Committee on Advanced Subspecialty Training (CAST)
Society of Neurological Surgeons

Practice Track Application:
Eligibility Criteria for Individual Certification

NEUROENDOVASCULAR SURGERY (NES)

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA FOR INDIVIDUAL CERTIFICATION:

A. General

1. Applicants must be a certified Diplomate in good standing of the American Board of Neurological Surgery (ABNS) or the American Board of Medical Specialties (ABMS) of Radiology and Neurology

2. Applicants must hold a current, active, valid, unrestricted, and unqualified license to practice medicine in at least one jurisdiction in the United States and in each jurisdiction in which they practice.

3. Neurosurgeons, Neurologists and Radiologists are eligible if the applicant has successfully completed:
   a. an NES fellowship accredited by CAST, and/or
   b. an NES fellowship with a similar structure as those accredited by CAST during which the pre-requisites and subsequent interventional experiences are fulfilled as outlined in the CAST Program Requirements for NES
   c. other equivalent training as expressly approved by the Neuroendovascular Surgery Advisor Council (NESAC) and CAST

4. CAST certificate holders must continuously fulfill the ABMS Policy on Medical Licensure. Licenses that have been revoked, suspended, surrendered, or not renewed in order to terminate or settle disciplinary proceedings do not qualify as meeting the requirements for medical licensure, and all such licensure changes must be reported to CAST and the ABNS and/or other appropriate recognized ABMS specialty boards for review and consideration. Failure to do so may result in loss of certification according to their bylaws, and loss of subspecialty certification granted by CAST.
B. Requirements:

Physicians who have already completed their primary board certification in neurosurgery, neurology, and/or radiology and have had additional training and/or experience in NES prior to the availability of CAST accredited training programs are eligible for CAST certification. To be considered, the applicant must submit the following documentation:

- satisfactory completion of an ACGME-accredited residency training program in neurosurgery, neurology, or radiology with ABMS board certification in their primary and corresponding certification of their secondary neurologic specialties as required

  AND

- successful completion of an NES fellowship with a similar structure as those accredited by CAST, during which the pre-requisites and subsequent interventional experiences are fulfilled as outlined in the CAST Program Requirements for NES, or other equivalent training as expressly approved and recognized by CAST and the NESAC which must include the following:

  1. performance of at least 200 catheter-based diagnostic and/or interventional cerebral angiographic procedures as primary operator, completed during or after the residency.
  2. demonstrated competency in catheter techniques, and
  3. knowledge levels consistent with the milestones 1-4 for cerebrovascular diseases and NES

  AND

- documentation of extensive NES experience and clinical practice, as outlined, validated and recommended by the Chief of Neurosurgery and/or Chief of Staff/Chief Medical Officer of the institution where the NES privileges are exercised. This experience must include 2 years of practice data after successful completion of training, submitted on Form 4

  AND

- an active hospital appointment in NES

  AND

- satisfaction of all other CAST requirements for periodic recertification and MOC in their primary and secondary specialties and NES

This practice track pathway of application will expire on December 31, 2020. To apply via this pathway, neurosurgeons, radiologists, and neurologists must have fulfilled the requirements of the pathway and submitted their completed application on or before that date. Certification obtained under the Practice Track pathway will have the same limitations and privileges as certification obtained via any CAST accredited fellowship pathway.