

# **ASCP ED COURSE SAM FAQ's**

What is a SAM (Self-Assessment Module)?

These modules provide pathologists an opportunity to assess knowledge and/or skills, and earn SAM credit for purposes of Maintenance of Certification (MOC). They also provide practical information that pathologists need to be competent in daily practice. You must complete an on-line pre- and post-test, plus participate in the live course, to claim SAM credit for an ASCP Educational Course.

Who should take the pre- and post-tests?

The American Board of Pathology (ABP) began issuing time-limited certificates in 2006. If you are a diplomate who passed an ABP certification exam in 2006 or later, you are required to participate in the Maintenance of Certification (MOC) process in order to maintain your board certification. One MOC requirement is to earn 35 *AMA PRA Category 1 credits*<sup>™</sup> (CME credits) per year, to include 10 credits obtained from completion of Self-Assessment Modules (SAMs).

Participants with non-time-limited certificates may choose to take the pre- and post-tests in order to assess increased knowledge and/or skills resulting from participating in a course.

All participants who take the pre/post tests will be prompted to choose partial SAM credit (with the balance as CME credit) or 100% CME credit after completing the live activity and the post-test (scoring requirements must be met for SAM credit; see below).

How do I access the pre- and post-tests?

To access the pre- and post-tests for your course(s) and obtain information about the number of SAM credits offered, log on to [www.ascp.org](http://www.ascp.org):

- Enter your ASCP ID# and password (For assistance, click “password hint” or call ASCP Customer Service at 800.267.2727, option 2)
- Go to “My Account” → “My Courses & Exams”

Registered course participants will receive a reminder e-mail about the pre-test approximately 7 days in advance of the course. Please ensure that your contact information is current; log on to [www.ascp.org](http://www.ascp.org) to review and update your profile.

When must the pre- and post-tests be completed?

- Pre-test: available on-line 3 weeks before course; complete by 10:00 a.m. Central Time on first day of course.
- Post-test: available on-line at 7:00 a.m. Central Time on last day of course; complete within 3 weeks of course end.

Am I required to take both the pre-test and post-test if I want SAM credit?

YES, our policy requiring both a pre-test and post-test is unique to ASCP but we feel it provides a higher quality self-assessment educational activity for our members.

How is SAM credit calculated?

3 questions = 1 SAM credit. Because of the comprehensive nature of ASCP Educational Courses, SAM credit is available for only a portion of the course credit, with the remainder available as standard CME credit for live education.

What are the scoring criteria for claiming SAM credit?

- Post-test score > pre-test score, or
- Pre-test score  $\geq$  80%

For more information about pathologists' Maintenance of Certification (MOC) requirements, please visit [www.ascp.org](http://www.ascp.org) → Pathologists → MOC.