



**Date:** May 18, 2016  
**To:** DANB Communities of Interest  
**From:** Dental Assisting National Board, Inc. (DANB)  
**Re:** Summary of major actions taken by DANB's Board of Directors at the February 19-20, 2016, Winter Meeting

Below please find a summary of major actions taken by the DANB Board of Directors at its February 19-20, 2016, Winter Meeting.

The DANB Directors who attended the meeting were Chair Frank Maggio, D.D.S.; Vice Chair Mary Harrison, CDA, EFDA, EFODA, FADAA; Secretary Joanne Dawley, D.D.S.; Patricia Capps, CDA, RDH, M.S.; Karen Comisi, CDA, RDA, FADAA; Sandra Garcia, CDA, RDA; Linda Golodner, B.A.; Katharine Noble, CDA, CRFDA, HMC (FMF); and Denise Romero, CDA, COA, RDA, M.A.

DANB's Executive Director Cindy Durley, M.Ed., MBA, serves ex officio on DANB's Board. Cindy can be contacted at 1-866-357-3262 or [cdurley@danb.org](mailto:cdurley@danb.org).

### **DANB Exam Program Updates**

#### Update on DANB's Content Validation Studies

Content validation studies for the Infection Control (ICE) and Orthodontic Assisting (OA) exams are planned for 2016. Final recommendations will be reviewed and any edits made by the Board by June 2016, to provide sufficient time to publicize any changes, to be effective Jan. 1, 2017.

### **DANB Candidate Services Updates**

#### Update to Reschedule Policy

The Board approved a recommendation by the Candidate Services Committee to change the reschedule policy to allow for one testing window reschedule rather than the current two allowed exam appointment reschedules, effective Jan. 1, 2017. Additions are in **bold**, deletions in strikethrough.

#### Changes After Application Submission Rescheduling

*If a candidate cannot schedule or reschedule an exam before the end of his/her testing window and would like to request a new testing window **and did not miss a scheduled exam appointment**, DANB will provide the candidate with ~~two~~ **one opportunity** to request a new testing window for a reschedule fee, **for up to 120 days after the end of the original testing window. If a second reschedule is requested or the 120 days passes, the candidate must reapply for the exam by submitting a current exam application with any required documentation and full exam application fees.***

~~After the second request for a new testing window, a current exam application with any required documentation and full exam application fees must be submitted to request a new testing window.~~



## DANB Certificant Services Updates

### Updates to DANB Certificants Emeritus Requirements

Changes to the emeritus requirements for DANB certificants were implemented Jan. 1, 2016, to make the process easier for certificants to complete. Additions are in **bold**, deletions in strikethrough.

### DANB Certificant Emeritus Requirements

DANB ~~C~~certified Aassistants (CDA, COA, **CPFDA, CRFDA, COMSA and**, CDPMA, ~~and GPFDA~~) may apply for “Emeritus Status” if they have maintained continuous (**without any breaks**) 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 the age of 60 years or older; or,
- Retired from the field of dentistry/dental assisting with 35 years of continuous (~~without any breaks~~) DANB certification.

### Disability

- Must submit a ~~two (2)~~ **two (2)** letters **from the assistant’s physician on physician’s office letterhead (signed and dated) stating that she/he that the assistant is physically and permanently unable to perform any duties as required, and the date that this was effective is no longer working in the dental field due to disability:**
  - ~~One from the assistant requesting Emeritus Status and signed by the assistant; and~~
  - ~~One from the assistant’s physician on his/her office letterhead stating that the assistant is physically and permanently unable to perform any duties required.~~
- **Must submit a completed Emeritus application indicating the date the assistant became physically and permanently unable to perform any duties as required.**

### Retirement

- Must submit a ~~two (2)~~ **two (2)** letters **from the assistant’s employer on letterhead and signed by the employer** stating that she/he has retired and the date of retirement, **OR**
- **Must submit proof of receiving social security benefits**
- ~~One from the assistant requesting Emeritus Status and signed by the assistant; and~~
- ~~One from the assistant’s employer on letterhead and signed by the employer (or the assistant can provide proof of receiving social security benefits).~~
- **Must complete the Emeritus application indicating the date the assistant retired.**

If a ~~C~~certificant holds more than one **DANB certification credential**, the ~~C~~certificant will ~~only~~ earn “Emeritus Status” for **all currently held these certifications credentials that the Certificant maintained continuous current certification for four (4) of the five (5) years immediately preceding application.**

### Updates to Recertification Requirements

Effective Jan. 1, 2016, each year, all DANB certificants, whether they hold one or more DANB certifications, must earn a minimum of two Continuing Dental Education (CDE) credits in infection control (e.g., instrument sterilization/reprocessing). The annual federally mandated



OSHA Bloodborne Pathogens Standard training does not count toward the annual minimum of two CDE credits required in infection control.

This updated requirement is reflected in DANB's 2016 *Recertification Requirements*. Candidates will not be denied renewal if the infection control minimum is not met until the policy has been in effect for one full year, or as of Jan. 1, 2017.

### **Update on DANB Collaborations**

#### **Collaboration with Temple University**

DANB and the DALE Foundation are collaborating with Temple University's Kornberg School of Dentistry on a post-baccalaureate program for aspiring dental students.

The goal of the post-baccalaureate program is to provide students who are interested in studying dentistry an opportunity to advance their education and improve their admission applications for dental school. The program began in June 2015, and students will finish the program in May 2016. There were 40 students accepted into the inaugural class.

During the first 10 weeks of the academic year, the post-baccalaureate students received education based on a dental assisting curriculum, and were instructed by a number of highly qualified educators, among them members of the Kornberg School of Dentistry faculty, as well as educators from Harcum College's CODA-accredited dental assisting program. To provide foundational education and to help to prepare the post-baccalaureate program students for the three components of the NELDA exam, Temple University required students to complete DALE Foundation review courses covering DANB's RHS, ICE and AMP exams, and provided them with access to the DALE Foundation's DANB RHS, ICE and AMP practice tests.

Before being allowed access to the dental school clinic, these post-baccalaureate program students were required to pass DANB's RHS, ICE and AMP exams, which are the component exams of DANB's NELDA certification program. The post-baccalaureate students serve as dental assistants to the current third and fourth year students in Temple University's Kornberg School of Dentistry.

After successfully completing the post-baccalaureate program, students who meet the admission requirements will be admitted to Temple University's Doctor of Dental Medicine program. The program has been deemed a success and will be offered again in the 2016-17 academic year.

#### **ADAA/DANB Forum**

DANB was invited by the ADAA to participate in the 2015 ADAA/DANB Forum, held during the American Dental Association Annual Meeting. This forum covered many topics, including an update on the Infection Control Consortium, results from the 2015 ADAA/DANB Scholarship, news from DANB and the DALE Foundation, and more.

#### **ADAA/DANB Scholarship**

This year marked the third annual ADAA/DANB Scholarship. The scholarship is open to all ADAA members and student members in good standing. The 2015 ADAA/DANB Scholarship was announced in September, and the deadline to apply was Oct. 11. There were a total of 11



applicants, and the committee selected three winners, which were announced at the 2015 ADA/DANB Forum November 7 during the ADA Annual Session. An announcement publicizing the winners was posted to each organization's website after the ADA/DANB Forum.

### **Report from the DALE Foundation**

The DALE Foundation, the official DANB affiliate, held its Winter Meeting Feb. 18, 2016.

The DALE Foundation offers the following online products:

- Accounts Receivable for the Dental Office
- Anxiety and Special Needs in Pediatric Dentistry
- Behavioral Guidance and Management for the Pediatric Dental Patient
- Conventional Dental Radiography Review
- DANB AMP Practice Test
- DANB AMP Review
- DANB CP Practice Test
- DANB GC Practice Test
- DANB GC Review Part I
- DANB GC Review Part II
- DANB ICE Practice Test
- DANB ICE Review
- DANB OA Practice Test
- DANB RHS Practice Test
- DANB RHS Review
- Dental Cements and Adhesives
- Financial Reporting for the Dental Office
- Glossary of Dental Terms
- HR Fundamentals for the Dental Office
- Pediatric Dentistry
- Sample Glossary of Dental Terms
- Sedation in Pediatric Dentistry
- Your Career as a Dental Auxiliary

In February, the DALE Foundation introduced its newest Continuing Dental Education Articles (CDEA) module, Anxiety and Special Needs in Pediatric Dentistry. The DALE Foundation is also working to update both the DANB ICE Review and DANB RHS Review for mobile compatibility.

The DALE Foundation is recognized by the American Dental Association's Continuing Dental Education Recognition Program (CERP) and has received the Academy of General Dentistry's Program Approval for Continuing Education (PACE).

With support from DANB, the DALE Foundation will begin conducting research in 2016 to determine the value of dental assistants to the dental practice.

### **The Liz Koch Memorial Scholarship**

The DALE Foundation launched the 2015 Liz Koch Memorial Scholarship on June 9, 2015. The deadline to apply was July 10, 2015. In total, the committee received 35 applications that were



complete and submitted by the deadline. The scholarship committee selected three winners for 2015; these winners were announced in October 2015.

Information about the 2016 Liz Koch Memorial Scholarship will be available in early 2016.

#### The DALE Foundation Board of Trustees

The DALE Foundation Board of Trustees welcomed two new Trustees, who were elected by conference call in January 2016:

- Carol Oeder, CDA, COA, CPFDA, CRFDA, CDPMA, FADAA, LPN, fills a Board vacancy through Aug. 31, 2016, and will begin the first of a possible two, three-year terms on Sept. 1, 2016
- Joanne Dawley, D.D.S., fills a Board vacancy through Aug. 31, 2016, and will begin the first of a possible two, three-year terms on Sept. 1, 2016.

#### Upcoming DALE Foundation Board of Directors Meetings

The DALE Foundation Board of Trustees will hold its next annual meeting Aug. 4, 2016, and its next winter meeting Feb. 2, 2017. Additionally, the Board of Trustees may meet by conference call throughout the year, between its two scheduled in-person meetings.

#### Upcoming DANB Board of Directors Meetings

DANB's Board of Directors will hold its next annual meeting Aug. 5-6, 2016, and its next winter meeting Feb. 3-4, 2017. Additionally, DANB's Board of Directors may meet by conference call throughout the year, between its two scheduled in-person meetings.

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