

The American Board of Orthodontics

GLAO Constituency Report

February 2021

ABO Mission:

The Mission of the American Board of Orthodontics is to elevate the quality of orthodontic care for the public by promoting excellence through certification, education and professional collaboration.

ABO Vision

The American Board of Orthodontics is the global leader in orthodontic board certification and sets the standards of care for excellence in orthodontics and dentofacial orthopedics.

ABO Yearly Update

Clinical Exam Update:

The ABO conducted Clinical Examinations in February and November 2020. A total of 203 examinees were certified or recertified at the February examination. A complete listing of names by constituency is located on the ABO website. During the November examination 207 examinees were ABO certified. The average pass rate was 75%. Overall exam reliability was 99% and the Inter-rater reliability was 88%.

A total of 157 orthodontists completed their rectification renewal and maintained their ABO status.

The ABO currently represents 49 percent of AAO membership.

The February 2020 Clinical Examination was held in St. Louis in the Scenario-based Oral Examination format. However, in response to safety requirements recommended by the CDC due to COVID-19, an alternative testing option for the Clinical Examination was identified and announced in July 2020. The July 2020 Clinical Examination was cancelled, with examinees having the opportunity to reschedule to a future examination.

Beginning with the November 2020 Clinical Examination and for 2021 Clinical Exams scheduled in February, and November, the examinations will take place at Scantron Testing Centers Worldwide. Travel to St. Louis will no longer be required. The examination will continue to be administered in a scenario-based format with the same exam components and testing criteria. The validity of the exam will be maintained with changes only made to accommodate how answers are submitted. Exams will continue to be scored by multiple ABO examiners to ensure accuracy and consistency for each exam section.

To-date, all future examinations are full with wait-lists, with the exception of the November 2021 date which is currently open. Complete details regarding the Clinical Examination, study materials and how to prepare can be found on the ABO website.

Certification Renewal: Certification renewal is an important component of the board certification process, requiring ongoing proficiency in orthodontics and a commitment to life-long learning. In order to maintain an active board certification status, certification renewal is required every 10 years. Individuals may register for this exam up to two years prior to their expiration date. Please view this Motion Graphic Video created to outline the certification renewal process. Additional details and requirements for completing this examination are located on the ABO website.

Written Examination Update: The ABO Written Examination was administered to 409 examinees throughout the United States and Canada on June 5 and 6, 2020. The reliability of the exam was 87% with a 99% pass rate.

Due to COVID-19 restrictions, the original April 7, 2020 testing date was rescheduled and the exam format conducted through a live, online-proctored test, administered through Scantron/Examity. This change allowed examinees to complete the exam from their personal computer with strict security measures in place.

Registration is now open for the next Written Examination scheduled on April 6, 2021 at Scantron Testing Centers throughout the United States and Canada. Examination eligibility requirements and exam resources can be found on the ABO website. An important reminder that once the Written Examination is successfully completed, it never expires and does not need to be retaken.

The College:

Due to COVID-19, the College cancelled in-person prep courses for the ABO Scenario-based Clinical Exams. Virtual presentations are being considered with the next in-person prep course being offered during the 2021 AAO Annual Session in Boston, MA, pending COVID-19 restrictions. The ABO and College continue to collaborate to ensure all CODA accredited orthodontic programs in the United States and Canada have at least one assigned volunteer advocate to promote board certification.

GORP: GORP 2020 was cancelled due to COVID-19. Plans are underway for ABO's participation during the 2021 event.

Orthodontics World Federation of Orthodontics: ABO directors were invited to present at the 9th International Orthodontic Congress 2020 meeting, originally scheduled in Yokohama, Japan, however, the physical meeting was cancelled and held virtually. In response, the ABO directors participated in the virtual meeting and presented information on board certification. Additionally, the ABO directors submitted an article for inclusion in the Journal of the World Federation of Orthodontics, titled "Introduction to the American Board of Orthodontics Scenario-based Clinical Examination".

Educational Update:

The ABO continues to develop study materials to assist in preparing for the Scenario-based Clinical Examination which include a study guide, sample cases, and videos. Additionally, the ABO is working closely with examiners and orthodontic program educators requesting their feedback and assistance with the new exam format and item writing process.

ABO advocates continue to be appointed for each orthodontic program as a resource to residents interested in additional information on board certification. To add value to board certified orthodontists, the ABO is proud to introduce an orthodontic specialty video on the importance of using a specialist. This professionally created video was developed specifically for board certified orthodontists to feature in lobby or patient waiting areas, on websites and social channels and during patient consultations. The ABO continues to offer online educational materials to allow board certified orthodontists to speak in a unified voice to include an Educational Toolkit, Brand Standards Guide, sample website wording, press release, pathway graphic, window clings, and consumer brochure. Board certified orthodontists also have access to a personal, online dashboard, where enhanced software allows for improved functionality on the ABO website to include, an orthodontist locator with the ability to list multiple offices, user-specific dashboard notifications, print complimentary verification letter and track personal CE credit hours.

The ABO's April 2020 Educators Symposium, "The Change is Here-Are you on Board?" honoring Dr. Katherine Vig, was cancelled due to COVID-19. In lieu of the physical meeting in St. Louis, a PowerPoint presentation with important examination information and updates was distributed to Department Chairs and Program Directors of CODA accredited orthodontic programs in the United States and Canada. The ABO is planning to hold the Educators symposium in the fall of 2021.

Complimentary ABO measuring gauges were distributed to first year residents at requesting CODA accredited orthodontic programs.

In preparation for the AAO's 2021 Annual Session, the ABO plans to again host an Educator/Advocate Workshop as well as an ABO Open House/Info Session to share updates, answer questions and provide educational information on the Written and Clinical Examinations. In addition, the ABO will have an informational booth located in the Convention Center to provide information on the board certification process.

ABO Award Recognition:

Due to the cancellation of the 2020 AAO Annual Session meeting, the award ceremonies honoring the 2020 recipients could not take place. Therefore, these individuals will be recognized during the 2021 Annual Session in Boston, MA during a newly established ABO Awards Night. No additional award recipients will be identified for 2021.

The following 2020 ABO award recipients who will be recognized in 2021 include:

Albert H. Ketcham Memorial Award:

Dr. Rolf G. Behrents

Dale B. Wade Award of Excellence in Orthodontics:

Dr. Carla Evans

Earl E. and Wilma S. Shepard Distinguished Service Award:

Dr. Perry Opin

O.B. Vaughan Special Recognition Award:

Dr. John Kanyusik

Please visit the ABO website for information on all award honorees.

ABO ANNOUNCES NEWLY CERTIFIED/RECERTIFIED ORTHODONTISTS

The American Board of Orthodontics (ABO) certified or recertified 364 orthodontists following their participation in the ABO Scenario-Based Clinical Examination in November, 2020. The Clinical Examination is the second of a two-part certification process that also includes prior completion of the Written Examination. ABO Board Certification is a voluntary credential that represents an orthodontist's personal and public commitment to the standards of specialty practice and lifelong learning.

" Congratulations to all our newly certified and recertified orthodontists."

New ABO certified orthodontists

Michelle Allar
Mikhail Arkhipov
Emmanouil Emmanouil
Joseph Erickson
Won Suk Heo
Diane Johnson
Paige Pfeffer
Jennifer Russell
Robert Schudy
Samuel Titus

ABO Recertified orthodontists

Thomas Ahman	Michael Paulus
Riyad Al- Qawasmi	Linda Powers
Alexander Cassinelli	Charles Reed
Brandon Cook	Mark Rosenthal
Douglas Ford	Andrew Wade
Thomas Forrest	Denis Ward
James Gill	Samuel Wise
Lana Helms	Chad Webb
Samuel King	John Zang- Bodis
Nawaf Masri	Randa Zarka

ABO Directors 2020-2021:

The ABO Directors for the 2020-2021 year are as follows:

Dr. Valmy Kulbersh, President, representing the Great Lakes Association of Orthodontists
Dr. David Sabott, President-Elect, representing the Rocky Mountain Society of Orthodontists
Dr. Patrick Foley, Secretary/Treasurer, representing the Midwestern Society of Orthodontists
Dr. Timothy Trulove, Director, representing the Southern Association of Orthodontists
Dr. Jae H. 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. Nicholas Barone, Immediate Past President, representing the Northeastern Society of Orthodontists.

The AAO House of Delegates confirmed Dr. Emile Rossouw as the new ABO Director, representing the Northeastern Society of Orthodontists.

Congratulations to Dr. Valmy Kulbersh who serves as the first female ABO President.

Parting remarks

As I depart the Great Lakes Association of Orthodontists, I want to thank the leadership, staff and members of the GLAO for affording me the opportunity to serve the Association, in many capacities, for twenty-four years. These times were some of the most rewarding years of my professional life. The personal demeanor and professionalism of the directors and staff throughout my tenure, were extraordinary. They made me proud to be a member of the team. On a personal level, the many friendships that I forged, will be treasure forever. I depart the GLAO with the sense of being able to contribute to our orthodontic specialty. It was an honor which gave me professional and personal fulfillment and satisfaction. Thank you all for this wonderful opportunity. It was a pleasure to serve.

Valmy Pangrazio-Kulbersh
GLAO, ABO Director
President, American Board of Orthodontics