

**INSTRUCTIONS FOR PLASTIC & RECONSTRUCTIVE SURGERY  
ORAL EXAMINATION FOR CANDIDATES ENTERING THE AOBBS  
CERTIFICATION PROCESS AFTER JANUARY 1, 2006**

1. After successfully completing the written examination, the candidate will register for an oral examination to be offered in the fall of each year prior to the ACA of the ACOS. The oral examination will contain a section of theory and practice and a section of case reports.
2. The case reports will consist of five (5) cases selected from the candidate logs and are to be prepared by the candidate following the explicit instructions on case report preparation available for download at [www.aobbs.org](http://www.aobbs.org) under “Clinical Exam Instructions – Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery.” Please prepare all logs using these Excel files.
3. LOG SUBMISSION
  - A. The candidate is instructed to keep accurate and complete photographic records of all cases during the collection period.
  - B. The nine (9) month collection period will run from August 1 - April 30.  
**A minimum of 50 operative cases in a given collection period is required.**
  - C. Candidates must perform at least one case from two of the following four categories:

<b>GENERAL RECONSTRUCTION</b>	<b>COSMETIC</b>	<b>CRANIOFACIAL</b>	<b>HAND</b>
Breast Reduction	Breast Surgery	Cleft Lip and Palate	Complex Hand Trauma
Breast Reconstruction	Facial Cosmetic (Facelift, Facial Lift, Blepharoplasty, Rhinoplasty)	Facial Fractures Excluding Closed Nasal Fractures	Carpal Tunnel
Pressure Sore Flaps (No Debridements)	Liposuction	Congenital	Ganglion Cysts
Skin Cancer Flaps (No Complex Closures)	Abdominoplasty		Microvascular Surgery
Lower Extremity Trauma	Body Contouring		
Otoplasty			

**DO NOT INCLUDE:** Voluntary surgery in developing countries; minor surgery (lesions, lipomas, benign lesions, minor lacerations, skin cancers without flaps, debridements, laser,

hardware removal); assistant or co-surgeon cases in which the candidate is not the surgeon of record; procedures for injectables (i.e., fillers, Botox<sup>®</sup>).

- D. The completed logs are to be printed and submitted to the Board office by May 15, following the explicit instructions on log submission supplied by the Board and available for download on the AOBS website. Logs submitted electronically will not be accepted. Payment of the \$2750 oral examination fee is not required at this time; however, if logs are received between May 15 and May 21, the candidate will be required to pay a \$500 late logs submission fee.
- E. Once the Board reviews the submitted logs and deems them appropriate in diversity, complexity and volume, the candidate will be admitted into the PLR oral examination process.
- F. If the Board identifies insufficiencies in these categories, it will not be counted as an examination failure; however, the candidate will be required to resubmit logs from a new collection period for evaluation by the Board.
- G. All candidates who are required to resubmit logs will be required to pay a \$250 resubmission fee.

Revised July 2, 2014

## **Plastic & Reconstructive Surgery 2-Step Oral Examination Categories**

1. **CRANIOFACIAL** - includes facial fractures, maxillofacial
2. **HAND** - includes upper extremities, wrists, hands and forearms
3. **CONGENITAL** - includes cleft lip, cleft palate, otoplasty
4. **BREAST RECONSTRUCTION** - includes tissue expansion, TRAM flaps, L D flaps, nipples/areola reconstruction, complication of implantable materials, Poland's syndrome treatment, etc.
5. **BREAST** - includes reduction mammoplasty, augmentation mammoplasty, mastopexy, mastectomy with augmentation, etc.
6. **MUSCLE FLAP RECONSTRUCTION** - includes pressure sores, lower extremity reconstruction, chest wall reconstruction, etc.
7. **MICROVASCULAR SURGERY**
8. **OCULOPLASTIC** - includes blepharoplasty, canthoplasty, tarsal strips, complex periocular reconstruction, etc.
9. **CANCER** - includes squamous cells, basal cell, melanoma, sarcoma and all reconstruction, etc.
10. **BURNS** - includes any reconstructive surgery to burn injury, etc.
11. **RHINOPLASTY** - includes aesthetic and functional components, with functional septoplasty and turbinoplasty, etc.
12. **LASER** - includes laser resurfacing, laser treatment for hemangiomas, vascular lakes, etc.
13. **AESTHETIC FACIAL** - includes forehead lift, face lift, mid-facial lift, malar augmentation, chin augmentation, hair transplantation and/or flaps, and autologous fat transplantation
14. **AESTHETIC BODY CONTOURING** - includes abdominoplasty, thigh lifts, lower body fascial suspension, lipoplasty and brachioplasty
15. **OTHER** - includes another other major PLR procedure not mentioned above

Plastic surgery is a vast field with many overlapping surgeries (i.e., craniofacial defects may also be congenital). The Board will review each presented case separately and advise the examinee accordingly.