



## Exam Eligibility Requirements

To be eligible for the CMA (AAMA) Certification/Recertification Examination, the candidate must meet the criteria for one of three eligibility categories.

### Candidate Eligibility Categories

**Category 1** | Completing student or recent graduate of a CAAHEP or ABHES accredited medical assisting program

The candidate must have graduated from or be about to complete a medical assisting program accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs (CAAHEP) or by the Accrediting Bureau of Health Education Schools (ABHES).

**Completing students** may take the CMA (AAMA) Exam no more than 30 days prior to completing their formal education and practicum.

**Recent graduates** are those who apply for the exam within 12 months of graduation.

**Category 2** | Nonrecent graduate of a CAAHEP or ABHES accredited medical assisting program

A candidate who applies for the exam more than 12 months after graduation is a nonrecent graduate.

*Candidates who graduate from a CAAHEP or ABHES program that was accredited at any time during the student's enrollment, or who graduated within the 36 months prior to the program becoming CAAHEP or ABHES accredited, are eligible to apply for the CMA (AAMA) exam under Category 1 or 2.*

**Category 3** | CMA (AAMA) recertificant

The candidate must have previously passed the CMA (AAMA) Certification Exam and is applying to recertify the CMA (AAMA) credential.

### Accreditation Periods

Candidates who graduate from a CAAHEP or ABHES program that was accredited at any time during the student's enrollment, or who graduated within the 36 months prior to the program becoming CAAHEP or ABHES accredited, are eligible to apply for the CMA (AAMA) exam under Category 1 or 2. The 12-month period for student or recent graduate fee eligibility begins on the date that the program is granted CAAHEP or ABHES accreditation.

### Grounds for Denial of Eligibility

Here are the main reasons an exam applicant would not be eligible:

- The candidate has not met the eligibility requirements.