



Certified Medical Reimbursement Specialist FAQs

Q: What is CMRS?

A: CMRS stands for Certified Medical Reimbursement Specialist. The CMRS designation is awarded by the Certifying Board of the American Medical Billing Association (CBAMBA). Although there is no state or federal requirement of a medical billing professional to become certified to practice medical billing, it is AMBA's goal to provide a professional certification exam that upholds a high ethical standard of knowledge that recognizes the competency of a certificant.

Q: How do I become certified?

A: Fill out the application and submit payment to MMBA. AMBA will then contact you via email with instructions on getting started. You must score an 85% or higher overall to receive a passing score on the exam. Upon passing, you will receive a CMRS designation and a certificate will be mailed to you.

Q: How is the test taken? Is there a time limit?

A: The exam is offered online and you have 45 days to complete it.

Q: What subject matter is on the test?

A: The exam tests you in the following areas: Medical Terminology, Anatomy and Physiology, Information Technology, Web and Information Technology, ICD-9-CM Coding, CPT-4 Coding, Clearinghouses, CMS-1500, Insurance, Insurance Carriers, Acronyms, Compliance, Fraud and Abuse, Managed Care, Case Studies, and General Information.

Q: How much does the exam cost?

A: For MMBA members, the fee is \$450.00. This fee includes the exam, study guide and an AMBA membership.

For non-MMBA members, the fee is \$575.00. This fee includes the exam, study guide, AMBA membership, and MMBA membership.

Q: What materials will I need to take the test?

A: You will need the current year's HCPCS, CPT-4, and ICD-9 Code books.

Q: Do you need prior schooling or experience to take the exam?

A: It is recommended that you have at least one year of experience **or** some form of schooling regarding medical billing, but it is not required.

Q: Are there any requirements to maintain my certification?

A: Yes. You must maintain membership with MMBA and AMBA. In addition, 15 CEU's (continuing education credits) are required each year to maintain your certification. These CEU's are offered at MMBA meetings as well as other various venues.

Q: What is the cost for an AMBA membership?

A: The cost for an annual AMBA membership is \$99. However, your first year of membership is included in the cost for the exam.