



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

**Date:** April 20, 2018  
**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 Feb. 2-3, 2018, Winter Board Meeting

DANB Directors who attended the Winter 2018 Board meeting were Chair Katharine J. Noble, CDA, CRFDA, SSgt ME Air National Guard; Vice Chair Denise Romero, CDA, COA, RDA, M.A.; Secretary-Treasurer Lois Bell, CDA, CPFDA, CRFDA, FADAA; Michael Conte, D.M.D., M.P.H.; Karen L. Comisi, CDA, RDA, FADAA; Sandra Garcia, CDA, RDA; Steven J. Holm, D.D.S.; Mary Macomber, J.D.; and Connie J. Reed, CDA, EFDA, B.S.

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 to CPFDA Certification Program**

To evaluate the reliability of its exams DANB convenes a committee of Subject Matter Experts (SMEs) to conduct a Content Validation Study (CVS), which includes a job analysis survey. This study is conducted every 5-7 years for each exam. The studies are conducted on a schedule so that not all studies are conducted in the same year.

When reviewing the results of the job analysis survey for the Certified Preventive Functions Dental Assistant (CPFDA) component exams (Coronal Polish [CP], Sealants [SE], Topical Anesthetic [TA] and Topical Fluoride [TA]), the data indicated that the TA exam content was not related to the same body of knowledge as the CP, SE and TF. That is, the TA exam is not testing on a preventive function as are the CP, SE and TF exams.

The committee recommended and the Board approved removing the TA component exam from the CPFDA certification program, effective with the launch of DANB's new database management system in May 2018. The TA exam will still be available as a standalone exam but will not be associated with any certification program.

The results of the CVS also indicated to the committee that some of the exam outline domain weightings needed to be updated, and a reorganization of the content for the CP, SE and TF exam outlines was needed to make the outline easier for exam candidates to use. The exam references (provided for candidates as suggested study materials) were also reviewed to ensure they were up to date. The committee recommended and the Board accepted the updates to the CP, SE and TF exam references and exam outlines.

#### **Updates to RHS and ICE exam outlines**

Annually, DANB convenes item writing committees of SMEs to write and review new items and review existing items for currency and accuracy. These SMEs also annually review the existing exam outlines and exam references. This review is to ensure that the outlines continue to be valid and references are up to date. The committee recommended and the Board accepted updates to the Radiation Health and Safety (RHS) and Infection Control (ICE) exam outlines,

effective Jan. 1, 2019. The General Chairside Assisting (GC) exam blueprint will change effective Jan. 1, 2019, so no edits were made to the existing GC exam outline at this meeting.

### **DANB Candidate Services Updates**

To evaluate the reliability of its exams DANB convenes a committee of SMEs to conduct a CVS, which includes a job analysis survey. When reviewing the results of the job analysis survey for the AMP exam (a component of the National Entry Level Dental Assistant exam and Certified Restorative Functions Dental Assistant exam), the data indicated to the SMEs that some of the AMP exam outline domain weightings needed to be updated, and a reorganization of the content was needed to make the outline easier for exam candidates to use in preparation to take the exam. The exam references (provided for candidates as suggested study materials) were also reviewed to ensure they were up to date. No changes were recommended. The committee recommended and the Board accepted updates to the AMP exam outline, effective Jan. 1, 2019.

### **DANB Certificant Services Updates**

#### Update to III.904.2 — Certificant Attestations

The Board approved transitioning from two versions of the certificant attestation for the renewal and reinstatement applications to one single version. Additions in **bold**; deletions in strikethrough.

#### *Renewal Application*

~~*I have obtained and am able to provide proof of having earned the required CDE credits and of having maintained DANB-accepted, hands-on CPR, BLS or ACLS certification while holding DANB® certification. I affirm that my answers to the background information questions are true and correct. I further affirm that I have read and understood the Renewal Statements and Application Statements on the back of this notice, and I intend to be legally bound by them.*~~

#### *Reinstatement Application*

~~*I have obtained and am providing proof of having earned the required CDE credits for the date range indicated above. I also maintained (for the renewal period specified) and currently still hold DANB-accepted, hands-on CPR, BLS or ACLS certification. I agree to be subject to audit of DANB's Recertification Requirements for the next two renewal periods. I affirm that my answers to the background information questions are true and correct. I further affirm that I have read and understood the Reinstatement Renewal Statements and Application Statements on the back of this notice, and I intend to be legally bound by them.*~~

#### ***Recertification Statements***

***I hereby affirm that my answers to all questions are true and correct. I have met all recertification eligibility requirements and will comply with all DANB policies and procedures. I have obtained and am able to provide proof of having earned the required Continuing Dental Education (CDE) credits and of having maintained (for the renewal period specified) a DANB-accepted, hands-on CPR, BLS or ACLS certificate. I further affirm that I have read and understood the Certificant Agreement contained on this notice, and I intend to be legally bound by it. I understand that the fee(s) is not refundable under any circumstances.***

#### Update to III.403.0 — Renewal Recognition Program

The Board approved changes to the certificant recognition program to discontinue issuing a certification recognition certificate and transition to a recognition card or postcard to acknowledge anniversary milestones. This change will increase the security for and protect the validity of the DANB certification certificates. There are no changes to gifts certificants receive.

## **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 multi-year infection control education and credentialing initiative, called the OSAP-DANB-DALE Foundation *Dental Infection Prevention and Control Education and Credentialing Collaboration™*.

The initiative will establish two education and two credentialing initiatives:

### Dental Infection Prevention and Control Education

- 1) OSAP-DALE Foundation *Dental Infection Prevention and Control Certificate Program™* in 2018
- 2) A number of short OSAP-DALE Foundation online dental infection control modules of 1 to 3 CE credits

### Dental Infection Prevention and Control Credentialing Programs

- 3) OSAP-DANB *Dental Industry Specialist in Infection Prevention and Control™* (DISIPC™) industry specialist designation; available in late 2019)
- 4) OSAP-DANB *Certified in Dental Infection Prevention and Control™* (CDIPC™) certification; available in 2020)

In 2017, the DALE Foundation and OSAP launched a co-developed, co-branded Continuing Dental Education Article (CDEA®) module: *Understanding CDC's Summary of Infection Prevention Practices in Dental Settings*. Those who complete the CDEA module and pass the post-assessment are awarded two Continuing Dental Education (CDE) credits. This module, a component of the OSAP-DALE Foundation *Dental Infection Prevention and Control Certificate Program*, is available by visiting [osap.org](http://osap.org) or [dalefoundation.org](http://dalefoundation.org).

OSAP and the DALE Foundation are preparing to launch two new products this summer:

- 1) A two-CDE credit dental infection control CDEA module based on scenarios published in OSAP's bimonthly publication, *Infection Control in Practice*
- 2) The *OSAP-DALE Foundation Dental Infection Prevention and Control eHandbook™*

Outcomes from the OSAP-DANB-DALE Foundation collaboration will advance the organizations' missions, all of which relate to enhancing patient and practitioner safety. OSAP, DANB and the DALE Foundation will reach out to communities of interest to participate in various advisory committees to provide subject matter expertise, program feedback, and assistance in advancing infection prevention, control and safety in dental settings.

### ADAA/DANB Scholarship

The ADAA/DANB Scholarship was developed in 2013. The scholarship is open to all ADAA members in good standing. The 2017 ADAA/DANB Scholarship was launched Sept. 5, 2017, and received 28 applications, from which the committee selected eight winners and one finalist. Press releases and other communications announcing the winners were distributed in February.

## **Report from the DALE Foundation**

The DALE Foundation, the official DANB affiliate, held its Winter Meeting Feb. 1, 2018.

In December 2017, the DALE Foundation released a new EFDA Practice Test covering expanded functions topics that are part of DANB's Certified Preventive Functions Dental Assistant and Certified Restorative Functions Dental Assistant certification programs. With the

addition of the EFDA Practice Test, the DALE Foundation currently offers 27 e-learning products, with two new products in development: a new OSAP-DALE Foundation two-credit infection control CDEA module and the *OSAP-DALE Foundation Dental Infection Prevention and Control eHandbook*. Both products are scheduled to be available this summer.

### **Upcoming DALE Foundation Board of Directors Meetings**

The DALE Foundation Board of Trustees will hold its next annual meeting Aug. 9, 2018, and its next winter meeting Feb. 7, 2019. Additionally, the Board of Trustees will 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. 10-11, 2018, and its next winter meeting Feb. 8-9, 2019. Additionally, DANB's Board of Directors will meet by conference call throughout the year, between its two scheduled in-person meetings.

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