



Dental Assisting National Board, Inc.
Measuring Dental Assisting Excellence®

Summary of major actions taken by DANB's Board of Directors at the Annual 2020 Board Meeting

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Annual 2020 DANB and DALE Foundation Board Meetings were held virtually through a series of five two-hour webinars between July 27, 2020 and August 6, 2020.

DANB Directors who attended the Annual 2020 Board meeting were Chair Michael Conte, D.M.D., M.P.H.; Vice Chair Denise Romero, CDA, COA, RDA, M.A.; Secretary-Treasurer Lois Bell, CDA, CPFDA, CRFDA, FADAA; Karen L. Comisi, CDA, RDA, FADAA; Sandra Garcia, CDA, RDA, FADAA, FAADOM; Steven J. Holm, D.D.S.; Meagan Morton, CDA; Connie J. Reed, CDA, EFDA, B.S.; and Esther R. Scherb, D.M.D., J.D.

DANB's Executive Director Cindy Durley, M.Ed., MBA, serves ex officio on DANB's Board of Directors and the DALE Foundation's Board of Trustees. Cindy can be contacted at cdurley@danb.org.

DANB Candidate Services Updates

Temporary Candidate Policy Changes due to the COVID-19 pandemic

DANB made the following temporary policy changes after DANB moved to telecommuting for its entire staff beginning March 18, 2020 and DANB's testing provider, Pearson VUE, closed in-person test centers from March 16 through mid-May 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

CPR Waiver for DANB Certification Exam Candidates

Candidates unable to obtain a DANB-recognized, hands-on CPR, BLS or ACLS certificate must download and complete a waiver form at danb.org and acknowledge that CPR, BLS or ACLS certificate will be required for renewal for any certification resulting from the exam they take now.

Affected Policies:

- II.1005.0 Code of Professional Conduct
- II.205.0 Certified Orthodontic Assistant/Orthodontic Assisting Exam Eligibility Requirements
- II.203.0 Certified Dental Assistant Exam/General Chairside Assisting Component Exam Eligibility Requirements
- II.214.0 Certified Preventive Functions Dental Assistant Exam/Certification Eligibility Requirements
- II.219.0 Certified Restorative Functions Dental Assistant and Restorative Functions Component Exam Eligibility Requirements
- II.220.0 National Entry Level Dental Assistant Certification Eligibility Requirement

Changes to ID Requirements for DANB Exam Candidates

Candidates unable to renew a government-issued ID may use an expired ID at test centers and with online proctored exams.

Affected Policy:

- II.502.0 Materials Candidates Must Bring to Exam

Changes to Intent-to-Graduate Documentation Requirements for some DANB Exam Candidates
Candidates from dental assisting programs accredited by CODA who are not graduating on time due to program changes related to COVID-19 must obtain a letter from the program director on school letterhead with the new expected date of program graduation, which will be entered into DANB's CRM system so that candidate's application can be tracked for follow-up to ensure that DANB's graduation requirements for some exams is ultimately met.

Affected Policy:

- II.203.5 Certified Dental Assistant/General Chairside Assisting Exam with An Intent to Graduate

Temporary Suspension of Cancellation Fee

To accommodate changes in financial situation and/or DANB's capacity to test candidates, DANB is suspending the cancellation fee of \$40 for candidates who applied for and scheduled DANB exams and decided not to take them. The \$75 nonrefundable exam application processing fee stands.

Affected Policy:

- II.309.3 Changes After Application

Changes to II.220.0 National Entry Level Dental Assistant Certification Eligibility Requirement

The Board approved changes to NELDA eligibility requirements. Additions are in **bold**; deletions are in strikethrough.

Eligibility requirements to earn NELDA certification common to pathways I, II, III, IV:

- Pass all three component exams within a 3-year period
 - Anatomy, Morphology and Physiology (AMP)
 - Infection Control (ICE)
 - Radiation Health and Safety (RHS)
- Hold current DANB-accepted, hands-on Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR), Basic Life Support (BLS) or Advanced Cardiac Life Support (ACLS) certification, must be current at time of application and exam.
- **May not exceed 3,000 hours of dental assisting experience accrued over a period of at least two months and no more than three years, as verified by a licensed dentist.**
- ~~You~~ Must apply for NELDA certification within 3 years of passing the first component exam.
- **If NELDA certificant later pursues CDA certification, they must take General Chairside (GC) exam within seven years of passing first NELDA component exam, assuming they have continuously maintained their NELDA certification for 4 years.**

DANB Certificant Services Updates

Temporary Certificant Policy Changes due to the COVID-19 pandemic

DANB made the following temporary policy changes after DANB moved to telecommuting for its entire staff beginning March 18, 2020 and DANB's testing provider, Pearson VUE, closed in-person test centers from March 16 through mid-May 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

CPR Waiver for DANB Certificants

Certificants unable to obtain a DANB-recognized, hands-on CPR, BLS or ACLS certificate must download and complete a waiver form at danb.org.

Affected Policies:

- III.305.0 Continuing Dental Education and Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation Renewal Requirements
- III.400.0 Renewal and Audit Process

Extension of Grace Period for DANB Certification Renewal

DANB temporarily extended certificants' renewal grace periods for an additional three months, for a total of six months. Certificants will receive emails notifying them when they have entered into the extended grace period. Until further notice, DANB is waiving late fees for certificants who renew no later than three months past their expiration date. Certificants who need more flexibility may renew up to six months after their expiration date, although a \$20 late fee will apply beginning with the fourth month beyond an individual's DANB certification expiration date.

Affected Policy:

- III.400.0 Renewal and Audit Process

Update on DANB Collaborations

OSAP-DANB-DALE Foundation Collaboration

DANB and the DALE Foundation are collaborating with the Organization for Safety, Asepsis and Prevention (OSAP) on a comprehensive infection control education and credentialing initiative, called the OSAP-DANB-DALE Foundation *Dental Infection Prevention and Control Education and Credentialing Collaboration™*.

The initiative establishes two education and two certification initiatives:

Dental Infection Prevention and Control Education

- 1) A three-step OSAP-DALE Foundation *Dental Infection Prevention and Control Certificate Program™* (As of 3/10/2020, all three components of this OSAP-DALE Foundation Certificate Program are available)
- 2) A number of short OSAP-DALE Foundation online dental infection control Continuing Dental Education Articles™ (CDEA®) modules of 1 to 3 Continuing Dental Education (CDE) credits

Dental Infection Prevention and Control Certification Programs

- 1) OSAP-DANB *Dental Industry Specialist in Infection Prevention and Control™* (DISIPC™) certification
- 2) OSAP-DANB *Certified in Dental Infection Prevention and Control™* (CDIPC™) certification

Outcomes from the OSAP-DANB-DALE Foundation collaboration will advance the organizations' missions, all of which relate to enhancing patient and practitioner safety.

The organizations have launched a website to provide information about the collaboration and its related programs: <https://dentalinfectioncontrol.org>.

Collaboration with Temple University

DANB and the DALE Foundation are once again collaborating with Temple University's Kornberg School of Dentistry on its post-baccalaureate program for aspiring dental students. The program, which began in June 2015, includes an innovative combination of dental assisting training and practice, as well as advanced translational science courses.

The program provides students who are interested in studying dentistry an opportunity to

advance their education and improve their admission application for dental school.

In addition to traditional classroom lecture and clinical hours, the program includes unique elements offered by DANB and the DALE Foundation. All students have access to the DALE Foundation's review courses and practice tests that are designed to help them prepare for DANB's Radiation Health and Safety (RHS); Infection Control (ICE); and Anatomy, Morphology and Physiology (AMP) exams — which make up the exam components of DANB's National Entry Level Dental Assistant (NELDA) certification program, and to earn NELDA certification, if eligible.

Students must pass these three DANB exams to be permitted to assist dental students enrolled in Temple University's Kornberg School of Dentistry, in the clinic clusters. As in previous years, dental students looked forward to specifically asking for the post-baccalaureate students to assist them during their clinical coursework and also to assist them during clinical licensure board exams.

Following successful completion of the NELDA exams, post-baccalaureate students completed the OSAP-DALE Foundation Dental Infection Prevention and Control Certificate Program™.

This sixth year of Temple University Kornberg School of Dentistry's Post-Baccalaureate Program began at the end of May 2020 and continues through April 2021. After successfully completing the program, students who meet the published admission criteria and have applied through the formal admission process may be conditionally accepted to Temple University's Doctor of Dental Medicine program.

Report from the DALE Foundation

Liz Koch Memorial Scholarship Update

The 2020 Liz Koch Memorial Scholarship launched March 30, 2020, with a deadline of May 25, 2020. After receiving more than 80 completed applications, the scholarship committee selected three winners, who received scholarship funds to go toward their professional development goals.

Winners:

- Jorge Colon Jr.
- Dalena Ha
- Valinda Johnston, CDA

See the DALE Foundation website (dalefoundation.org) for more information about the winners.

Launch of New Learning Management System

On July 15, 2020, the DALE Foundation launched a new Learning Management System (LMS), which will deliver all DALE Foundation courses, practice tests and other online resources. The new LMS provides many benefits for learners, including improved navigation, enhanced usability and a smoother mobile experience. The new LMS also benefits instructors and employers who are buying courses for students and staff, as it will provide a more streamlined process for assigning courses and tracking learner progress.

DALE Foundation Board of Trustees Updates

The DALE Foundation Board of Trustees and the DANB Board of Directors voted to reelect Vicki Brett, CDA, RDH, B.S.D.H., and Royann Royer, CDA, RDH, M.P.H., to their second three-year terms on the DALE Foundation Board of Trustees.

The DALE Foundation Board of Trustees reelected the incumbent officers to their current positions on the DALE Foundation Board of Trustees:

- President: Joanne Dawley, D.D.S.
- President-Elect: Lori Gagliardi, CDA, FADAA, RDA, RDH, Ed.D.
- Secretary-Treasurer: Kathy Zwiag, CDA, LDA
- Immediate Past President: Frank Maggio, D.D.S.

DANB Board of Director Updates

The DANB Board of Directors reelected the incumbent officers to their current positions on the DANB Board of Directors:

- Chair: Michael Conte, D.M.D., M.P.H.
- Vice Chair: Denise Romero, CDA, COA, RDA, Ed.D.
- Secretary-Treasurer: Lois Bell, CDA, CPFDA, CRFDA, MADAA

Upcoming DALE Foundation Board of Directors Meetings

The DALE Foundation Board of Trustees will hold its next winter meeting virtually during two four-hour webinars scheduled Feb. 10-11, 2021. The DALE Foundation's 2021 annual board meeting will be held Aug. 5, 2021. Additionally, the Board of Trustees will meet by other conference calls throughout the year, between its scheduled winter and annual meetings.

Upcoming DANB Board of Directors Meetings

The DANB Board of Directors will hold its next winter meeting virtually during four two-hour webinars scheduled between Feb. 2 and 15, 2021. DANB's 2021 annual meeting will be held Aug. 6-7, 2021. Additionally, the Board of Directors will meet by other conference calls throughout the year, between its scheduled winter and annual Meetings.