

ABE

The examination process

The first exam is a written test of the candidate's knowledge in a variety of basic and applied sciences. The test questions are drawn from a pool of questions prepared by expert endodontic educators to test the candidate's understanding in a broad range of fields, including anatomy, biochemistry, pathology, immunology, microbiology, pharmacology, radiology, statistics, clinical endodontics, and related disciplines.

After successfully passing the written exam, the candidate submits documentation of a variety of cases from his/her own practice of endodontics. The cases must be diverse and complex enough to demonstrate exceptional knowledge, skills, and expertise in the full scope of the field of endodontics.

When the cases are accepted, the candidate continues the process by sitting for an oral exam. In the oral exam, a team of experts question the candidate about a variety of endodontic diagnosis and treatment situations. Throughout extensive interviews, the candidate must demonstrate a high level of skill in problem solving, decision making, analysis, creativity, and evaluation.

When the candidate has successfully completed all three phases of the examination process, the American Board of Endodontics pronounces the candidate officially board certified and awards him/her ABE Diplomate status.



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A Patient Information on Board Certification B E

American Board of Endodontics

What it means to be a Diplomate

Your endodontist is a certified Diplomate of the American Board of Endodontics (ABE). By taking the initiative to achieve Diplomate status, your endodontist has gone beyond the endodontic specialty education and licensing requirements of the American Dental Association and your state board of dentistry. S/he has taken an examination administered by a panel of experts and has demonstrated an exemplary level of knowledge, understanding, and clinical expertise in endodontics.



The American Board of Endodontics

Founded in 1964, the American Board of Endodontics is the only certifying board in the dental specialty of endodontics recognized by the American Dental Association and the American Association of Endodontists. ABE Diplomate status is awarded to qualified candidates who have demonstrated diagnostic skill, clinical proficiency, and professional judgment of a level that ensures the highest quality of care for patients.

Benefits for the patient

Your endodontist volunteered to spend a great amount of time and effort preparing for and completing the certification process. By achieving Diplomate status, your endodontist has shown great inner motivation and exceptional commitment to continuing professional growth. A board-certified endodontist understands the importance of

- ◆ Achieving the highest level of knowledge and skill possible;
- ◆ Continually pursuing new knowledge and experience;
- ◆ Fully understanding and applying new research and advances in the practice of endodontics; and
- ◆ Ensuring the highest possible quality of care for you, the patient.

Requirements for Certification

Successful candidates for board certification have

- ◆ Shown high moral and ethical standing;
- ◆ Studied and practiced endodontics for at least four years;
- ◆ Passed an extensive written exam covering the basic knowledge required for the practice of endodontics;
- ◆ Submitted a collection of treatment cases demonstrating a range of knowledge and experience in the field of endodontics;
- ◆ Successfully completed an oral exam given by experts in endodontics; and
- ◆ Demonstrated the perseverance to complete the examination process, which generally takes from five to nine years.

AMERICAN BOARD OF ENDODONTICS