therapeutic (injection or aspiration). Clinical diagnostic settings only: hospitals, clinics, private practices. Simulation, volunteer, unpaid, barter, or veterinarian experience not accepted.	Medical license (current, valid, unrestricted) Attestation letter Case log (150 MSK studies)

* CME note: Although not required, APCA recommends completing a minimum of 30 MSK-specific CMEs as exam preparation. Do not submit CME documentation with your application.

DOCUMENTATION DETAILS

What to submit and what to keep on file

Medical License

Copy of a valid medical license in good standing without any conditions or restrictions to practice as an MD, DO, DPM, MBBS, DC, NP, PA, DPT, PT, Doctor of Naturopathic Medicine, or Doctor of Oriental Medicine.

Attestation Letter

Completed third-party attestation form confirming performance and/or authorized diagnosis of a minimum of 150 musculoskeletal ultrasound studies within the preceding 36 months. [Download sample letter.](#)

Case Log

Maintain a case log documenting the performance and/or authorized diagnosis of at least 150 musculoskeletal ultrasound studies within the 36 months before application; no more than 5% (8 cases) may be labeled as therapeutic (injection or aspiration).

Do not submit with your application. Retain for at least 36 months following your exam date; logs are subject to random audit

Your log must document:

- Date of each case
- Testing area
- Whether the case was diagnostic, therapeutic or simulated (note: simulation is not accepted for MSK).
- Clinical site name and contact information

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GENERAL NOTES

Before you apply

- The name on all supporting documentation must match your application name exactly. If it does not, submit legal documentation of the name change (e.g. marriage or divorce certificate).
- Prerequisites are subject to change. You must meet the requirements in effect at the time of application.
- Documentation in a language other than English must include a notarized translation.
- All submitted documents become the property of APCA and will not be returned.
- Eligibility is not determined by telephone, fax, or email.

Please be advised that your initial approved application may be subject to a post-approval audit, which may require us to request additional documentation or clarification to ensure the integrity of our certification standards. If then found ineligible during this final review, your application may be canceled with a partial refund offered, and any scheduled exam appointments would then be automatically canceled.

Impartiality

Inteleos/ARDMS/APCA function under policies intended to demonstrate impartiality, high ethical standards, and validity of its certification assessments. Inteleos/ARDMS/APCA do not restrict Applicants, Candidates, or becoming a Registrant based on limiting conditions, such as membership of an association or professional society of any organization. Inteleos/ARDMS/APCA will not unfairly impede or inhibit access to its certification to Applicants, Candidates or Registrants who meet our stated policies regarding qualification requirements, renewal requirements and/or passing Inteleos' psychometrically sound certification assessments.