

## **AMERICAN BOARD OF ORTHODONTICS (ABO)**

### **Clinical Examination Update:**

- The ABO conducted Clinical Examinations in February and September in 2018 and February 2019. A total of 449 orthodontists were certified/recertified at these examinations. A complete listing by examination and constituency can be found on the ABO website.
- The first Scenario-based Oral Clinical Examination was successfully administered in February 2019 with a 68% pass rate. Traditional Clinical Examinations were also offered by petition only in February 2019. June 2019 will mark the final time case-based examinations will occur.

Response to the new examination has been overwhelmingly positive. Overall, examinees shared that they were pleased at how well organized and professionally handled the examination details were administered. Feedback received included:

- “Overall, I appreciate the ABO’s commitment to strive for excellence and improvement and would recommend any orthodontist take the new exam. I truly feel I have become a better orthodontist because of it.”
- “You walk out of the exam feeling humbled and grateful for the time you guys spent investing in us and our profession.”
- “Overall, the experience was humbling, inspiring and educational!”

The next Scenario-based Oral Clinical Examination is scheduled for November 2019. The examination is full with a wait-list.

Registration for the 2020 exams opened on May 22, 2019. An additional examination has been added due to anticipated demand. Examinations will now be offered February, July and November 2020.

Study materials and online resources are available to assist in preparing for the Scenario-based Oral Clinical Examination including a Study Guide and Sample Cases (with questions and answers). Orthodontic programs interested in hosting case-based mock board exams are welcome to contact ABO examiners to request a school visit. ABO advocates are available to visit orthodontic programs if requested. Prep Courses to assist in preparing for the examination will be offered at various times throughout the year in collaboration with the College (CDABO).

Once board certification is achieved, Certification Renewal is required every 10 years to remain on an Active status and may be taken no earlier than two years

prior to the expiration date on your certificate. There are two options to re-certify and travel to St. Louis is NOT required:

- Complete two online Board Case Exams as provided by the Board AND submit CE credits from online AJO-DO exams; or
- Submit one case treated by the examinee (see website for criteria) and submit CE credits from online AJO-DO examinations.

Please visit the ABO website for additional details on the any of the above.

#### **Written Examination Update:**

- The 2019 American Board of Orthodontics Written Examination was administered one day only on April 10, 2019 to 422 examinees at Pearson Vue Testing Centers throughout the United States and Canada. The reliability of the examination was 90% with a 96% pass rate. The next Written Examination will be offered on April 7, 2020. Eligible individuals may register for this exam beginning this fall. As a reminder, once the Written Examination is successfully completed, it never expires.

#### **Educational Update:**

- For additional insight into the development of the Scenario-based Oral Clinical Examination, please view this [Motion Graphic Video](#).
- As a reminder, items are available through the ABO educational toolkit for use by ABO certified orthodontists in promoting their certification achievement.
- All board certified orthodontists are strongly encouraged to reset their ABO password to access their personal dashboard on the new software. As a reminder, enhancements include enhanced orthodontist locator, ability to add professional head-shot to profile, ability to edit/add personal and practice information with unlimited offices, increased security, user specific dashboard notifications, make annual fee payments and view payment history, upload and track CE credits, print complimentary verification letter.

#### **Educators Symposium:**

- Department Chairs, Program Directors and ABO-appointed Advocates were invited to attend an Educator/Advocate Workshop held during the 2019 AAO Annual Session in Los Angeles. As a follow-up to last year's session, ABO directors presented updated results and feedback from the February 2019 Scenario-based Oral Clinical Examination, along with a review of preparation materials and how to prepare for the examination. Immediately following the workshop, an Open House/Information Session was held for those wanting to learn more about the examination. In small round-table forums, ABO directors personally reviewed the examination structure with attendees, answered questions and shared materials available to help them prepare.

### The College:

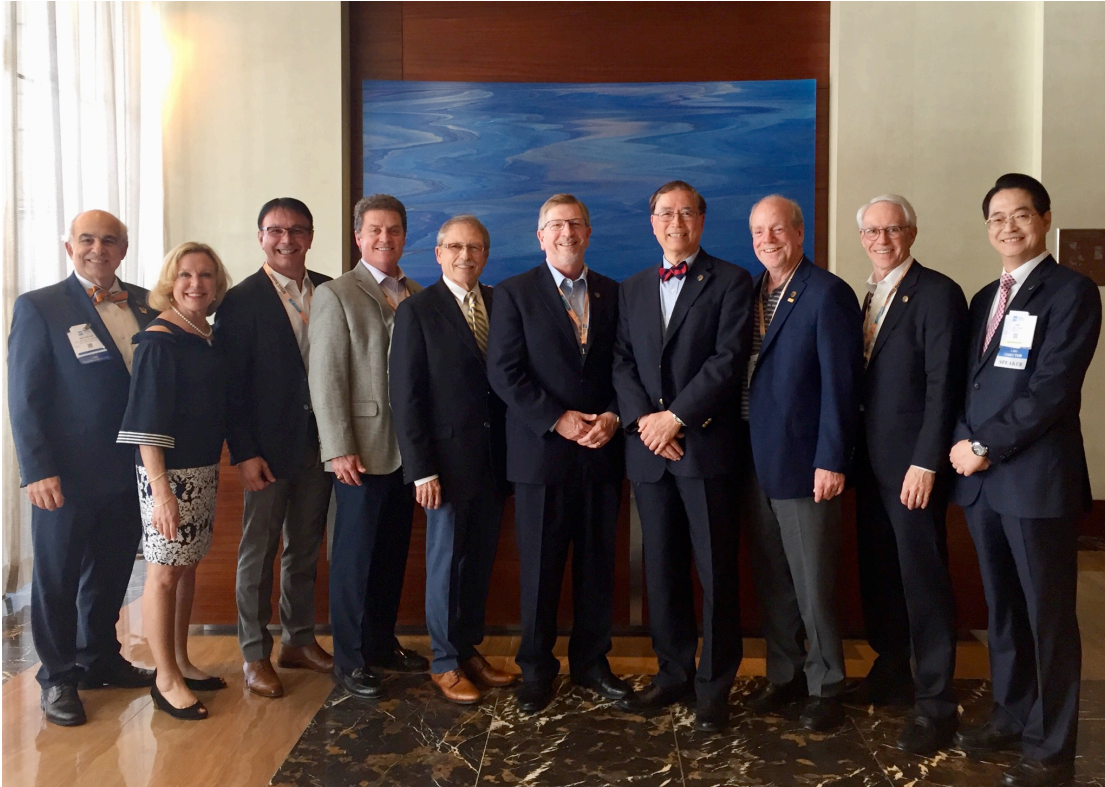
- The College (CDABO) offered a Prep Course during the 2019 AAO Annual Session on how to prepare for the ABO Scenario-based Clinical Exam. Demand for the class was great with the class being sold out. Drs. **Peter Buschang**, **Allen Moffitt** and **Timothy Trulove** joined Dr. **Daniel Rejman** and other CDABO Councilors for the session. The College plans on offering similar prep courses at their upcoming summer meetings, future Annual Sessions and select constituency meetings. In addition, the College will also handle the administrative organization of the advocacy program to continue to reach out and encourage ABO certification at all orthodontic residency programs and ensure there is at least one advocate volunteer assigned at each program.

### GORP:

- The ABO was represented at the 2018 GORP meeting by Dr. **Larry Tadlock** who shared his personal orthodontic journey with attending residents. Dr. **Nicholas Barone** will attend the 2019 GORP meeting to be held in St. Louis, Missouri.

### ABO at 2019 AAO Annual Session:

- The ABO Directors for the 2019-2020 year are as follows:  
Dr. **Nicholas Barone**, President, representing the Northeastern Society of Orthodontists  
Dr. **Valmy Kulbersh**, President-Elect, representing the Great Lakes Association of Orthodontists  
Dr. **David Sabott**, Secretary-Treasurer, representing the Rocky Mountain Society of Orthodontists  
Dr. **Patrick Foley**, Director, representing the Midwestern Society of Orthodontists  
Dr. **Timothy Trulove**, Director, representing the Southern Association of Orthodontists  
Dr. **Jae Hyun Park**, Director, representing the Pacific Coast Society of Orthodontists  
Dr. **Roberto Hernandez-Orsini**, Director, representing the Middle Atlantic Society of Orthodontists  
Dr. **Larry Tadlock**, Immediate Past-President, representing the Southwestern Society of Orthodontists  
The AAO House of Delegates confirmed Dr. **Stephen McCullough** as the new ABO Director representing the Southwestern Society of Orthodontists.
- The ABO presented the following recognition awards during the 2019 AAO Annual Session meeting in Los Angeles:
  - Albert H. Ketcham Memorial Award: Dr. **Michael Riolo**
  - Dale B. Wade Award of Excellence in Orthodontics: Dr. **Eustaquio Araujo**
  - Earl E. and Wilma S. Shepard Distinguished Service Award: Dr. **Barry Briss**
  - O.B. Vaughan Special Recognition Award: Dr. **Garland Hershey**



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