

The American Board of Orthodontics

ABO Fall Update:

Clinical Examination Update:

- The ABO conducted Clinical Examinations in February and July 2021. A total of 288 examinees were certified or recertified during the 1st and 2nd quarters of 2021, including the February 2021 Scenario-based Clinical Examination. Listings by constituency for all examinations are located on the [ABO website](#).

July results will be announced soon. An additional examination will be administered in November.

Interest and demand in the Scenario-based Clinical Examination continues to be strong with most examinations reaching full capacity. Examinations take place at Pearson VUE testing centers worldwide with travel to St. Louis no longer required. Examination components and testing criteria have not changed with the only accommodation made on how answers are submitted. The examinations continue to be scored by multiple ABO examiners.

Study guides, sample cases and preparation materials are continuously updated as valuable resources for those wanting to take the examination and are located on the [ABO website](#). Complete details on how to register for upcoming exams can also be found on the website.

ABO certified orthodontists now represent 54% of AAO membership.

Certification Renewal:

- The ABO continues to focus on board certified orthodontists whose certification is scheduled to expire within the next 3 years. Certification Renewal is required every 10 years to maintain an active board certification status and may be started no earlier than 36 months prior to the expiration date printed on the individual's certification. Two options are available to include completion of one online Board Case Examination or a Mail-In Case Report Examination; both options also require the completion of continuing education credits from four online AJODO examinations. Please view this [motion graphic video](#), which briefly outlines the examination components and why renewal is important. Additional information may also be found on the [ABO website](#).

Written Examination Update:

- The ABO Written Examination was administered to 408 examinees on April 6, 2021 at Scantron testing centers in the United States and Canada. The ABO Written Examination is a comprehensive exam that assesses the examinee's knowledge of basic sciences and clinical concepts based on criterion-referenced testing. The examination is composed of 240 multiple-choice questions on subject areas outlined by CODA divided into 4 modules. An important reminder once this examination is successfully completed, it does not expire. Requirements, eligibility and examination resources are all located on the [ABO website](#).

Educational Update:

- The ABO is pleased to introduce a new video, It Takes A Specialist, on the importance of using a specialist. This resource was designed exclusively for use by board certified orthodontists for placement on their website, social channels, office lobby or patient waiting areas. In addition, we are working to expand this campaign with additional materials to compliment the video and its' message. We are also honored to share the video with the World Federation of Orthodontists (WFO) for inclusion on their website.
- ABO educational toolkit materials are updated as needed as an online resource for board certified orthodontists. A convenient link is now located on personalized dashboards for easier access.

Educators Symposium:

- The ABO Educators Symposium, *"The Change is Here – Are you on Board?"* honoring Dr. Katherine Vig, will take place on Saturday, October 30, 2021, in St. Louis, Missouri. A welcome dinner will take place the evening of Friday, October 29. Orthodontic department chairs, program directors and ABO-appointed advocates along with AAO trustees, CDABO council and ABO emeriti will be invited to attend. Space will be limited, however, a virtual component of the event will be available to invited guests unable to attend.

The College:

- The College of Diplomates (CDABO) continues to offer prep courses on how to prepare for the ABO Scenario-based Clinical Examination. For information on these courses, please contact the [College](#). In addition, the College continues to oversee the administrative organization of the ABO advocacy program to encourage certification at orthodontic residency programs.

2020-2021 ABO Directors:

- The [ABO Directors](#) for the 2021-2022 year are as follows:
 - Dr. David Sabott, President, representing the Rocky Mountain Society of Orthodontists
 - Dr. Patrick Foley, President-Elect, representing the Midwestern Society of Orthodontists
 - Dr. Timothy Trulove, Secretary-Treasurer, 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. Stephen McCullough, Director, representing the Southwestern Society of Orthodontists
 - Dr. P. Emile Rossouw, Director, representing the Northeastern Society of Orthodontists
 - Dr. Valmy Kulbersh, Immediate Past-President, representing the Great Lakes Association of Orthodontists

The AAO House of Delegates confirmed Dr. Anthony Puntillo as the new 2021-2022 ABO Director representing the Great Lakes Association of Orthodontists. Please view the announcement [HERE](#).

Patrick Foley

St Louis, Missouri