



Measuring Dental Assisting Excellence™

# Certified Press

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COA • COMSA Dental Assisting National Board, Inc. CDPMA • CDA

## Dental Assisting Position Paper Calls Policymakers to Action

In September 2005, the American Dental Assistants Association (ADAA)/Dental Assisting National Board, Inc. (DANB) Alliance published the *Position Paper of the ADAA/DANB Alliance: Addressing a Uniform National Model for the Dental Assisting Profession*. The culmination of years of extensive research, this paper discusses the need for one national set of tasks, levels, and requirements for assistants. (For more information, see the Fall 2005 issue of *Certified Press*.)

In concert with recent efforts at the national level to mobilize the oral healthcare community to action in the service of improving the nation's oral and general health, the ADAA/DANB Alliance now recommends that communities of interest—dentists, dental hygienists, dental assistants, state and federal regulators, public health organizations, and consumers of oral healthcare services—begin to give serious consideration to the adoption or support of a uniform national dental assisting model that will establish uniform national guidelines for the education, training, and credentialing of dental assistants.

The lack of uniformity with regard to dental assisting education, training, and credentialing requirements that currently exists among the 50 states can only contribute to the disparities in levels of oral health among various segments of the U.S. population.

Unproductive time that dental assistants spend obtaining new credentials when they change their state of residency instead of working in dental offices contributes to the overall shortfall in the capacity of the oral healthcare services infrastructure. In addition, dental assistants who move to a state that does not recognize their existing credentials may prefer not to undertake the task of obtaining credentials in their new state and may choose to leave the dental assisting field altogether, resulting in a loss to the oral healthcare community of capable personnel. Conversely, dentist-employers may choose to hire these newly transplanted dental assistants despite their lack of state-required credentials, and may therefore risk their licenses and, perhaps, the safety of their patients by failing to comply with state rules and regulations.

In the interest of public health and safety, policymakers must ensure that the assistants to whom expanded duties are delegated have the education, training, experience, and, if appropriate, the credentials necessary to perform these duties competently.

The adoption of a national model will allow states to streamline the process of evaluating and enacting uniform regulatory measures with regard to education requirements, allowable tasks, and competency testing requirements for dental assistants.

DANB and ADAA encourage communities of interest to support this national model. Suggested ways in which each community might do so are as follows:

**Dentists.** The ADAA/DANB Alliance asks that dentists who are involved in their local and state dental associations or in organized dentistry at the national level bring this important issue to the attention of the leadership of such organizations and voice their support for and endorsement of the establishment of a national set of educational, training, and credentialing standards for dental assistants.

**National Dental Associations.** The Alliance invites national dental associations to sponsor further research into the role of dental assistant education and credentialing in improving dental office productivity, in reducing dental assistant turnover, in maximizing patient satisfaction, in minimizing losses associated with dental assistant errors, in potentially mitigating dentists' liability and reducing insurance costs, and in improving the delivery of oral healthcare services overall.

Further, the ADAA/DANB Alliance encourages national dental associations to sponsor and/or perform research into the development of a formal

training protocol and standardized educational materials for use by dentists who conduct on-the-job training of dental assistants, with the goal of elevating and standardizing such training. Ultimately, both DANB and ADAA support education for all dental assistants through dental assisting programs accredited by ADA's Commission on Dental Accreditation.

**ADA-Accredited Dental Assisting Programs.** The ADAA/DANB Alliance encourages ADA-accredited dental assisting programs to continue their efforts to expand access to these programs through alternative education programs, including distance-learning programs.

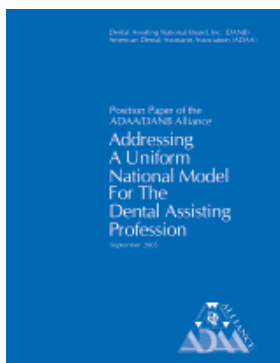
The Alliance supports the ADA in its consideration of accrediting high school dental assisting programs. If enacted, accreditation of high school-level programs also promises to expand the capacity of quality dental assisting educational opportunities.

**Non-ADA-Accredited Dental Assisting Programs.** DANB and ADAA encourage those dental assisting programs that are not currently accredited by the ADA's Commission on Dental Accreditation to pursue this accreditation and encourages the institutions sponsoring such programs to provide additional resources and funding to effect the changes needed to allow these programs to qualify for ADA accreditation.

**State Boards of Dentistry.** ADAA and DANB will continue to communicate with state boards of dentistry and other state professional regulatory bodies regarding this proposed uniform national dental assisting model because they, by and large, hold the authority to recommend and implement regulations and administrative rules that will make the uniform national dental assisting model proposed by this paper a reality.

The Alliance recommends that state dental boards work with dental educators to develop a formal in-

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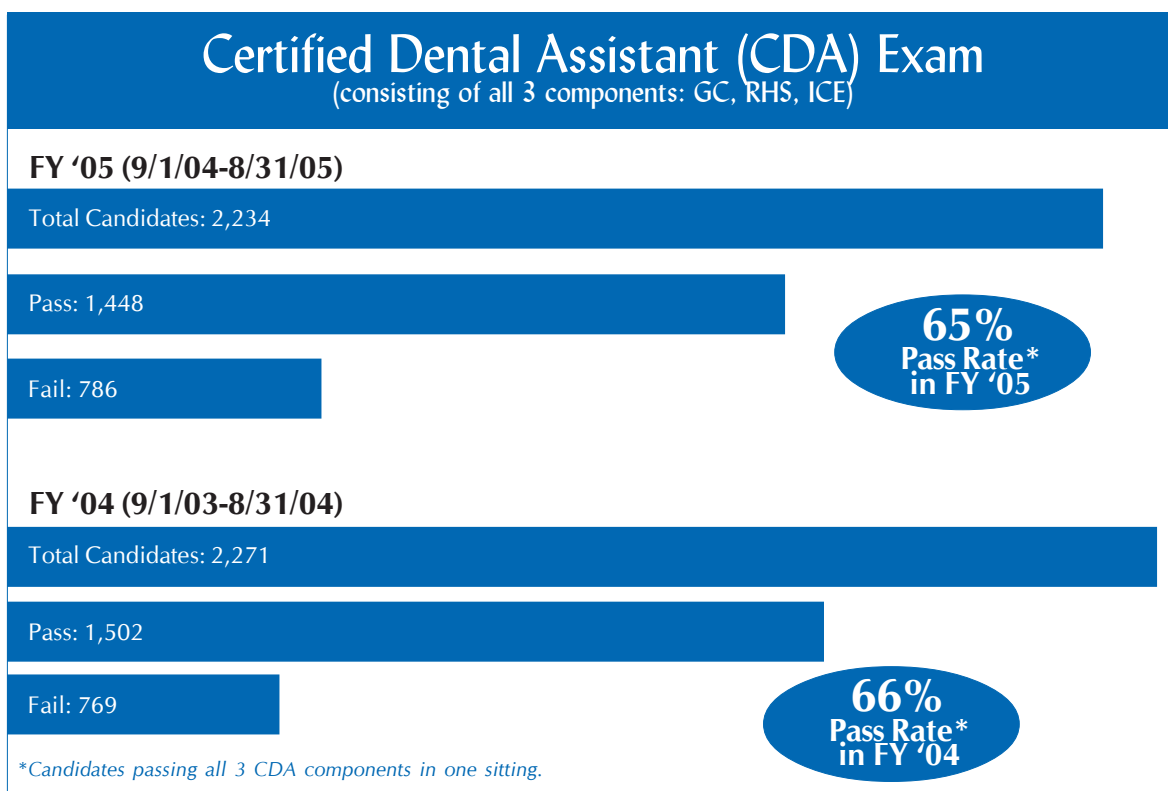


## Annual Report to ADA's CDEL Supports Validity of DANB Exams

Every year, DANB submits a comprehensive report to the American Dental Association's Council on Dental Education & Licensure (CDEL) on the state of the business of the DANB organization. An accounting of the number of candidates who challenged the DANB national Certification and Certificant of Competency exams in fiscal year 2005 (9/1/04 through 8/31/05) is included in the report, in addition to the pass rates for each exam.

As a premier testing and certifying organization, DANB not only provides the only nationally recognized Certification exams for the dental assisting profession, it develops and administers state-specific exams for some of the State Dental Boards. In fiscal year 2005, DANB tested 15,605 individuals, with approximately 20% of those taking state-specific DANB exams. The charts illustrated in this issue show the results from the national DANB Certification and component exams for FY '05 and for FY '04 as a comparison. This recap of national DANB exams is published annually in the Winter issue of *Certified Press* as an opportunity for DANB stake-

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## DANB Briefs

### New Front Office Certificate Program Offered

The new Dental Business Office Specialist Certificate program, offered at Shoreline Community College (Shoreline, WA), trains students in the skills needed to work in front office coordination and administration positions such as treatment coordinators, financial coordinators, office managers, and receptionists.

The program was developed jointly by area dentists and faculty from the Health Care Information, Dental Hygiene, and Business Technologies programs. It was added to the College curricula in response to the need for trained staff who possess dental anatomy and terminology knowledge as well as proficiency with current business software programs.

For more information about the program, visit [www.shoreline.edu/dental](http://www.shoreline.edu/dental) or call (206) 546-4707 or (206) 546-4757.

### How to Recognize and Treat Bruxism

People who bite their fingernails when stressed, chew on a pencil if nervous, or clench their jaw during competitive sports competitions could be at greater risk for bruxism, according to an article in the August/September issue of *AGD Impact*, the newsmagazine for the Academy of General Dentistry (AGD).

Bruxism technically refers to the unintentional grinding or clenching of teeth that may cause facial pain. Bruxers—another name for those who suffer from bruxism—may bite down too hard at inappropriate times, such as in their sleep. Over time, bruxers will experience jaw pain, tense muscles, headaches, and sensitive teeth. Forceful biting when not eating can also cause the jaw to move out of proper balance.

A dentist automatically checks for signs of bruxism during routine visits. Once the problem is identified, treatment can begin. Therapy helps to change bruxers' behavior by teaching patients how to rest the tongue upward with teeth apart and lips shut. If necessary, a dentist may also provide a plastic mouth appliance to absorb the force of biting.

Dental workers should watch for the following signs of bruxism: flat tips of the teeth, tooth enamel that has been rubbed off (causing extreme sensitivity), popping and clicking of the jaw, and tongue indentations.

### Water Fluoridation Controversy

Water fluoridation continues to be a controversial issue in many states. According to an article published in *Time* magazine ("Not in My Water Supply," October 17, 2005), the tooth-protection benefits of fluoride is undisputed, and water fluoridation may result in reduced dental treatment costs. However, members of the anti-fluoridation campaign have raised concerns about placing a toxic chemical in the water system.

While city councils and water boards tend to be favorable towards fluoridation, the electorate disagrees: fluoridation has been voted down in 38 of 79 referendums over the past five years.

### Get Ready for National Children's Dental Health Month

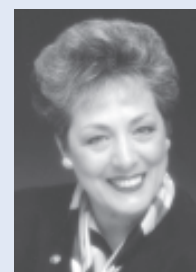
February is National Children's Dental Health Month, a celebration that brings together thousands of dedicated dental professionals, health care providers, and others to promote the benefits of good oral health to children, adults, caregivers, and teachers. Local celebrations include health fairs; free dental screenings; museum exhibits; classroom presentations and dental office tours; and poster, coloring, and essay contests. Free National Children's Dental Health Month materials, including coloring and activity sheets, are available at [www.ada.org](http://www.ada.org). In-office planning kits with posters, brochures, videos, dental office tour guides, activity booklets, and more may be purchased through the ADA Product Catalog (1-800-947-4746 or online).

### Maine Launches "Watch Your Mouth" Campaign

A new campaign to improve children's health in Maine was launched in December 2005, as the Maine Den-

## A Word from the Chair

Judith Andrews, CDA, RDA, EFDA, FADAA  
Chair, DANB Board of Directors



2005 was such an exciting year for dental assisting! There was good conversation in the dental profession about career ladders for dental assistants, which included the American Dental Association's (ADA's) Task Force on Workforce Issues and the American Dental Education Association's (ADEA's) commitment to developing new curriculum models to address the changing roles and responsibilities of the allied dental team. See page 6 for articles on both of these efforts.

The ADA/DANB Alliance published our *Position Paper Addressing a Uniform National Model for the Dental Assisting Profession* and mailed full copies to over 800 communities of interest in September. Another 500 received an Executive Summary (which is still available to download from our DANB website at [www.danb.org](http://www.danb.org)) and more than 116,000 dentists were sent a press release and order form for the Position Paper. As of year-end, we had nearly 300 requests to purchase a copy of the full report, with more orders still arriving!

DANB takes great care to make sure the exams that represent excellence in dental assisting maintain their excellence as a testing vehicle. You can read about the strength of the DANB national exams in our cover page article, beginning on page 1.

2006 will be challenging for DANB. Our offices will be relocating to 444 N. Michigan Avenue in April. Thank you for the opportunity to demonstrate professionalism through your support of DANB Certification. DANB staff and Board members look forward to our continued professional partnership and enthusiasm in promoting certification. We at DANB wish you and your families a great year.

Until next time...

*Judith A. Andrews*

tal Access Coalition and the Maine Oral Health Program Advisory Committee met to finalize an Oral Health Plan for Maine. The "Watch Your Mouth" campaign's goal is to raise awareness about the importance of improving children's oral health through preventive treatment and community-based solutions.

In the coming months, Maine will join with New Hampshire and Massachusetts for the "Watch Your Mouth" campaign, which will promote the importance of children's oral health among parents, physicians, educators, and policymakers through a coordinated public relations and advertising effort.

Today, dental decay is the most common childhood disease—five times more common than asthma. According to the Maine Oral Health Program, nearly half of the third-grade students in Maine have had dental disease and more than one in four have not received care for that disease.

For more information, call 1-866-WYMOOUTH (996-6884) or visit [www.WatchYourMouth.org](http://www.WatchYourMouth.org).

### Updated The Straight Facts about Orthodontics Available

The American Association of Orthodontics (AAO) has revised and redesigned the reception-room publication *The Straight Facts About Orthodontics*. The latest edition walks the reader through orthodontic treatment step by step. It covers the initial visit/exam, diagnostic evaluation, treatment conference, periodic visits, and the retention phase of treatment.

To purchase copies for your office, contact the AAO order department at (800) 424-2841, ext. 222 or 238, or email [orders@aaortho.org](mailto:orders@aaortho.org).

### ADA, Colgate Partner on Health Campaign

Many in the oral health community have long recognized the relationship of oral health to general health. There are a number of articles that have recently been published in the scientific literature that add to the existing body of peer-reviewed published information on the association of periodontal disease and systemic conditions including heart disease, stroke, diabetes, and the birth of pre-term and low birth-weight babies.

To help spread the word among dental and medical professionals and the public, the American Dental Association (ADA) and Colgate are developing a new campaign that demonstrates why the mouth is an integral part of the body.

The ADA/Colgate "Oral-Systemic Education Campaign" launches in early 2006. ADA members and registered dental hygienists will receive a mailing announcing the availability of professional kits that can be ordered through Colgate's website. The kit includes a resource guide that can be used to educate patients on chronic inflammation and the oral-systemic link; a waiting room poster; patient education brochures; and a sample tube of Colgate Total and instructions on ordering additional toothpaste samples online.▲

### Notarized DANB Certificates Now Available

Some dental assisting schools and programs may require a **notarized** copy of an assistant's Certified Dental Assistant card (or DANB exam application) in order to apply for the dental assisting educational program at a particular school.

If this is the policy of the school or program to which you are applying, DANB can supply you with the required notarization. There will be a \$10 fee for notarization if you call DANB before your certificate has been printed. If you call DANB after your certificate has been mailed, the cost will be \$35 (\$10 notarization fee + \$25 duplicate certificate fee).

A caller who returns his/her printed certificate for notarization will only be charged the \$10 notarization fee.

Contact DANB at 1-800-FOR-DANB for a notarization request form.



DANB is a member of the National Organization for Competency Assurance (NOCA). The National Commission for Certifying Agencies (NCCA), a NOCA Commission with responsibility for evaluating credentialing programs, has accredited DANB national certification exam programs, (CDA, COA, and CDPMA), including DANB component exams (RHS, ICE, GC, and OA) and found DANB programs meet NCCA's highest standards, thus helping to assure validity, reliability, and objectivity in the testing process.

# Annual Report to ADA's CDEL

Continued from page 1

holders and other communities of interest to view the statistical results that support the reliability and validity of a national DANB Certification.

Since dental assistants can earn their Certified Dental Assistant (CDA) and Certified Orthodontic Assistant (COA) credentials by a "stepladder" approach (one component at a time, as long as all three [CDA] or two [COA] components are passed within a five-year period), charts reflecting the individuals who have passed the Radiation Health and Safety (RHS) and Infection Control (ICE) exams but who are not yet DANB Certified are included on this page.

Overall, the number of candidates who tested for DANB national Certification exams in FY '05 remained nearly the same as in FY '04. Candidates who sat for the entire Certified Dental Assistant (CDA) exam numbered 2,234 (1.63% fewer than last year). However, the number of candidates who took the GC, RHS, and ICE component exams separately increased in FY '05.

To ensure the continuation of the American Dental Association's recognition of DANB as the national credentialing agency for dental assistants, DANB submits an annual report to the ADA Council on Dental Education and Licensure (CDEL). The CDEL serves as an agency of the ADA that approves of national certifying boards for special areas of dental practice and for dental auxiliaries.

DANB's communication to the CDEL is a comprehensive report of DANB practices and results for the fiscal year (from September 1 through the end of August). Any planned change in practices or operations, such as DANB's 2006 exam fee increase, is included in the report. Examination pathways are evaluated if changes are made and any alterations to exam content or fees are presented. This year's report contains information on many exciting projects, including the following:

- Completion of Phase IV of the DANB/ADAA Study to Define and Rank Core Dental Assisting Competencies (see the Summer 2005 issue of *Certified Press*)
- Publication of the *Position Paper of the ADAA/DANB Alliance: Addressing a Uniform National Model for the Dental Assisting Profession*; see the Fall 2005 issue of *Certified Press*
- Publication of *DANB's State Fact Booklet, Vol. 3*.

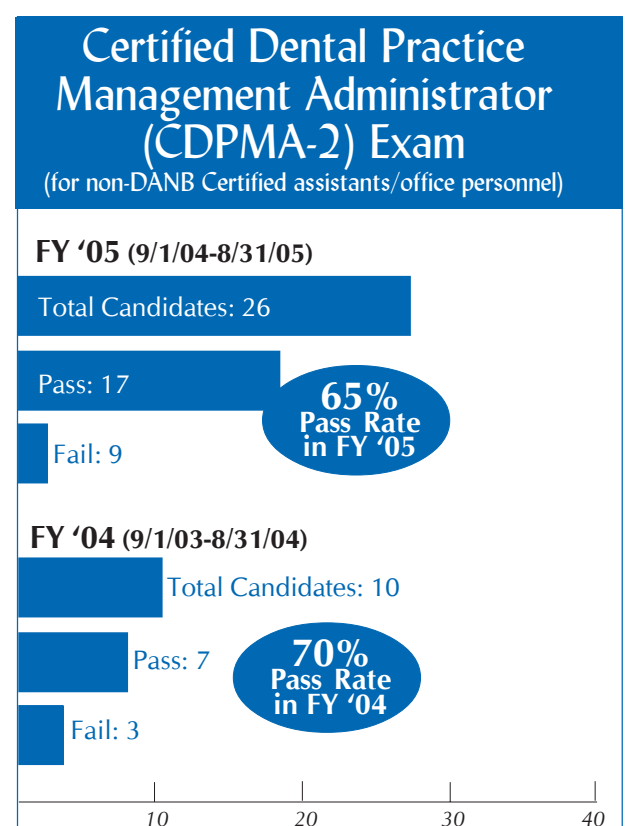
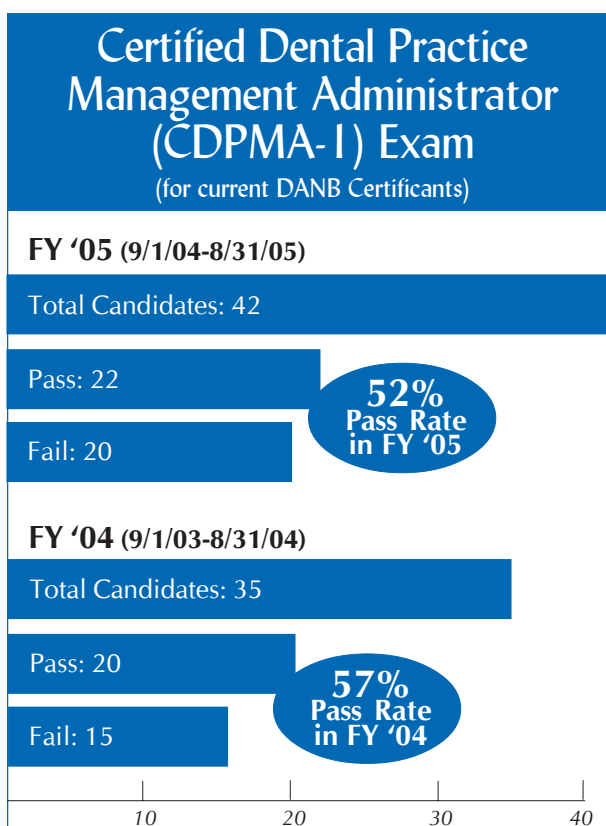
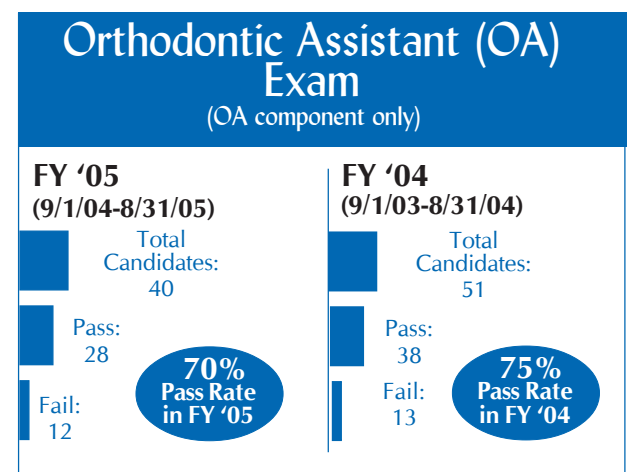
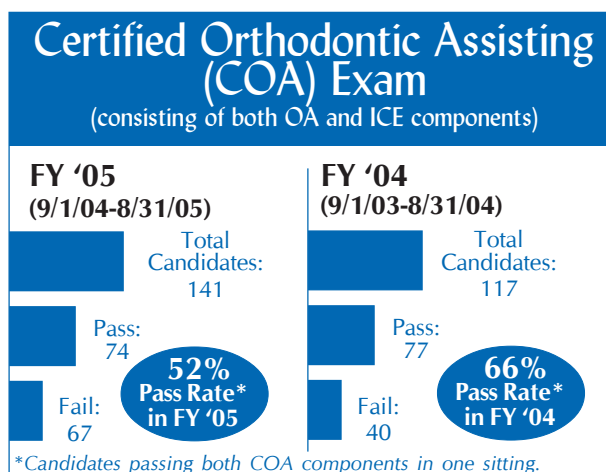
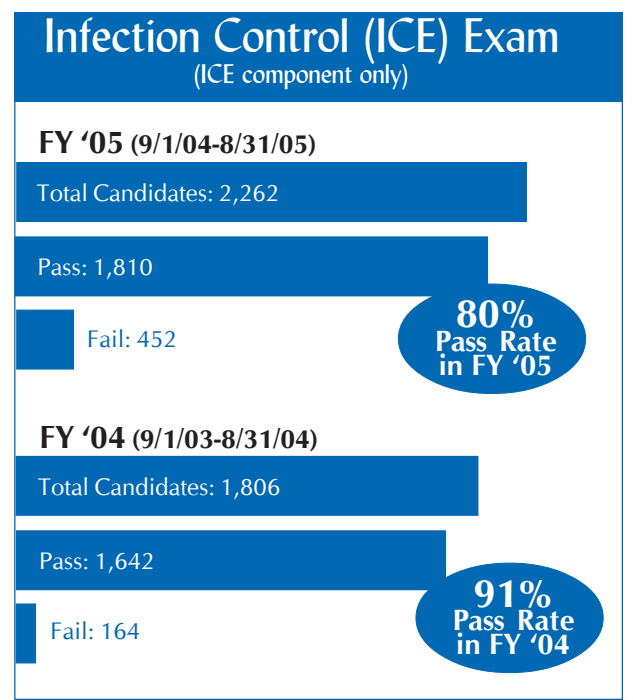
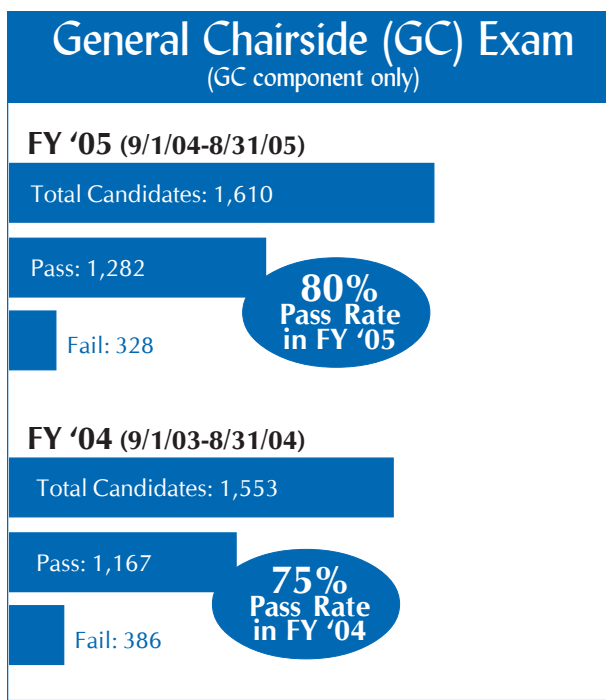
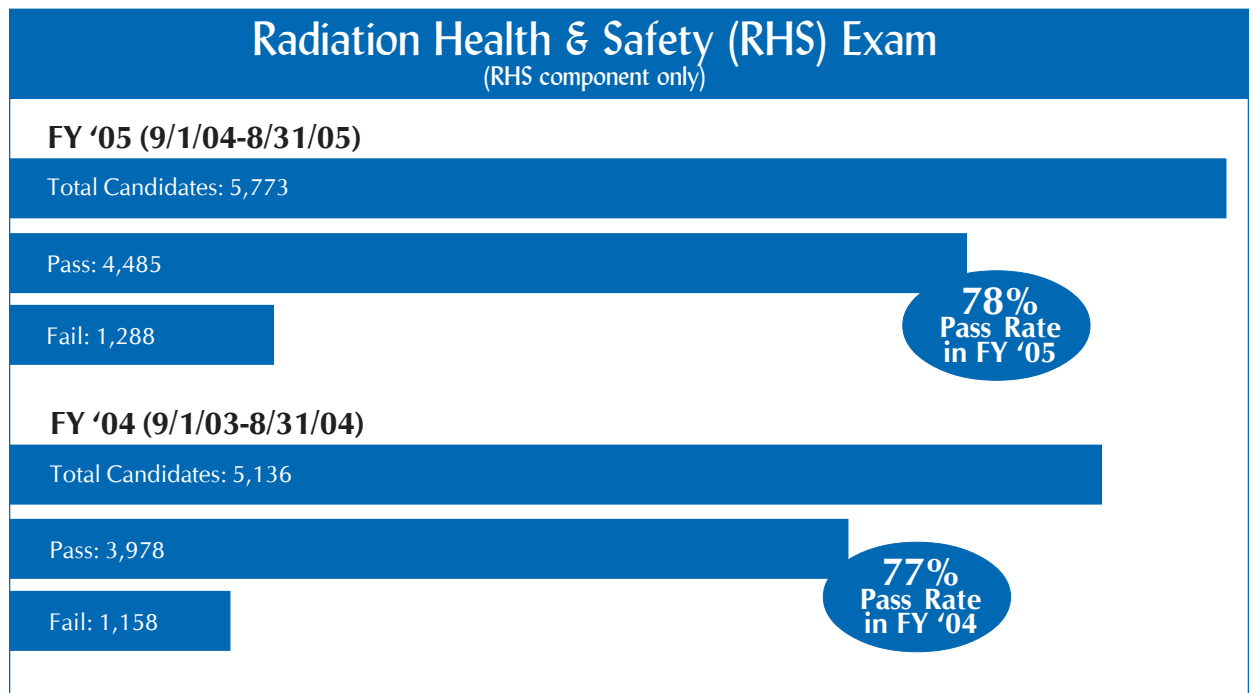
While the DANB Board of Directors is the direct overseer of DANB operations and DANB is held accountable by the National Commission for Certifying Agencies (NCCA), the ADA recognition holds value because the ADA is the primary membership organization and voice for the dentists, the largest employer of DANB Certificants. ▲



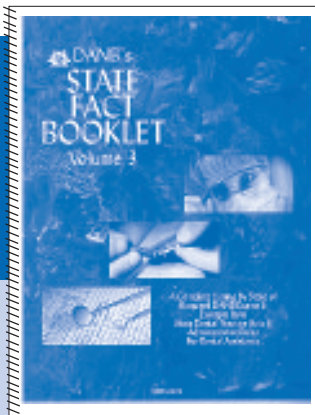
DANB plans to move to a new office space in April 2006. An incredible effort is being made so that the transition will be as smooth as possible, and hopefully invisible to you, our valued stakeholder. **After April 1, 2006, please address all correspondence to:**

**Dental Assisting National Board, Inc.**  
444 N. Michigan Ave., Suite 900  
Chicago, IL 60611-3985

All DANB phone and fax numbers will remain the same:  
**Toll-free phone number: 1-800-FOR-DANB**  
**Phone: (312) 642-3368**  
**Fax: (312) 642-1475**  
**Email: danbmail@danb.org**  
**Website: www.danb.org**



Note: With so few candidate numbers for the CDPMA exams, pass rates are likely to be more variable and less generalizable than those of larger exams like CDA, RHS, and ICE.



Order the latest version  
of DANB's State Fact Booklet  
Today!  
(Volume 3 now available)

DANB's State Fact Booklet: A Complete Listing by State of Required DANB Examinations and Excerpts from State Practice Acts is updated every year. Volume 3 is now available offering the latest essential information pertinent to the dental assisting profession. Designed to function as an "information encyclopedia," DANB's State Fact Booklet contains state-specific references and data.

The third volume offers the most up-to-date State Practice Acts and rules and regulations for the radiology and expanded functions specific to each state. ADA-accredited school listings have been updated and the latest statistics on DANB Certificants by state are included. Results of DANB's 2004 Salary Survey are represented in each state listing.

To order DANB's State Fact Booklet, call 1-800-FOR-DANB to request an order form or download the order form at [www.danb.org](http://www.danb.org).

### Reminder: 2006 Exam Fee Increase

As of January 1, 2006, DANB raised its exam fees. The 2006 DANB Certification exam fees represent an average increase of 5% per year since the last increase, seven years ago in 1999. The 2006 DANB national component exam fees represent an average increase of 5-9% per year since the last increase, four years ago in 2002.

The new 2006 exam fees are as follows:

#### NATIONAL EXAMS

CDA exam	\$300	GC component exam	\$175
COA exam	\$300	RHS component exam	\$150
CDPMA-1 exam	\$165	ICE component exam	\$150
CDPMA-2 exam	\$300	OA component exam	\$225

#### STATE EXAMS

Arizona Clinical Radiology Proficiency	\$140
Maryland Expanded Functions (General Dental Assisting)	\$200
Maryland Expanded Functions (Orthodontic Assisting)	\$175
Missouri Basic Skills	\$165
Montana Clinical Radiologic Proficiency	\$175
New Jersey Expanded Duties (General Dental Assisting)	\$150
New Mexico Expanded Functions (Coronal Polishing)	\$75
New Mexico Expanded Functions (Topical Fluoride)	\$75
New Mexico Expanded Functions (Pit and Fissure Sealants)	\$75
New York Professional Dental Assisting	\$175
Oregon Basic Dental Assisting	\$125
Oregon Expanded Functions (General Dental Assisting)	\$125
Oregon Expanded Functions (Orthodontic Assisting)	\$125
Oregon Clinical Radiologic Proficiency	\$140
Tennessee Registered Dental Assistant	\$225
Tennessee General Chairside	\$165
Tennessee Radiation Health & Safety	\$165

## A Great Team.



Two new modules are being added to DANB's Professional Development Examination Program (PDEP) to make renewing your DANB Certification through this home study exam program better than ever!

A new General Chairside (GC) PDEP module is now available and a brand new Radiation Health & Safety (RHS) PDEP module is expected to be released before the end of the year! An Infection Control (ICE) PDEP module is still part of the team, ready for action.

This convenient, in-home testing program, available only to current or former DANB Certificants, challenges you to advance your professional knowledge using pertinent content materials researched and selected by DANB's Exam Committees.

Because PDEP allows you to control your own testing pace within a six month period and offers scoring by DANB on a monthly schedule, you are able to manage which renewal year your 12 CDE hours apply under Category 7 (DANB exams) of the DANB Recertification Guidelines. PDEP hours only apply to your renewal requirements AFTER passing PDEP.

For more information, call 1-800-FOR-DANB and speak to a Client Service Representative or visit [www.danb.org](http://www.danb.org).



## RENEWING YOUR CERTIFICATION

Your initial certificate is valid for one year. The expiration date is listed on the certificate. If you do not renew, you are no longer certified and may not use the designation or credential. A renewal notice will be mailed approximately 6 weeks prior to the expiration date. Certificants are asked to sign a statement attesting that CDE and CPR requirements have been met, and to return the statement with the appropriate renewal fee to DANB. **Renewal fees are not refundable.**

Credentials	CDE Hours (including CPR)	Renewal Fee*
One (1)	12 Hours	\$45
Two (2)	18 Hours	\$70
Three (3)	24 Hours	\$90
Four (4)	30 Hours	\$115

\*A late fee of \$10 will be assessed after the Certificate expiration date, but within the 3-month grace period.

**If DANB does not receive a response to renewal statement(s) within three (3) months of your expiration date, you are no longer certified and cannot use the CDA, COA, COMSA, or CDPMA acronym.**

A sample timeline illustrates the DANB Certification renewal process. In this example, the individual's CDA expires January 15, 2006.

December 1, 2005	A renewal notice is sent to Certificant.
January 15, 2006	Signed statement and fee are due by this date or DANB Certification expires.
January 16, 2006	Grace period begins. \$10 late fee assessed. If fee not received, 2nd notice sent.
March 15, 2006	Grace period continues. If fee not received, Final notice (Drop Back In postcard) sent
April 16, 2006	Fees and signed statement are not received. Grace period ends. Individual is no longer DANB Certified. Call 1-800-FOR-DANB for reinstatement options.

*Please note that due to feedback from DANB Certificants, the number of renewal notices being sent before the renewal deadline has been reduced from three (3) to one (1).*

## DANB RECERTIFICATION POLICY

- I. All continuing dental education must directly relate to the practice of dentistry or dental assisting to maintain or improve dental assisting knowledge or skill.** Note: Except for Home Study Courses, CDE does **not** need to be pre-approved by DANB in order to be accepted as meeting DANB Recertification requirements. Call DANB prior to participation in education if you have questions about content.
- II.** Programs must be at least 45 minutes in length in order to qualify for one (1) CDE credit. Credit for a CDE course will be calculated in 15 minute increments (i.e., 1 1/2 hours = 1.5 CDE credits, 2 3/4 hours = 2.75 CDE credits).
- III.** Education dated prior to initial certification date cannot be used to meet DANB CDE requirements. Certificants must earn appropriate number of CDE hours during the first year of certification to maintain certification.
- IV.** Education has a two- (2) year lifespan. Certificants who carry over credits into the next renewal year must retain proof of 24 hours of CDE over a two-year period.
- V. Multiple Certification:** It is possible to be certified in each of four areas: CDA, COA, COMSA and CDPMA. Renewal requirements are set at approximately 50% increase over basic requirements for each additional credential maintained.
- VI. Renewal Timing and Expiration:** A three-month grace period is granted if the required CDE hours are not accumulated and appropriate fee is not received by the expiration date. An individual is considered certified during this three-month grace period, however a late fee of \$10 will be assessed. If DANB does not receive a response to renewal statement(s) within three (3) months of your expiration date, you are no longer certified and cannot use the CDA, COA, COMSA, or CDPMA acronym. **Misuse of any DANB credential is grounds for discipline under DANB's Discipline Policies and Procedures (contact DANB for a copy). For reinstatement of a credential, contact DANB by phone at 1-800-FOR-DANB, ext. 445 or by email at [recert@danb.org](mailto:recert@danb.org).**
- VII. Emeritus Status:** DANB Certified Assistants may apply for Emeritus status if they have maintained continuous current Certification for four (4) of the five (5) years immediately preceding application and have : become totally and permanently disabled, or retired from the field of dentistry/dental assisting at age 60 years or older or retired from the field of dentistry/dental assisting with 35 years of continuous (without any breaks) DANB Certification. Please visit the [danb website](http://www.danb.org/recert/recertrecognition.asp) (at [www.danb.org/recert/recertrecognition.asp](http://www.danb.org/recert/recertrecognition.asp)) to view the complete DANB Policy on "Emeritus Status" or contact DANB at 1-800-FOR DANB, extension 411. Once Emeritus Status is earned, Certificants must use this designation; i.e., Sue Smith, CDA-Emeritus.

DANB verifies your certification status by mail or phone to anyone upon request, since the fact that you have or have not been certified and the effective date(s) of your certification(s) are a matter of public record and may be disclosed.

In addition, unless you choose not to allow it, from time to time, DANB will provide the names and addresses of certificants to dentists interested in hiring a DANB Certificant (CDA, COA, CDPMA, COMSA) or someone who has passed the Radiation Health and Safety or Infection Control examination from their area, and to providers of continuing education opportunities. DANB may also post current certificant status (certificant name, certification(s) earned, state in which certificant resides, and date of certification) on DANB's website.

If you do NOT wish to receive non-DANB mailings at your home address (i.e., current job opportunities, continuing education offerings, etc.), or you do NOT agree to allow DANB to publish your certification status (your name, certification(s) earned, state in which you reside, and date of your certification) on DANB's website, **you must** send a written request to have this information omitted from release or publication to: DANB Marketing Coordinator, DANB, 676 N. St. Clair, Suite 1880, Chicago, IL, 60611.

## LEADING BY EXAMPLE

DANB recognizes the dynamic and emerging roles of Certified Assistants in providing quality care to patients in a dental setting. DANB assists Certified Dental Assistants (CDAs), Certified Orthodontic Assistants (COAs), Certified Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery Assistants (COMSAs), and Certified Dental Practice Management Administrators (CDPMAs) in meeting these ever changing roles by requiring Continuing Dental Education (CDE) hours. DANB requires a minimum of twelve (12) CDE hours annually, which is in

line with states that have mandatory CDE requirements for dental assistants. The yearly CDE requirement enhances the continued competence of Certified Assistants. Requiring yearly CDE hours emphasizes the importance of lifelong professional learning and development. DANB's credentials are known in the dental community as a Mark of Dental Assisting Excellence. This measure of excellence can be maintained only if each Certificant is able to demonstrate competence.

## CONTINUING DENTAL EDUCATION (CDE) REQUIREMENTS / AUDIT PROCEDURES

To renew a certificate, the Certificant must earn and retain proof of twelve (12) hours of acceptable CDE by the expiration date. A recertification notice will be mailed approximately 8 weeks prior to the expiration date. The Certificant will be asked to sign a statement attesting that CDE requirements have been met, and to return the statement to DANB with the appropriate renewal fee. Renewal fees are not refundable.

hours and CPR. Those selected for verification (audit) will be considered certified during the time that they are providing proof of their continuing education. Specific instructions will be sent to those audited.

Upon successful completion of the audit, certification will be instated for the full year. Proof of continuing education should be retained for two years, in case of subsequent audit. Certificants not selected for audit will have their certification renewed for a full year.

Some DANB Certificants will be randomly selected for verification (audit) of their CDE

**DO NOT SEND DOCUMENTATION UNLESS REQUESTED. MATERIALS WILL NOT BE RETURNED OR RETAINED BY DANB.**

## DENTAL EDUCATION SOURCES/CATEGORIES FOR CDE HOURS

Recertification can be earned through accumulating the required number of CDE hours and paying the appropriate renewal fee. It is the responsibility of the certificant to obtain and retain documentation that verifies participation in all CDE activities that will be used for renewal credit. All documentation must indicate name, CE number, name of sponsor, date of course, number of CDE hours, subject matter, program title, and program presenter.

### MANDATORY CPR CERTIFICATION

**CDE Hours: Maximum 4 hours**

**Accepted Documentation:**

Copy of front and back of a signed, current CPR card.

The card must be dated and signed or imprinted with the instructor's name.

1.

**NOTE:** Two-(2) year CPR card holders can only apply the hours to recertification in the year CPR earned. In the second year, CPR hours will not count and the Certificant must earn the full number of hours from other categories.

Cardiopulmonary resuscitation certification is required for renewal of DANB certification. Certificants may earn a **maximum of four (4) CDE hours annually (hour credit for hour attended)** for successful completion of a CPR certification course that includes both written and hands-on (skills) assessment provided by:

**American Red Cross:** • CPR for the Professional Rescuer • Adult, Infant and Child CPR • Adult CPR • Infant and Child CPR • Community CPR

**American Heart Association:** • Heartsaver • Heartsaver AED • Heartsaver FACTS • Healthcare Provider • Advanced Cardiac Life Support (ACLS) • PALS (Pediatric Advanced Life Support) • BLS Instructor (Basic Life Support Instructor)

**National Safety Council (Green Cross):** • First Aid CPR • Infant and Child CPR • Adult and Child CPR • Standard CPR • Professional Rescuer CPR

**American Safety and Health Institute:** • CPR Pro

**Medic First Aid:** • Basic Life Support for Professionals; **Medic First Aid UK**

**Canadian Red Cross:** • CPR-Level C • CPR for the Professional Rescuer

Courses from organizations other than those approved by DANB or course offerings from approved organizations without both written/skills assessment will not be accepted. Certificants may only count the CDE hours in the year that CPR is earned.

**Saudi Heart Association**

### CLINICAL COURSES, SEMINARS, TABLE CLINICS & EXHIBITS

2.

**CDE Hours: Hour for Hour (no maximum)**

**Exhibit Hours: Maximum 2 hours (1 hour per meeting)**

**Accepted Documentation:** Certificate of completion, DANB approval code, Letter of attendance/completion, Meeting badge (exhibits), Meeting badge/program page (table clinics or free on-site lecture), CDE printout from meeting, or similar documentation

Clinical courses are those on-site lectures, courses, seminars and/or table clinics that are **directly related to the clinical practice of dentistry or dental assisting**. This category includes, but is not limited to attendance at, or participation in **clinical** professional development courses that are **directly related to skills, knowledge and duties that would be chairside**: dental materials, four-handed dentistry, infection control, radiology, expanded functions and others. See Category 3 for non-clinical practice management information.

For each hour that you attend and/or participate in one of these sessions you will receive one (1) CDE credit. Additionally, a **maximum of one (1) hour** may be earned for reviewing exhibits at dental and/or dental assisting meetings sponsored by recognized dental groups. This can be done a maximum of twice each year **at two (2) different meetings**.

All CDE credits can be clinical in nature.

### NON-CLINICAL COURSES, SEMINARS & TABLE CLINICS

*Formerly called ELECTIVES (including PRACTICE MANAGEMENT)*

3.

**CDE Hours: Maximum 3 hours for CDAs, COAs & COMSAs**  
**Maximum 6 hours for CDPMAs**

**Accepted Documentation:** Certificate of completion, DANB approval code, Letter of attendance/completion, Meeting badge, Program page (table clinics or free on-site lecture), CDE printout from meeting, or other like documentation

• CDAs, COAs, and COMSAs may earn a **maximum of three (3) CDE hours annually**.  
• CDPMAs can earn a **maximum of six (6) CDE hours annually** (as practice management is the focus of CDPMA certification).

This category includes but is not limited to attendance at or participation in **non-clinical** professional development courses that are **directly related to dental practice management/practice communication services**: practice management, HIPAA, stress management, patient and staff motivation, computer courses (college class, software training, etc.), insurance, claims/billing, foreign language studies, American Sign Language, and non-scientific related college courses.

### HOME STUDY COURSES: TEXT-AUDIO-VIDEO-INTERNET

4.

**CDE Hours: No maximum**

**Accepted Documentation:** Certificate of completion, DANB approval code, Letter of completion, or other like documentation

Home study courses must be pre-approved by DANB. A designated number of hours will be awarded after completing a pre-approved home study course. Home study courses can be obtained from the American Dental Assistants Association and other agencies. To avoid non-acceptance of credits, ask course sponsor if the course is DANB-approved. If not, encourage them to call 1-800-FOR-DANB for course approval.

### VIDEO OR AUDIO TAPES FROM CONVENTION SEMINARS

5.

**CDE Hours: Maximum 3 hours**

**Accepted Documentation:**

Copy of the 250 word essay (highlighting the meeting and course name)

Certificants may earn a maximum of **three (3) CDE hours annually** by viewing or listening to a taped CDE course presented at a local, state, regional, or national dental meeting and writing a minimum 250-word summary of that course presentation.

### READING

**CDE Hours: Maximum 2 hours**

6.

**Accepted Documentation:** Written log of articles and copy of each 50-word article summary or 250-word text book summary or copy of the completed publisher's evaluation form returned to the publisher for any materials evaluated for adoption (see below)

Certificants may earn a **maximum of one (1) CDE hour annually by reading** at least six (6) technical/dental articles published within your renewal period or one (1) dental textbook, published within the past five (5) years. Community libraries, dental offices, and the Internet are convenient sources of books and journals. To record reading activity, a log must be maintained that includes title of book or article, name of journal, author, and date of publication. This written log earns the certificant **one (1) CDE hour**. Certificants may **earn an additional one (1) CDE hour annually** for writing at least a 50-word summary of each article or at least a 250-word summary of the textbook, highlighting the relevance of the information to the dental assisting profession. (*Accepted documentation: written log of articles and copy of each 50-word article summary or 250-word text book summary*)

Dental assisting educators teaching at least half-time may earn a maximum of three (3) CDE credit hours annually by reviewing new reference materials (textbooks, CD ROMs, audiovisuals, etc.) for possible adoption into their curriculum. (*Accepted documentation: copy of the completed publisher's evaluation form returned to the publisher for any materials evaluated for adoption*)

### DANB EXAMS

**CDE Hours: Maximum 12 hours**

**Accepted Documentation:**

7.

Copy of Certificate or Official DANB Score Report

**Twelve (12) CDE hours are awarded for each DANB-administered examination successfully completed**, excluding the first time a certification exam is passed. These examinations include any DANB national examination, DANB Professional Development Examination Program (PDEP), or any DANB state or agency-contracted examination that consists of at least 100 items. **Four (4) CDE hours are awarded for each DANB-administered** state or agency-contracted examination that is less than 100 items. Successful completion of non-DANB-developed dental-related professionally proctored exams (consisting of at least 100 questions) will be awarded hour for hour credit, for the amount of time designated for the completion of the exam. If no time is specified, one hour will be allowed for every 100 questions.

### COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION

**CDE Hours: Maximum 3 hours**

8.

**Accepted Documentation:** Certificate of completion, Letter of attendance/participation or similar documentation

Certificants may earn a **maximum of two (2) CDE hours** by participating in dental-related community service and an **additional one (1) CDE hour** for writing at least a 250-word essay on how the volunteer service benefited the certificant's professional growth. Examples include: international/national mission work, voluntary clinic work or dental health presentations to students or groups. Community participation does not include activities such as serving on a dental assisting program advisory committee or as an officer and/or committee chair for a national, state, or local dental assisting organization. Volunteer time should be at minimum two (2) hours. DANB will publically recognize Certificants who complete and provide proof of mission work.

### COLLEGE COURSES

**CDE Hours: No Maximum**

9.

**Accepted Documentation:** Grade report, Transcript, Letter of Verification (from instructor on school letterhead)

CDE hours are awarded for each scientific-oriented college credit/unit successfully completed at the following levels:

- **Three (3) College Credits/Units = Twelve (12) CDE hours**
- **Two (2) College Credits/Units = Six (6) CDE hours**
- **One (1) College Credit/Unit = Three (3) CDE hours**

Courses must directly relate to the practice of dentistry or dental assisting (i.e., dentistry, dental assisting, dental hygiene, anatomy/physiology, all biology, all chemistry, nutrition). To avoid non-acceptance of credits, call DANB to ascertain whether a course is acceptable and at what CDE hour level.

### SCHOLARLY ACTIVITY

**CDE Hours: Maximum 3 hours**

10.

**Accepted Documentation:** Course outline/catalog, copy of program brochure listing the Certificant as Instructor, copy of published article (including name and date of publication), letter from DANB, document from college registrar's office indicating currently enrolled status (see below)

Certificants may earn a **maximum of three (3) CDE hours annually** for each of the following scholarly activities:

- Teach a professional course directly related to dentistry or dental assisting **or** present a continuing dental education program, either of which are outside of the Certificant's normal employment teaching responsibilities. (*Accepted documentation: course outline/catalog, copy of program brochure listing the Certificant as Instructor*)
- Author a published article in a recognized dental or dental assisting journal. (*Accepted documentation: copy of published article, including name and date of publication*)
- Participate in a DANB Exam Committee/validity study/PDEP development (Note: PDEP development participants cannot use PDEP to renew) **or** receive one (1) CDE hour for every two (2) exam items accepted by DANB. (*Accepted documentation: letter from DANB*)
- Certificants may earn all twelve (12) CDE hours required annually by DANB if they are currently enrolled in a college program to earn an advanced degree, but this option can be used for no more than five consecutive years. Twelve (12) CDE hours per year may be earned if enrolled at least half time (earning 3 or more college credits/units) in a BA, BS, MA or other recognized degree program. (*Accepted documentation: Document from college registrar's office indicating currently enrolled status.*)

## DANB/ADAA Position Paper

Continued from page 1

office training protocol and standardized educational materials to be used for on-the-job training of these dental assistants, in those states that do not currently require formal education for dental assistants.

**Dental Assistants.** The ADAA/DANB Alliance strongly encourages dental assistants to become DANB-Certified and contribute to the discussion of a uniform national dental assisting model through membership and involvement in local, state, and national dental assisting associations.

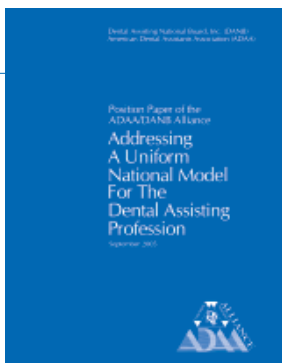
**Federal Health Agencies.** The ADAA/DANB Alliance recommends that federal health agencies and independent oral health advocacy groups endorse the national model for dental assisting proposed by the ADAA/DANB Alliance and, to the extent possible, provide funding for further research, including:

- Effects of delegation of expanded functions to qualified dental assistants on dental office overhead and on the financial accessibility of oral healthcare services
- Public attitudes about dental office visits and the effect that mandatory education and credentialing of dental assistants could have on these attitudes
- The relationship of the competency of dental assistants to overall dental office overhead
- The impact of dental assistant education and credentialing on dental malpractice litigation and other legal proceedings related to the practice of dentistry
- The feasibility of the development of standardized in-office training protocols and educational materials for use by dentists who conduct on-the-job training of dental assistants
- The feasibility of the development of basic skills competency examination for dental assistants and investigation of possible eligibility pathways, including but not limited to completion of dental assisting education programs not accredited by the ADA's Commission on Dental Accreditation, but accredited by other accrediting bodies recognized by the U.S. Department of Education
- The feasibility of the development of a national jurisprudence examination for dental assistants, if a uniform national dental assisting model is recognized
- The impact of a defined dental assisting career ladder on dental assistant job satisfaction and retention in the dental assisting profession in states where a dental assisting career ladder exists and where educational and credentialing requirements must be met to ascend along the consecutive "rungs" of the ladder
- The assignment of dental assisting duties not included in the DANB/ADAA Core Competencies Study to the appropriate category (A, B, C, or D) within the proposed uniform national dental assisting model (See the Fall 2005 issue of *Certified Press* for category definitions and included tasks)▲

For more information on this subject, see Table 3.7 in the position paper and/or the executive summary. This table summarizes the ADAA/DANB Alliance's proposed uniform national dental assisting model, as determined by the responses of survey participants, and the recommended requirements for each level, progressing from entry-level to the most advanced level.

An Executive Summary of the *Position Paper of the ADAA/DANB Alliance: Addressing a Uniform National Model for the Dental Assisting Profession* is available on the DANB website at [www.danb.org](http://www.danb.org).

A full copy of the paper is available for \$15. The order form can be downloaded from the DANB website and mailed or faxed to DANB.



## National Organization for Competency Assurance (NOCA) Publishes Guide to Understanding Credentialing Concepts

Nearly every profession uses credentialing to establish criteria for fairness, quality, competence, and/or safety for professional services, products, or educational endeavors. In some cases, professions voluntarily develop quality standards of practice; a profession may also be regulated by the state or federal government. Despite the widespread use of professional designations, credentialing terms are often misused and general concepts often misunderstood.

The National Organization for Competency Assurance (NOCA), the national membership association for professional certification organizations, developed *The NOCA Guide to Understanding Credentialing Concepts* to assist its stakeholders, including legislators, educators, employers, credentialing agencies, professionals, and the public, in understanding and correctly using credentialing terms and concepts.

This paper addresses the following:

- Purposes served by credentialing
- Definitions and descriptions of credentialing terms
- Processes used in conducting or choosing a psychometrically sound and legally defensible credentialing examination program
- Differences between didactic (end-of-course) examinations and professional credentialing examinations.

Cynthia Durley, MEd, MBA, DANB's Executive Director, is the primary author of this paper. Ms. Durley is currently serving a one-year term as President of NOCA, after having served as President-Elect for one year.

To obtain a copy of this paper or for more information on NOCA, visit [www.noca.org](http://www.noca.org).

## ADA Reference Comm. Hears From DANB's Exec. Director

Cynthia Durley, MEd, MBA, DANB's Executive Director, addressed the American Dental Association (ADA) Reference Committee on the subject of the *Report of the ADA Task Force on Workforce Models* on October 8. This meeting was part of the ADA's 2005 Annual Session in Philadelphia, PA.

Ms. Durley applauded the ADA and its Task Force for their efforts to address oral healthcare workforce needs as they relate to dental auxiliaries. On behalf of DANB, she expressed particular support for the Task Force's original Res. 44, which requested that ADA explore the creation of new types of allied dental personnel and the realignment of roles for existing personnel to perform duties.

Ms. Durley further encouraged the Reference Committee to draw from the *Position Paper of the ADAA/DANB Alliance: Addressing a Uniform National Model for the Dental Assisting Profession* in its continued study of this issue.

There are similarities between the ADAA/DANB Alliance position paper and the ADA Task Force Report. Specifically, both provide broad, flexible models that can be adapted for use in individual states, and both define a career ladder for dental assistants, which has been proven

in other professions to enhance the recruitment and increase the retention of qualified individuals.

Differences between the two publications exist as well; for example, the ADAA/DANB Alliance position paper is based on empirical research data. Also, the definition of "certification" in the ADA Task Force Report does not match the definition of "certification" as defined by the Council on Licensure, Enforcement, and Regulation (CLEAR) and supported by the National Organization for Competency Assurance (NOCA) for all occupations and professions.

Also at the Annual Session, newly installed ADA President Dr. Robert M. Brandjord detailed his priorities for the year in an Oct. 11 address to the House of Delegates. Dr. Brandjord claimed that dentistry needs to be a leader in the process of solving the access-to-care problem experienced by many disadvantaged Americans.

The first step toward this goal was the passing of Res. 85H-2005, which calls for a 19-member task force, appointed by the ADA President, to build upon the work carried out in 2005 by the previous ADA Task Force, including to gather and analyze sufficient data about the availability of dental care to underserved groups and recommend any needed changes.

## ADEA Summit Preparations Underway

In preparation for the June 2006 American Dental Education Association (ADEA) Allied Dental Education Summit, the ADEA Allied Dental Education Summit Working Group met at the ADEA Central Office in Washington, DC on October 24 and 25, 2005.

The specific purpose of the Working Group meeting was to develop a framework within which ADEA can build a roadmap for the development and implementation of new curriculum models to address the changing roles and responsibilities of allied dental professionals (dental assistants, dental hygienists, and dental laboratory technicians).

recommendations for changes to the allied dental education curriculum in light of current practice standards throughout the nation and the proposed new workforce models being developed by other organizations such as the American Dental Association (ADA) and the American Dental Hygienists Association (ADHA).

The Working Group meeting included participants from professional associations including DANB, ADHA, American Association of Dental Examiners, American Dental Assistants Association, and National Association of Dental Laboratories.

The purpose of the June 2006 Summit is to develop

For more information about ADEA, visit [www.adea.org](http://www.adea.org).

## DANB Board Call For Nominations for Certificant at Large Due February 6, 2006

Nominations are being accepted for the Certificant at Large position on the DANB Board of Directors. Pat Sippel, CDA, currently serves in that role. Her first term will expire at the close of the August 2006 Board meeting. (Ms. Sippel is eligible to serve a second three-year term, if elected.)

To be considered, the nominee must be DANB Certified (CDA, COA, COMSA, or CDPMA) and working full- or part-time in the field of dental assisting with a minimum of three years of work experience prior to being nominated.

Due to potential conflict of interest, an individual will not be considered if he or she is a current employee or

board member of a governing body of any of the following dental organizations: ADAA, ADA, ADEA, or AADE (members of committees for or delegates to these organizations will be considered).

If you are interested in submitting a nomination, please submit a letter of recommendation detailing the reasons why you believe that this individual would make a good DANB Board Member. (Self-nominations are accepted.) Be sure to include the individual's name, address, and phone number. **Submissions must be received by February 6, 2006.** Send the letter to DANB/CAL Board Nomination, 676 N. St. Clair, Ste. 1880, Chicago, IL 60611. For more information, call 1-800-FOR-DANB x 419 or e-mail [marketing@danb.org](mailto:marketing@danb.org).



## Washington

CDAs	1,017
COMSAs	12
CDPMAs	7
COAs	21

The Washington State Dental Association (WSDA) is considering legislation that would authorize dentists to delegate specific expanded sedation functions to qualified dental assistants.

The legislative proposal is based on Oregon's law, under which dental assistants who qualify as Oregon Certified Oral Surgery Assistants (COSA) can be authorized by a dentist who holds the appropriate anesthesia permit to: (1) administer medications into an existing intravenous line of a patient under sedation or anesthesia under direct visual supervision; (2) administer emergency medications to a patient in order to assist the licensee in an emergency situation under direct visual supervision; and (3) dispense oral medications to a patient, provided that they have been prepared by the dentist and given to the oral surgery assistant by the supervising dentist for oral administration to a patient under close supervision. In Oregon, a dental assistant must meet specific education/examination/training requirements in order to qualify as a COSA. (DANB's Certified Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery Assistant [COMSA] meets Oregon's requirements.)

The WSDA has asked the Washington State Society of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons to help develop this legislation.

## Congratulations to Emeritus Certificants

September 1-December 31, 2005

Name/State	Certification Date
Julie S. Folk, SC	1/4/99
Grace I. Holden, OK	4/9/82
Elizabeth M. Larwood, AL	11/19/79
Judith A. Nix, IL	3/22/67
Antoinette P. Sala, NJ	7/19/74
Patricia L. St. Cyr, MA	7/31/84
Carol Taylor, NC	10/2/95
Dorothy F. Welch, AZ	11/19/79

For policy regarding Emeritus Status Certificants, see Page 4 of this issue, in the DANB Recertification Guidelines. There are currently 572 DANB Emeritus Status Certificants. For information on earning the Emeritus status, contact Stephanie Hondras, Executive Assistant, at 1-800-FOR-DANB x411.

## Ellen Gambardella, CDA, MEd, Named "Teacher of the Year"



Ellen Gambardella, CDA, MEd, was chosen by Massachusetts dentists as "Teacher of the Year" for 2005.

Gambardella, a resident of Concord, MA, received this award from Dr. Alan DerKazarian, president of

the Massachusetts Dental Society, at a special ceremony in Boston. Gambardella was recognized for her educational contributions to dentistry as well as being a prominent and innovative speaker at the Yankee Dental Congress and meetings nationwide.

A CDA since 1969, Gambardella is the director of the Dental Assisting Program for adults at the Minuteman School of Applied Arts and Sciences in Lexington, a program that encourages students to earn credentialing on the national level.

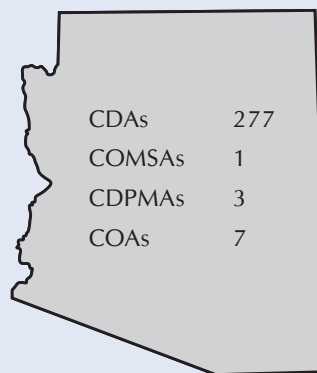
## Coronal Polishing Certificate Now Available For Dental Assistants in Arizona

Beginning January 1, 2006, the Arizona State Board of Dental Examiners (ASBDE) will offer a dental assistant the opportunity to earn a Coronal Polishing Certificate that will allow the assistant, under the general supervision of a licensed dentist, to perform coronal polishing duties within the state.

The Dental Assisting National Board, Inc. (DANB) has been contracted to administer the complete certificate program, a service that includes providing exam information, distributing applications, testing, issuing certificates, and responding to inquiries.

To acquire the Arizona Coronal Polishing Certificate, a dental assistant must:

1. Pass the Arizona Coronal Polishing (AZCP) Exam (written or computerized) administered by DANB and
2. Submit an Arizona Coronal Polishing Clinical Skills Affidavit (completed by a licensed dentist or a coronal polishing educator/course instructor) to DANB and
3. Submit a completed Arizona Coronal Polishing Certificate Application to DANB.



CDAs	277
COMSAs	1
CDPMAs	3
COAs	7

DANB will issue a dental assistant's Arizona Coronal Polishing Certificate after the assistant has completed all of the requirements listed above.

The Arizona Coronal Polishing Exam will be administered in both written and computerized formats. The first administration of the written AZCP Exam will take place in February 2006 at eight test sites across Arizona, located in Phoenix (two sites), Tucson (two sites), Tempe, Flagstaff, Bullhead City, and Yuma. Additional written exam dates are scheduled throughout the year at each of these sites. DANB expects to begin administering the exam at computerized test centers sometime in April 2006.

Dental assistants are not required to attend a course in order to be eligible to take the AZCP Exam. For those who do attend a coronal polishing course, course registration and AZCP Exam registration are separate. Registering for the course does not mean that a candidate is registered for the AZCP Exam. Registration for the AZCP Exam is conducted only through DANB.

To download the AZCP Exam Fact Sheet and Application, visit DANB's website at [www.danb.org](http://www.danb.org) or call 1-800-FOR-DANB. Questions can also be e-mailed to [danbmail@danb.org](mailto:danbmail@danb.org).

## "You Could Be Next" Winner!

Congratulations to Tanda Culleton of Sevierville, TN, a DANB Certificant since 1993, who recognized her CE number in the Fall 2005 issue of *Certified Press* and won \$50. Check the numbers listed in "You Could be Next" on page 8 of this issue for your chance to win!

New DANB Certificants listings can be viewed at [www.danb.org](http://www.danb.org)

## Certificant to Know

Rhonda Lieske, CDA, recently participated in a volunteer event that brought free dental care to more than 400 patients in Lincoln, NE.

On October 21-22, 2005, 75 dentists and more than 200 volunteers gathered in Lincoln as part of a service entitled "Mission of Mercy," designed to provide dental treatment to those who could not otherwise afford it. All costs were paid by the dentists, the state dental association, and business sponsors.

Congratulations to Ms. Lieske, a CDA since 1986, for devoting her talents to such a worthy cause!

## Notable DANB Dates for 2006

Be sure to visit the DANB booth at upcoming conventions and meetings listed below. Bring your current DANB wallet card and receive your credential ribbon and a special gift.

2006 Convention/Host	Location/Contact Info	Dates
Rocky Mountain Dental Convention	Denver, CO <a href="http://www.rmdconline.com">www.rmdconline.com</a>	January 19-21
Yankee Dental Congress	Boston, MA <a href="http://www.yankeedental.com">www.yankeedental.com</a>	January 25-29
Chicago Dental Society Midwinter Meeting	Chicago, IL <a href="http://www.cds.org">www.cds.org</a>	February 23-26
American Dental Education Assn. Annual Session	Orlando, FL <a href="http://www.adea.org">www.adea.org</a>	March 8-11
Hinman Dental Meeting	Atlanta, GA <a href="http://www.hinman.org">www.hinman.org</a>	March 23-25
American Assn. of Orthodontists Annual Session	Las Vegas, NV <a href="http://www.aaortho.org">www.aaortho.org</a>	May 5-9
Professional Dental Assisting Conference	Indianapolis, IN <a href="http://www.professionaldentalassisting.com">www.professionaldentalassisting.com</a>	May 11-13

DANB Headquarters Closed for Independence Day—July 3 and 4



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## DANB Details

### REACH DANB AT:

676 N. St. Clair, Suite 1880  
Chicago, IL 60611  
1-800-FOR-DANB or 312-642-3368  
Fax: 312-642-1475

**www.danb.org**  
**e-mail: danbmail@danb.org**

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**Your phone calls are important to us.**  
**Please note that it is DANB's policy to**  
**return calls within two business days.**

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### You Could Be Next!

Match your CE number with one of the randomly selected numbers listed below. Notify the DANB Marketing Department within 30 days of this newsletter's mailing to claim your \$50 prize. Be sure to include your name, address and CE number.

034020	093687
126740	168049
180202	189965

### The DANB Mission

DANB's mission is to promote the public good by providing credentialing services to the dental community. DANB accomplishes and measures the success of this mission through:

- a properly governed, financially secure, administratively sound organization;
- valid dental assisting exams;
- dental assisting recertification process integrity;
- visible, valuable and accessible DANB credentials;
- testing services for groups within the oral healthcare community and
- information services for the oral healthcare community related to dental assisting credentialing and recertification.

### DANB National Test Dates

Mark your calendars with these important written exam dates and deadlines for 2006.

**2006 Written Exam Dates    Application Deadlines**

February 24 or 25	January 13, 2006
June 9 or 10	April 21, 2006
October 13-14	August 25, 2006

**Remember: Computerized exams can be taken year-round and do not have deadlines.**

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