



Core Curriculum for ASMBS Fellowship Certificate

Training Requirements for 2025-2026

COGNITIVE EXPERIENCE

The fellow is expected to participate in non-clinical educational activities related to metabolic and bariatric surgery. The fellow will utilize the [ASMBS Learning Management System](#) (LMS) to access *The FELLOW Project* lectures, fulfilling the didactic requirements.

The fellow will [apply for a complimentary ASMBS Candidate membership](#), which provides access to live webinars and recorded sessions through the LMS. To meet the documentation requirements, the fellow will download a transcript from the LMS and include it with their application.

A. Cognitive Curriculum Learning Objectives

Fellows are required to participate in 18 live or recorded ASMBS *The FELLOW Project* lectures, which represents the minimum cognitive experience. The required FELLOWS Project didactic curriculum is updated annually and will be posted in the LMS by August 1 of each program year. Fellows are expected to complete the curriculum assigned for their program year to satisfy the cognitive and didactic requirements. This cognitive experience can be augmented by local, specifically designed textbooks review, journal club, peer reviews or resident teaching conferences at the discretion of the program director and faculty.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- I. Science of Obesity and Metabolic Surgery
 - A. History of Bariatric and Metabolic Surgery
 - B. Epidemiology of Surgery
 - C. Pathophysiology and Genetics of Obesity
 - D. Mechanisms of Weight Loss and Disease Resolution
 - E. Psycho-social aspect and Health Disparities
 - F. Nutritional Considerations

- II. Current Technical Procedures
 - A. Adjustable Gastric Banding
 - B. Sleeve Gastrectomy
 - C. Roux-en-Y Gastric Bypass
 - D. Biliopancreatic Diversion with Duodenal Switch
 - E. Single Anastomosis Duodeno-ileostomy – Loop Duodenal Switch
 - F. Revisional Bariatric Surgery
 - G. Innovative and Emerging Procedures
 1. Endoscopic Techniques
 2. One Anastomosis Gastric Bypass

- III. Peri-operative Care
 - A. Indications for Metabolic/Bariatric Surgery
 - B. Patient Selection in Metabolic/Bariatric Surgery
 - C. Pre-operative Evaluation of the Bariatric Patient
 - D. Anesthesia Considerations
 - E. Acute Postoperative Complications
 - F. Post-operative care and Enhanced Recovery Protocols
 - G. Long term Follow up and Complications of Bariatric Patients
 - H. Anti-Obesity Medications

- IV. Outcomes of Metabolic Surgery
 - A. Safety of Metabolic/Bariatric Surgery
 - B. Weight loss after various Procedures
 - C. Resolution of Type 2 Diabetes
 - D. Resolution and Prevention of Cardiovascular Disease
 - E. GERD Improvement

- V. Special Considerations and Population Subsets
 - A. Management of Liver and Biliary Conditions
 - B. Childhood and Adolescent Obesity Surgery
 - C. Elderly and frail Bariatric Patients
 - D. Abdominal Wall Hernia / Evisceration
 - E. Immune Compromise and Transplant Patients
 - F. Pregnancy and Obesity Surgery
 - G. Aberrant anatomy
 - H. Autoimmune conditions and IBS

B. Management Conference Requirements:

Fellows are expected to participate in *at least quarterly bariatric* morbidity and mortality (M&M) conferences, including quality improvement and peri-operative management conferences. Participation must be documented.

C. Research Requirements:

Fellows are expected to conduct research and are expected to submit an abstract to a national or regional society during their fellowship **related to metabolic/bariatric surgery or minimally invasive surgery**. This research project need not be accepted for presentation by the conference or for publication in the journal to which it was submitted. A copy of the submitted abstract/manuscript must be submitted with your documentation. Fellows are also strongly encouraged to complete at least one clinical research manuscript, research presentation at a regional/national meeting, research poster presentation, or abstract submission as listed above.

D. Multidisciplinary Conference Requirements:

Fellows are expected to participate in regular bariatric multidisciplinary conferences. They also must document their attendance to at least one patient support group meeting and one patient educational seminar.

CLINICAL AND TECHNICAL EXPERIENCE:

A. Surgical Procedure Requirements:

To meet the designation of comprehensive training, fellows must be exposed to more than one type of weight loss operation and participate in at least 100 weight loss operations. The fellow should have assumed the role of primary surgeon in at least 51% of cases, defined as having performed the key components of the operation. There should be a minimum of:

- 50 intestinal bypass operations (including Roux -en-Y Gastric bypass, one anastomosis gastric bypass, Biliopancreatic Diversion +/- Duodenal Switch, or single-anastomosis duodenal switch variants [SIPS, SADI, SADS, etc.]);
- a combined total of 10 Restrictive operations (Sleeve Gastrectomy operations and/or Adjustable Gastric Banding procedures);
- 5 Revisional procedures (excluding removal of adjustable gastric band only);
- exposure to and/or extensive teaching of bariatric-specific emergency procedures (leaks, bowel obstructions, internal hernias, intussusceptions, gastrointestinal hemorrhage and ulcers), as deemed adequate by the program director to establish competence in managing these complications.
- Fellows should also have an exposure to endoscopy (as attested by the Program Director eventually to be evaluated by a competency tool effective 2014.)

B. Evaluation Requirements:

The fellow is required to complete 50 preoperative patient evaluations, 100 postoperative inpatient management encounters, and 100 postoperative outpatient evaluations. All documentation must be submitted using the designated log template available on the [ASMBS Fellowship Certificate webpage](#).

C. Performance Assessment Synopsis:

The Program Director will be responsible for conducting at least 2 fellow performance assessment interviews and providing the ASMBS with a brief synopsis of the meeting.