









AMERICAN OSTEOPATHIC BOARD OF  
OBSTETRICS AND GYNECOLOGY  
Operating Under Authority of the American Osteopathic Association

---

## Primary OB/GYN Written Examination and Study Topics

*The AOBG does not endorse, recommend, or provide any information about review or preparation courses for this examination.*

The written examination is the first of two examinations in the primary certification process. It is offered on an annual basis.

The examination is a 4 hour objective examination consisting of 225 multiple-choice questions which are representative of the practice of a primary OB/GYN physician. The test blueprint for the examination is:

Topic	Percentage of Questions on Exam (range)
Gynecology	39-43%
Reproductive Endocrinology and Infertility	7-11%
Female Pelvic Medicine and Reconstructive Surgery	6-10%
Gynecologic Oncology	4-8%
Obstetrics and Maternal Fetal Medicine	34-38%

Topics which may be included on the examination are provided as a guideline for study, and are found below (page 5). A list of major references used for the examination are also provided as a study aid below (pages 6-7).

Examinations are electronically scored and psychometrically evaluated. The criterion referenced standard setting method is utilized to determine the cut score (pass/fail mark) prior to administration of the examination. Examinations are not graded on a curve.

**NOTE:** ABMS-certified physicians who have been approved by the AOA to enter the certification process via Resolution 56 are exempt from this examination.



AMERICAN OSTEOPATHIC BOARD OF  
OBSTETRICS AND GYNECOLOGY  
Operating Under Authority of the American Osteopathic Association

**Primary OB/GYN Written Examination Study Topics**

GYNECOLOGY	OBSTETRICS	GYNECOLOGY ONCOLOGY
General Topics/Primary Care:	Antepartum Care	Cancers: Staging and Management
Abnormal Uterine Bleeding	Bacterial Infections	*Breast
Antibiotic Prophylaxis	Chronic Hypertension	*Cervical
Breast Disease	Fetal Disease	*Fallopian Tube
Contraception	Fetal Monitoring	*In Pregnancy
Domestic Violence	Fetal Physiology/Development	*Ovarian
Endometriosis	Gestational Diabetes Mellitus	*Uterine
Gynecologic Pelvic Ultrasound	Hyperemesis Gravidarum	*Vaginal
HIV / AIDS	Induced Abortion	*Vulvar
Menopause	Intrapartum Management	Chemotherapy
Osteopathic Manipulative Medicine	Intrauterine Fetal Demise (IUFD)	Gestational Trophoblastic Neoplasia (GTN)
Osteoporosis: Screening & Management	Maternal Physiology	Radiation Therapy
Pediatric & Adolescent Gynecology	Newborn Management / Complications	Tumor Immunology
Pelvic Floor Procedures	Obstetrical Hemorrhage	Viral Diseases
Pelvic Mass: Evaluation & Management	Obstetrical Ultrasound	
Pelvic Pain	Osteopathic Manipulative Medicine	
Premenstrual Syndrome (PMS)	Placental Disorders	
Rape / Sexual Assault	Placental Physiology	<b>REPRODUCTIVE ENDOCRINOLOGY AND INFERTILITY</b>
Sexual Dysfunction	Post Maturity	
Sexually Transmitted Diseases	Postpartum Care	
Surgical Anatomy	Postpartum Infections	Amenorrhea
Surgical Procedures & Complications	Pregnancy Induced Hypertension	Congenital Anomalies
Urogynecology and Procedures	Puerperium	Ectopic Pregnancy
Vaginitis	Spontaneous Abortion	Endometriosis
Vulvar Disease	Systemic Maternal Disease	Hirsutism
Benign Cervical/Uterine Diagnosis:	Viral / Protozoan Diagnosis / HIV	Hypothalamus
Colposcopy		In Vitro / GIFT/ ZIFT
Endometrial Biopsy		Infertility Evaluation
LEEPS	<b>MATERNAL FETAL MEDICINE</b>	Male Factor
Cervical / Uterine Laser Therapy	Biophysical Testing	Ovarian Physiology
Benign Vulvo-Vaginal Diagnosis:	Genetics / Prenatal Diagnosis & Counseling	Ovulation Induction
Biopsy		Ovulatory Dysfunction
Medical Therapy	Infectious Diseases	Pharmacology
Laser Therapy	Isosensitization	Pituitary Abnormalities
Endoscopic Procedures / Complications:	Multiple Gestation	Recurrent Abortion
Oophorectomy	Prematurity	Reproductive Surgery
Ectopic Pregnancy	Systemic Maternal Disease	
LAVH	Teratology	
All Gynecological Infections – Diagnosis & Treatment:		
Including but not limited to:		
*Bartholin Gland Abscess		
*Pelvic Infections / Abscesses		
*Postoperative Infections or Pneumonia		
*Staph Infections of the Skin		
*Urinary Tract Infections		
*Vulvar Infections		



AMERICAN OSTEOPATHIC BOARD OF  
OBSTETRICS AND GYNECOLOGY  
Operating Under Authority of the American Osteopathic Association

---

Major References for Primary Written Exam

\*\*\*Please note this list is not all-inclusive, but intended to give exam candidates a start to studying.

General OB/GYN

- ACOG PROLOG Series. All six books are currently in their 7<sup>th</sup> editions (2013-2017). By the American Congress of Obstetricians and Gynecologists.
- *Callen's Ultrasonography in Obstetrics and Gynecology*, 6<sup>th</sup> ed. 2016. By Mary Norton.
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. *Sexually Transmitted Diseases Treatment Guidelines*, 2015. <https://www.cdc.gov/std/tg2015/tg-2015-print.pdf>
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. *Summary Chart of U.S. Medical Eligibility Criteria for Contraceptive Use*. 2012. [https://www.cdc.gov/reproductivehealth/unintendedpregnancy/pdf/legal\\_summary-chart\\_english\\_final\\_tag508.pdf](https://www.cdc.gov/reproductivehealth/unintendedpregnancy/pdf/legal_summary-chart_english_final_tag508.pdf)
- *Ultrasound in Obstetrics and Gynecology: A Practical Approach*, 1<sup>st</sup> ed. 2014. By Alfred Abuhamad. [http://www.evms.edu/education/centers\\_institutes\\_departments/obstetrics\\_gynecology/ultrasound\\_ebook/](http://www.evms.edu/education/centers_institutes_departments/obstetrics_gynecology/ultrasound_ebook/)

Obstetrics/Maternal Fetal Medicine

- ACOG Hypertension in Pregnancy Guidelines, 2013. <http://www.acog.org/Resources-And-Publications/Task-Force-and-Work-Group-Reports/Hypertension-in-Pregnancy>
- *Creasy & Resnik's Maternal-Fetal Medicine: Principles and Practice*, 7<sup>th</sup> ed. 2013. By Robert Resnik, Robert Creasy, et al.
- *(Gabbe's) Obstetrics: Normal & Problem Pregnancies*, 7<sup>th</sup> ed. 2016. By Steven Gabbe, et al.
- *Williams Obstetrics*, 24<sup>th</sup> ed. 2014. By F. Gary Cunningham, et al.

Gynecology

- *Berek & Novak's Gynecology*, 15<sup>th</sup> ed. 2011. By Jonathan Berek.
- *(Karram's) Atlas of Pelvic Anatomy & Gynecologic Surgery*, 4<sup>th</sup> ed. 2015. By Michael Baggish and Mickey Karram.
- *(Lentz and Lobo's) Comprehensive Gynecology*, 7<sup>th</sup> ed. Mosby, 2017. By Rogerio Lobo, Gretchen Lentz, et al.
- *Te Linde's Operative Gynecology*, 11<sup>th</sup> ed. 2015. By Howard Jones and John Rock.
- *Updated Consensus Guidelines on the Management of Women with Abnormal Cervical Cancer Screening Tests and Cancer Precursors*. By the American Society for Colposcopy and Cervical Pathology, 2012.
- *Williams Gynecology*, 3<sup>rd</sup> ed. 2016. By Barbara Hoffman, et al.



AMERICAN OSTEOPATHIC BOARD OF  
OBSTETRICS AND GYNECOLOGY  
Operating Under Authority of the American Osteopathic Association

---

Gynecologic Oncology

- *Berek & Hacker's Gynecologic Oncology, 6<sup>th</sup> ed.* 2014. By Jonathan Berek and Neville Hacker.
- *(DiSaia's) Clinical Gynecologic Oncology, 9<sup>th</sup> ed.* 2017. By Philip DiSaia, et al.
- *Principles and Practice of Gynecologic Oncology, 6<sup>th</sup> ed.* Wolters Kluwer, 2013. By Richard Barakat, et al.

Reproductive Endocrinology & Infertility

- *(Speroff's) Clinical Gynecologic Endocrinology & Infertility, 8<sup>th</sup> ed.* 2010. By Leon Speroff and Marc Fritz.
- *Williams Textbook of Endocrinology, 13<sup>th</sup> ed.* 2015. By Shlomo Melmed, et al.

Female Pelvic Medicine & Reconstructive Surgery

- *(Karram's) Urogynecology and Reconstructive Pelvic Surgery, 4<sup>th</sup> ed.* 2014. By Mickey Karram and Mark Walters.

Osteopathic Manipulative Medicine/Osteopathic Philosophy & Practice

- *Foundations of Osteopathic Medicine, 3<sup>rd</sup> ed.* 2010. By the American Osteopathic Association.
- *Greenman's Principles of Manual Medicine, 5<sup>th</sup> ed.* 2016. By Lisa DeStefano.

\*\*\*Additionally, current ACOG Practice Bulletins and Committee Opinions may be used as supplemental references.