DANB welcomes first NELDA certifications

For Joel Caradonna, NELDA, the first dental assistant to earn DANB’s National Entry Level Dental Assistant (NELDA) certification, pursuing a career in dental assisting was extremely personal. “I would have to say the biggest contributing factor to my pursuing a dental career would be the condition of my teeth,” he says. “My parents tried very hard to put food on our table, but we didn’t have a lot of money to go to regular dental appointments. Hard times build character, but they didn’t do much for my teeth.”

Caradonna learned the value of oral health through his own experiences and brought that knowledge and passion to his professional development, including earning NELDA certification. NELDA certification is intended for entry-level dental assistants who do not yet qualify for DANB’s Certified Dental Assistant (CDA) certification, providing them a jump-start on their careers in dental assisting. NELDA certification is an opportunity to advance their education and improve their chances of admission to dental schools.

In addition to traditional classroom lecture and clinical hours, the program includes unique elements such as with DANB and the DALE Foundation, the official DANB affiliate. The goal of the post-baccalaureate program is to provide students who are interested in studying dentistry an opportunity to advance their education and improve their admission application for dental school.

The program began in June 2015 and students will finish the program in May 2016. After successfully completing the program, students who meet the admission requirements will be admitted to Temple University’s Doctor of Dental Medicine program.

“Exams and Certifications” section of DANB’s website

DANB and the DALE Foundation partner with Temple University

DANB has partnered with Temple University’s Maurice H. Kornberg School of Dentistry on a first-of-its-kind post-baccalaureate program for aspiring dental assistants. The program includes an innovative combination of dental assisting training and practice, as well as advanced translational science courses.

During this program, the Kornberg School of Dentistry collaborated with Harcum College’s dental assisting faculty in developing the dental assisting curriculum, as well as with DANB and the DALE Foundation, the official DANB affiliate. The goal of the post-baccalaureate program is to provide students who are interested in studying dentistry an opportunity to advance their education and improve their admission application for dental school.

The program began in June 2015 and students will finish the program in May 2016. After successfully completing the program, students who meet the admission requirements will be admitted to Temple University’s Doctor of Dental Medicine program.

“We accepted 40 students in this inaugural class, which exceeded our admissions goals,” says Jo Ann Allen Nyquist, B.S.D.H., M.A., Ed.S., Associate Dean for Student Affairs and director of the program. “Our hope is that students are not only competitive when seeking admission into dental school, but also well prepared for clinical dental education through the new curriculum elements offered.”

In addition to traditional classroom lecture and clinical hours, the program includes unique elements offered by DANB and the DALE Foundation. All students will have access to the DALE Foundation’s review courses and study aids, which are designed to help them prepare for DANB’s Radiation Health and Safety (RHS); Infection Control (ICE); and Anatomy, Morphology and Physiology (AMP) exams — which make up the exam components of DANB’s National Entry Level Dental Assistant (NELDA) certification program. Students must pass the DANB exams in order to be allowed to assist the dental students on the clinical floor.

“We are excited to work with Temple University to provide DALE Foundation resources and DANB exams to the students enrolled in this new post-baccalaureate program,” says Cindy Durley, M.Ed., MBA, Executive Director of DANB and the DALE Foundation. “Because the DALE Foundation’s materials are available online, students can access them outside the classroom to supplement the in-person lectures and labs. Passing these three DANB exams demonstrates baseline knowledge of concepts in key subjects that provide the foundation for dental school curriculum and patient safety.”

To date, all of the students have passed the DANB exams and may be eligible to earn DANB’s NELDA certifications. For more information, visit the DANB website at www.danb.org.

From social media to Certified Press, survey shows DANB individuals are connected

In late 2014, DANB certificants and DALE Foundation learners participated in a survey to share communication preferences and opinions. The results are in, and it’s clear just how connected and engaged this community is: DANB certificants and DALE Foundation learners are invested in their careers and stay informed on industry news.

Being viewed as a professional is important to me. When asked to describe their career and lifestyle habits, DANB communication survey found that the majority of respondents agreed. Being viewed as a professional and staying up-to-date with dental industry news is important. Additionally, the survey found that certificants and DALE Foundation learners are incredibly connected — over 75 percent of respondents use social networking sites, and over one-third use smartphones to read news online.

Certified Press is a valued resource. The communication survey also asked those surveyed about their thoughts on Certified Press. Respondents answered positively about the newsletter and cited its usefulness as a way to receive dental industry news. 80 percent of respondents felt that Certified Press has the right amount of information, and nearly half cited it as their main source for industry updates.

You answered, we listened. In addition to asking about the current content in Certified Press, the communications survey also inquired about what types of articles respondents would like to see more of in future issues. Surveyed certificants reported the most interest in topics such as updates to state requirements for dental assisting, dental assistant career news, continuing dental education requirements, DANB recertification requirements, and general dental industry news. Look forward to more Certified Press articles that address these topics and more.

Thank you to the respondents who took the time to provide their insights and feedback!

DANB’s Stars of Summer

This summer, we asked you to share your proudest career moments, as well as what advice you might give to other assistants trying to take their careers to the next level. Turn to page 3 to see photos of all our Stars of Summer and a sample of the responses — then follow us on Facebook to read more about the Stars of Summer and the great work dental assistants do every day.
Congratulations to Emeritus Certificat

Frank A. Maggio, D.D.S.
Chair, DANB Board of Directors

Fall is a season of transitions, and at DANB and the DALE Association Foundation, we’re always evolving and growing. This issue of Certified Press highlights some of our exciting new endeavors, including a partnership with Temple University’s Kornberg School of Dentistry on a first-of-its-kind post-baccalaureate program for aspiring dental students. See page 1 for more on this exciting new collaboration.

This issue also recognizes some of the stand-out newcomers in the dental community, including Joel Caradonna, the first dental assistant to earn DANB’s National Entry Level Dental Assistant (NELDA) certification. See the story on page 1.

On page 6, we welcome the DANB Board of Director’s new Certificant-at-Large Sandra Garcia, CDA, and thank her predecessor Carol Oeder, CDA, COA, CPFDA, CRFDA, CDPMA, FADAA, LPN, for her dedicated service. Additionally, the story on page 7 describes how the DALE Foundation is ushering in an era of growth with its call for nominations for its Board of Trustees, as well as the details about that search.

There are many other noteworthy individuals featured in this issue. Turn to the DALE Foundation News section on page 7 to learn about the three 2015 Liz Koch Memorial Scholarship winners. And on page 6, we congratulate DANB and the DALE Foundation Executive Director Cindy Durley, M.Ed., MBA, on being named one of the 2015 Top Women in Dentistry by Dental Products Report.

I hope you enjoy this issue of Certified Press and have a wonderful start to your fall season.

Sincerely,

Note: DANB and the DALE Foundation staff congratulate Dr. Maggio on recently being elected as Vice President of Development for the American Dental Association Foundation.

DANB’s compilation of state dental assisting requirements — on its website and in its state publications — is one of the most comprehensive resources available on this topic. The updates below highlight recent state legislative and regulatory changes that are of interest to stakeholders of DANB and the DALE Foundation.

Alabama
The Alabama legislature passed a law adding infection with hepatitis C virus (HCV) to the list of diseases that infected healthcare workers, including dental assistants, must report to the State Board of Health before performing invasive procedures.

Arizona
In the 2015 legislative session, the Arizona legislature passed SB 1282, authorizing dental assistants who meet certain education and testing requirements to perform specified expanded functions, including placement, contouring and finishing of direct restorations or the placement and cementation of prefabricated crowns following the preparation of the tooth by a licensed dentist (restorative materials used shall be determined by the dentist). An expanded function dental assistant may place interim therapeutic restorations under the general supervision and direction of a licensed dentist following a consultation conducted through teledentistry. An expanded function dental assistant may apply sealants and fluoride varnish under the general supervision and direction of a licensed dentist.

Iowa
In July 2015, the Iowa Dental Board enacted new rules governing the practice of dental assisting, which created three levels of dental assisting expanded functions providers — basic expanded function provider, Certified Level 1 provider, and Certified Level 2 provider — and defined delegable functions for each level, including restorative functions for the highest of the three levels. Expanded function procedures must be delegated by and performed under the direct supervision of an Iowa licensed dentist.

Most of the Level 1 functions were already allowed under previous rules to be performed by RDAs with expanded functions training, including taking occlusal registrations; placement and removal of gingival retraction; fabrication and removal of provisional restorations; placing cavity liners and bases, desensitization; ants and fluoride varnish under the general supervision of a licensed dentist.

Level 2 functions, which are new additions to the scope of practice of certified expanded function providers, are entirely within the enamel with hand instruments or a slow-speed handpiece; adapt and cement stainless steel crowns; and place, contour, and adjust class I and class V supragingival composite restorations where the margins are entirely within the enamel with hand instruments or a slow-speed handpiece. To obtain a restorative functions permit, a Registered Dental Assistant must do the following:

HTexas
New rules creating anesthesia assisting and restorative functions permits became effective April 1, 2015. The new rules allow Registered Dental Assistants in North Dakota who hold the restorative functions permit to place, carve, and adjust class I and class V supragingival amalgam or glass ionomer restorations with hand instruments or a slow-speed handpiece, adapt and cement stainless steel crowns; and place, contour, and adjust class I and class V supragingival composite restorations where the margins are entirely within the enamel with hand instruments or a slow-speed handpiece. To obtain a restorative functions permit, a Registered Dental Assistant must have completed:

Texas continues on p. 3

For more information on Emeritus status, see DANB’s Recertification Requirements on page 4.
DANB’s Stars of Summer

DANB thinks that dental assistants should get recognition all year! To highlight the great work certification do all year round, we spent the summer months asking you to share your proudest career moments, as well as what advice you might give to other dental assistants trying to take their careers to the next level.

We received fantastic responses and featured some of them on the DANB Facebook page during the month of August. See a sample of what we heard below, and follow us on Facebook to read more about the Stars of Summer and the great work dental assistants do every day.

I am proud of all the extra responsibilities that I have as a CDA certificant. The dentist that I work for has confidence in my capabilities, and entrusts me to perform various tasks for our patients so that the office runs more efficiently. I thoroughly enjoy interacting with our patients and feel great when they request to have me assist the dentist for their procedures! — Jenifer Williams, CDA

In my career, I am proud to have obtained all my credentials and have the ability to utilize my skills. Every morning I can wake up proud to go to work. — Chanda Vaughn, CDA

Having DANB certification behind your name transforms you from an ordinary dental assistant to an extraordinary dental assistant! DANB and tools from the DALE Foundation can help any team member excel their career further than you ever thought possible! — Amelia Schlichting, CDA

DANB’s RHS Review

The law designating the new term “registered dental assistant” in its regulations, the new law defines this higher level in statute and uses the new term “registered dental assistant.” The law also includes a definition for the previously undefined term “expanded functions.” The South Dakota State Board of Dentistry has updated its rules to reflect these changes.

SkillsUSA competition showcases dental assisting skills

DANB certificants’ skills are put to the test on a daily basis — dental assisting requires dexterity, perceptiveness and thinking ahead. Dental assisting students who competed in the SkillsUSA Championships competition got a unique, early opportunity to experience that aspect of the job, as their skills in such areas as chairside assisting, preparation of dental materials, and infection control were put to the test and evaluated by judges.

At the SkillsUSA Championships, top career and technical students from across the country come together to compete in their fields. After competing in regional competitions throughout this year, the top performing students traveled to Louisville, Kentucky, for the national championship in June. With nearly 100 competitive events and 6,000 competitors, the SkillsUSA Championships is a major event for these students, including those studying dental assisting, and presents unique opportunities for networking, confidence-building and growth.

National SkillsUSA Championships

Dental Assisting Medal winners celebrate at the National SkillsUSA Championships

“SkillsUSA provides the right atmosphere to promote student success,” says Jennifer Ponson, CDA, COA, who serves on the SkillsUSA Executive Steering Committee and works as the Student and Program Outreach Coordinator at participating school Pensacola State College. “These students work hard to be the best in their field and take pride in their profession.”

This year’s national dental assisting winners in the college division were Logan Brown, gold; Jaime Wells, silver; and Caillian Slater, bronze. High school division winners were Kirsten “Dani” Span-gler, gold, Gabrielle Brianna Cory, silver, and Alison Gilbreth, bronze.

“The SkillsUSA dental assisting students concentrate on more than dental assisting skills,” says Ponson. “They are polished professionals with a clean resume, and they step above the average by projecting a positive attitude and delivery of proper communication skills.”

Congratulations to the winners, and to all who competed!

State of the States

continued from p. 2

adjust the rate of IV fluids beyond the keep open rate, and adjust an electronic device to provide medications, such as an infusion pump.

Oklahoma

A new law defining requirements for dental assistants and oral maxillofacial surgery assistants became effective July 1, 2015. The law recognizes DANB’s CDA certification as meeting requirements for a corneal transplant permit; creates a number of standing committees of the Oklahoma Board of Dentistry; establishes five expanded duty permits for dental assistants — radiation safety, coronal polishing and topical fluoride, sealants, assisting in the administration of nitrous oxide, and assisting a dentist who holds a parenteral or pediatric sedation permit; establishes requirements for an oral maxillofacial surgery assistant permit, including CE; and updates other sections of the state dental act to fully implement the above, as appropriate.

Oregon

In June 2015, the Oregon Board of Dentistry voted to approve the DALE Foundation’s DANB RHS Review course as meeting Oregon course requirements to earn the Oregon Radiologic Proficiency Certificate.

South Dakota

HB1045, which modifies a number of definitions related to dental assisting, was signed into law in February 2015. The law defines the new term “registered dental assistant” as “a person registered as a registered dental assistant pursuant to this chapter who is authorized to perform expanded functions under the direct supervision of a dentist as authorized by this chapter.” Although the South Dakota State Board of Dentistry already recognized a higher level of dental assistant known as “Advanced Dental Assistant” in its regulations, the new law defines this higher level in statute and uses the new term “registered dental assistant.” The law also includes a definition for the previously undefined term “expanded functions.” The South Dakota State Board of Dentistry has updated its rules to reflect these changes.

Texas

In the 2015 legislative session, Texas passed a bill clarifying that a coronal polishing course may be taken through a dental school, dental hygiene school, or dental assisting program accredited by CODA. Previous statutory language specified that the course must be taken through a CODA-accredited dental assisting program. The new law became effective Sept. 1, 2015.

Washington

In April 2015, Washington’s governor signed SB 5606, which clarified that dental assistants may take impressions as a delegated duty pursuant to rules adopted by the Dental Quality Assurance Commission (DQAC). Current DQAC rules specify that den-
Renewing DANB Certification

DANB certification is valid for one year, and must be renewed annually. In order to renew, DANB certifications must complete at least 12 Continuing Dental Education (CDE) credits, maintain DANB-accepted, hands-on CPR, BLS or ACLS certification; answer Background Information Questions; and submit a renewal fee to DANB. If you provided DANB with an email address, you will receive a renewal notice sent by email approximately nine weeks prior to certification expiration. A notice will be mailed approximately seven weeks prior to expiration if you have not reviewed by that time. Certificants must attest that CDE and CPR requirements have been met, and must return the statement with the appropriate renewal fee to DANB or renew online at www.danb.org.

If the individual does not renew within three months of the expiration date, the certificant is no longer certified and cannot use the NELDA, CDA, COA, CPFDA, CRFDA, COMSA, or CDMPA certification mark. To protect against misuse of DANB certifications, DANB sends reports of lapsed DANB certifications to regulatory agencies on a regular basis.

Requirements/Audit Procedures

DANB’s 12 CDE credit annual minimum is consistent with states that have mandatory CDE requirements for dental assistants. The CDE credit requirement emphasizes the importance of lifelong professional learning and promotes the continued competence of DANB certificants.

Certificants are randomly selected for verification (audit) of their CDE credits and CPR. Those selected for audit will be considered during the time that they are providing proof of their continuing education. DANB-accepted, hands-on CPR, BLS or ACLS must be maintained to hold DANB certification.

Specific instructions will be sent to those audited. Upon successful completion of the audit, certification will be in-stated for the full year. Proof of CDE should be retained for two years, in case of subsequent audit.

DO NOT SEND DOCUMENTATION UNLESS REQUESTED: DANB WILL NOT RETURN OR RETAIN MATERIALS.

Use of DANB Certification Marks

DANB certificants may use a DANB certification mark (i.e., NELDA, CDA, COA, CRFDA, CPFDA, CDPMA, COMSA) after their names on a resume, business card, website, in a book or publication, and in other print and electronic media. A certificant may also display the mark on a name tag or uniform worn during the providing or promoting of certified services, and on a wall plaque present at the place where he/she renders or promotes the certiﬁed services. If a DANB certificant earned DANB certification in the past but has not maintained certiﬁcation, he/she may not use the DANB mark. Misuse of any DANB certiﬁcation mark is grounds for discipline under DANB’s Disciplineary Policy & Procedures (contact DANB for a copy).

CPR, BLS or ACLS Requirement

Certificants must maintain DANB-accepted, hands-on CPR, BLS or ACLS for annual renewal of DANB certiﬁcation. DANB certification, CPR, BLS and ACLS from the providers below. Course must be for CPR, and a hands-on exam must be taken. CPR, BLS or ACLS from other providers or courses will not be accepted. CPR, BLS or ACLS does not count toward the required number of CDE credits.

DANB-Accepted, Hands-on CPR, BLS and ACLS Providers

- American Environmental Health and Safety
- American Emergency Response
- American Red Cross (card or certiﬁcate)
- CDA and CPR
- Emergency Medical Training Associates
- Emergency University*
- EMS Safety Services
- Hands-on CPR
- Military Training Network
- National Safety Council (Green Cross)
- ProCPR®
- Saudi Heart Association

*All courses include the hands-on exam, so check with the provider before taking the course to be sure it will be accepted by DANB.

DANB Renewal Sample Timeline

This sample timeline illustrates the DANB certification renewal process.

Nine weeks prior to certification expiration
A renewal notice is emailed.

Seven weeks prior to certification expiration
A renewal notice is mailed.

Expiration certification date
Signed statement and fee are due by this date or A past due renewal notice is mailed and a late fee is assessed.

Six weeks after certification expiration
A renewal notice is mailed.

Eight weeks after certification expiration
A reminder notice is mailed.

12 weeks after certification expiration
The grace period ends. If the fees and signed statement are not received, the individual is no longer DANB certiﬁed. Call 1-800-367-3262 for reinstatement options.

Emeritus Status

DANB certificants (holding CDA, COA, CPFDA, CRFDA, COMSA or CDMPA certification) may apply for Emeritus status if they have maintained continuous current certification for four (4) of the ﬁve (5) years immediately preceding application for at least one certiﬁcation and have:

- Been totally and permanently disabled
g
- Retired from the ﬁeld of dentistry/dental assisting
- Retired from the age of 60 years or older
g
- Retired from the ﬁeld of dentistry/dental assisting
- with 35 years of continuous (without any breaks) DANB certification.

Retirement

The certificant must submit an emeritus application along with two (2) letters stating that he/she has retired and the date of retirement:

- One from the certificant requesting Emeritus status and signed by the certificant
- One from the certificant’s employer on letterhead and signed by the employer (or the certificant can provide proof of receiving Social Security beneﬁts).

Disability

The certificant must submit an emeritus application along with two (2) letters stating that he/she is no longer working in the dental ﬁeld due to disability:

- One from the certificant requesting Emeritus status and signed by the certificant
- One from the certificant’s physician on his/her ofﬁce letterhead stating that the certificant is physically and permanently unable to perform any duties required.

If a certificant holds more than one certiﬁcation, the certificant will earn Emeritus status for all currently held certifications as long as the certiﬁcant maintained continuous current certiﬁcation for at least one of the certiﬁcations for four (4) of the ﬁve (5) years immediately preceding application.

Release of Information

I understand DANB certificants may use by anyone, by mail or on DANB’s website regarding whether I hold any DANB certifications, including National Entry Level Dental Assistants, DANB-Certified Dental Assistants, Certified Previous Certifications, CDA/CDA® (inclusive of forefather/father/profession), Certified Dental Assistants (CDPMA), Certified Preventive Dental Assistants (CPFDA), Certified Dental Practice Management Administrators (CDPMA), or Certified Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery Assistants (COMSA) certifications: any DANB certificants of knowledge-based competency, including Radiation Health and Safety (RHS), Infection Control (IC), Coronal Polishing (CPO), Sealants (SE), Topical Anesthetic (TA), Tooth Sensitivities (TS), Anatomy, Microbiology and Physiology (AMP), Impressions (IM), Tissue and Ossification (TO) and Isolation (IS), and any state-specific certiﬁcates administered by DANB on behalf of a state regulatory agency (i.e., Arizona Radiologic Proﬁciency Certiﬁcate, Arizona Radiologic Proﬁciency Certiﬁcate). In the certiﬁcation process, all certiﬁcants must attest that CDE and CPR requirements have been met, and must return the statement with the appropriate renewal fee to DANB or renew online at www.danb.org.

If I do not wish to have my name, address and any other personal identifying information omitted from release. I understand that my name, credentials held [issued by DANB as described above] and current DANB certiﬁcation status will be displayed for everyone; opt-out of display is not possible. I understand that the Request for Credential Veriﬁcation form be completed before providing an ofﬁcial veriﬁcation letter to DANB certificants or employers. I understand that by providing my email address to DANB, I am con- senting to receive email messages from DANB and its afﬁliates related to its products and services or news affecting the dental assisting profession. I understand that DANB agrees not to provide my email address to any third party without my consent, and that I can request removal from DANB’s email distribution list by following the directions contained in the Privacy Policy section of DANB’s Terms and Conditions of Use of DANB.org located at http://www.danb.org/termsandconditions.asp.
Continuing Dental Education (CDE)

To renew DANB certification, DANB certificants must earn the required CDE credits; maintain DANB-accepted, hands-on CPR, BLS or ACLS; and pay the renewal fee. Download DANB’s Recertification Requirements from www.danb.org for complete requirements and the list of DANB-accepted CPR providers.

Category Maximums for CDE Credits

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<th>CDE Category</th>
<th>CDA</th>
<th>COA</th>
<th>CPFDA</th>
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Categories for CDE Credits

**CATEGORY 1: CLINICAL PRACTICE**
CDE earned in this category must be directly related to the clinical practice of dentistry or dental assisting. This category includes but is not limited to:
1. Attendance at or participation in clinical professional development lectures, courses (including online and home study courses) and/or table clinics that are directly related to clinical knowledge and chairside duties: dental materials, four-handed dentistry, infection control, radiology, expanded functions, behavior management (e.g., children, patients with learning disabilities), communication, non-human dentistry (i.e., canine and feline dentistry) and others.

**Proof:** Certificate of completion, letter of attendance/completion on sponsor letterhead or including sponsoring organization name and contact information, meeting badge/program page (table clinics or free on-site lecture), CDE printout from meeting or similar documentation. All documentation must be official and must include the certificant’s name, the title of the course, the date the course was completed and the number of the hours or credits received.

**Credits:** One (1) CDE credit for each clock hour that you attend/participate in a session.

2. Viewing video from dental meeting seminars on clinical topics. Please note: Option 2 will be discontinued as of 1/1/16.

**Proof:** A 250-word essay highlighting the meeting, course name and presenter.

**Credits:** Two (2) CDE credits for each 250-word video summary submitted.

3. Reading articles or textbooks on clinical topics. Please note: Unless completed as an author or editor, this option will be discontinued as of 1/1/16.

**Proof:** A 250-word article or textbook summary, including the name of the article, author and source. Educators may submit a copy of a completed publisher’s evaluation form for any materials evaluated for adoption.

**Credits:** Two (2) CDE credits for each 250-word article/textbook summary submitted.


**Proof:** Transcript or grade report, or letter from instructor on school or organization letterhead, verifying course completion.

**Credits:** For each scientific-oriented college credit/unit successfully completed:
- Three (3) college credits/units = twelve (12) CDE credits
- Two (2) college credits/units = eight (8) CDE credits
- One (1) college credit/unit = four (4) CDE credits

**CATEGORY 2: DENTAL OFFICE MANAGEMENT**
CDE earned in this category must be directly related to allowable duties for dental assistants. This category includes but is not limited to:
1. Attendance at or participation in dental office management lectures, courses (including online and home study courses) and/or table clinics that are directly related to dental practice management: dental practice acts, practice management, time management, risk management, stress management, HIPAA, patient motivation (e.g., keeping appointments) and staff motivation (e.g., leadership, goal setting), computer courses (e.g., college courses, software training), insurance, claims/billing, foreign language studies, American Sign Language, human resources, marketing (e.g., yourself, your office) and communication.

**Proof:** Certificate of completion, letter of attendance/completion on sponsor letterhead or including sponsoring organization name and contact information, meeting badge/program page (table clinics or free on-site lecture), CDE printout from meeting or similar documentation. The documentation must be official and must include the certificant’s name, the title of the course, the date the course was completed and the number of hours or credits received.

**Credits:** One (1) CDE credit for each clock hour that you attend and/or participate in a session.

2. Viewing video from dental meeting seminars on dental office management topics. Please note: Option 2 will be discontinued as of 1/1/16.

**Proof:** A 250-word essay highlighting the meeting, course name and presenter.

**Credits:** Two (2) CDE credits for each 250-word video summary.

3. Read articles or textbooks on dental office management. Please note: Unless completed as an author or editor, this option will be discontinued as of 1/1/16.

**Proof:** A 250-word article or textbook summary, including the name of the article, author and source. Educators may submit a copy of a completed publisher’s evaluation form for any materials evaluated for adoption.

**Credits:** Two (2) CDE credits for each 250-word article/textbook summary submitted.

**CATEGORY 3: DANB EXAMS AND OTHER DENTAL-RELATED EXAMS**
1. Successful completion of any DANB-administered exam, excluding the first time a certification is earned. These exams include any DANB national exam or any DANB state or agency-contracted exam. Certificants can earn twelve (12) CDE credits for successful completion of any DANB Professional Development Examination Program (PDEP) module.

**Proof:** Provide the name and date of the DANB exam you successfully completed.

**Credits:** For successful completion of a DANB-developed and DANB-administered exam of at least 100 questions and for any DANB PDEP module, you will earn twelve (12) CDE credits. For successful completion of a DANB-developed and DANB-administered exam consisting of fewer than 100 questions, you will earn six (6) CDE credits.

2. Successful completion of non-DANB-developed, dental-related, professionally proctored exams consisting of at least 100 questions.

**Proof:** Provide the certificate or exam results of the exam you completed, along with a description of the exam from the organization that delivers the exam (must include the date the exam was taken and/or scored).

**Credits:** You will earn hour-for-hour credit for the amount of time designated for the completion of the exam. If no time is specified, one hour will be allowed for every 100 questions.

**CATEGORY 4: VOLUNTEER SERVICE OR SCHOLARLY ACTIVITY**
Certificants may earn a maximum three (3) CDE credits by participating in dental-related community volunteer service or by providing CDE.

1. Examples of volunteer service include: international/national mission work, voluntary clinic work or dental health presentations to students or groups. Volunteer service also includes serving on a DANB Exam Committee. Community service does not include activities such as serving on a dental assisting program advisory committee or as an officer and/or committee chair for a national, state or local dental assisting organization.

**Proof:** Official certificate of completion or letter of attendance/participation or similar documentation on letterhead of the sponsoring service organization or including sponsoring organization contact information. DANB will verify participation of DANB Exam Committee members.

**Credits:** For each hour of participation in volunteer dental-related community service, you may earn one (1) CDE credit, for a maximum of three (3) CDE credits in this category.

2. Examples of scholarly activity include: teaching a professional course directly related to dentistry or dental assisting that is outside the certificant’s normal employment teaching responsibilities, presenting a CDE program that is outside the certificant’s normal employment teaching responsibilities, or authoring a published article in a recognized dental assisting journal.

**Proof:** Official certificate of completion or letter of attendance/participation or similar documentation on letterhead of the sponsoring service organization or including sponsoring organization contact information. For proof of a published article, submit a copy of the article including the name of the journal in which it was published, the article title and date of publication.

**Credits:** Three (3) CDE credits will be earned for scholarly activities.
DANB News and Updates

DANB Board of Directors elects new Certificant-at-Large

DANB is excited to announce that Sandra Garcia, CDA, RDA, has been elected as the new Certificant-at-Large on the DANB Board of Directors. In this role, Ms. Garcia will work with the Board to help chart DANB’s strategic direction and establish policies for DANB’s certification and recertification programs. She began her first three-year term in September 2015.

“I would like to offer DANB my enthusiasm, organizational skills and professional experience,” says Ms. Garcia. “I support the causes of the organization and hope to make a difference in the field of dental assisting.”

Ms. Garcia has over 18 years of clinical experience and has worked in a variety of dental specialties. Since 2011, she has served as the dental operations manager for Centromed, one of Texas’s largest nonprofit Federally Qualified Health Centers. She is responsible for management of operations for eight locations, overseeing their scheduling, payroll, personnel issues, clinical operations, patient satisfaction, and training programs, among other responsibilities.

Previously, Ms. Garcia spent several years as a chairside assistant and also worked with third-year dental students on four-handed dentistry at the University of Texas Health Science Center School of Dentistry. From 2006 to 2011, she was the dental assisting program director at the Academy of Health Care Professions in San Antonio, Texas. She also served in the U.S. Air Force as a dental assistant from 1996 to 2000.

Additionally, Ms. Garcia is a recipient of the Air Force Achievement Medal and most recently was named 2015 Employee of the Quarter in the management category at Centromed. She is an active member of the American Dental Assistants Association and the Hispanic Dental Association, and serves as a member of Concorde College’s Advisory Board for the Dental Assisting Program.

DANB Executive Director Cindy Durley named one of Top 25 Women in Dentistry

In July, Dental Products Report announced its 2015 list of the Top 25 Women in Dentistry, a list that honors women who have excelled in the dental field. DANB is proud to announce that this year’s list includes Executive Director Cindy Durley, in recognition of her work for both DANB and the DALE Foundation and how that work has impacted the dental profession.

Ms. Durley was selected for her work at DANB and the DALE Foundation, where she promotes the missions of both organizations — ultimately to increase public protection through certification and continuing education for dental auxiliaries.

In addition to her work within the dental community, Ms. Durley is active in numerous professional organizations. She has held leadership positions with the Institute for Credentialing Excellence and the National Commission for Certifying Agencies, and is currently active in various Institute for Credentialing Excellence committees. Ms. Durley also serves as the president of the American Association of Dental Administrators for 2015.

“It is an honor to be listed among such impressive and influential women,” Ms. Durley says. “This industry is full of women dedicated to advancing the dental profession at all levels. I’m proud to be a part of that passion and commitment.”

Ms. Durley was selected from a pool of nominees including dentists, dental team members, educators and dental industry leaders. Dental Products Report will feature a full profile of Ms. Durley and her fellow honorees in the October issue.

Changes to CDE requirements in 2016

To renew DANB certification, DANB certificants must earn the required continuing dental education (CDE) credits and maintain DANB-accepted, hands-on CPR, BLS or ACLS. Next year, DANB’s CDE requirements will include a specific infection control requirement.

Starting January 1, 2016, all certificants — whether they hold one or more DANB certifications — must earn a minimum of two CDE credits in infection control annually, in topics such as instrument sterilization and processing. This two-credit requirement is in addition to the annual training in infection control mandated by the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) for all oral health care professionals.

Certificants can earn these CDE credits a variety of ways, including attendance at, or participation in, clinical professional development lectures, authorship in papers or articles or textbooks on clinical topics, completing scientific-oriented college courses, or taking online and/or home study courses.

The DALE Foundation is one way to easily and affordably earn CDE credits in infection control. For example, the DALE Foundation’s DANB ICE Review offers 12 CDE hours in infection control. The Organization for Safety, Asepsis and Prevention (OSAP) is also an excellent source of education in infection control. Visit www.dalefoundation.org and www.osap.org to learn more.

See the Recertification Requirements section of Certified Press or visit www.danb.org to learn more about DANB’s certification renewal requirements. The updated 2016 DANB Recertification Requirements will be published later this year.

DANB thanks Carol Oeder for her service

After six years as Certificant-At-Large on DANB’s Board of Directors, Carol Oeder, CDA, COA, CPFDA, CRFDA, CDPMA, FADAA, LPN, is stepping down, since the final year of her final term has come to an end. Elected to the Board in 2009, Ms. Oeder served two three-year terms.

Ms. Oeder’s career in dental assisting started as a chairside assistant for a general dentist; she later went on to assist in pediatric dentistry and orthodontics. Currently, Ms. Oeder is a compliance specialist/interim auditor at Dental Associates, where she has been employed since 2001. Within this time, Ms. Oeder also spent two years with One Call Dental as a traveling dental assistant to various military bases throughout the United States, which included bases in Puerto Rico and Hawaii.

Prior to her employment with Dental Associates, Ms. Oeder worked at Goodwill Industries of Southeastern Wisconsin for 10 years as a dental assistant instructor, training individuals with a wide range of barriers to employment.

Ms. Oeder earned Fellowship in the American Dental Assistants Association (FADAA) in 2004 and is currently working toward her Mastership (MADAA). She is a graduate of the American Association of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons anesthesia assistants program and the Milwaukie Area Technical College practical nursing program.

DANB is thankful for Ms. Oeder’s service to the Board and welcomes Ms. Garcia to her new role.

Early notice: exam, renewal fee increases in 2016

As a reminder, DANB’s exam and renewal fees will increase slightly on Jan. 1, 2016. DANB has not raised exam fees since 2011, or renewal fees since 2012, and is proud of its success at holding these costs down during this time.

Certificants who are interested in earning additional DANB certifications may want to take the exams in 2015, before fees increase.

DANB’s renewal fee for one certification will increase by $5. To view a full list of exam fee increases, see the Fall 2014 issue of Certified Press or visit www.danb.org > About DANB > News & Events > Press Releases.

Temple University continued from p. 2

certification after they meet the work experience and other requirements.

“We have seen our students perform very effectively in their lab work, which we believe is a direct result of the additional materials provided by the DALE Foundation and DANB,” says Ms. Nyquist. “Even at this early stage, we believe the program is a success and plan to offer it again next year.”

Updates from DANB’s Annual Board of Directors meeting

DANB’s Board of Directors held its Annual Meeting in Chicago, Aug. 20-22, 2015. For more information about decisions made at DANB’s Board of Directors meeting, please download DANB’s Major Board Actions at www.danb.org.
The DALE Foundation News

Winners selected for the Liz Koch Memorial Scholarship

The DALE Foundation’s scholarship committee has selected the winners of the second annual Liz Koch Memorial Scholarship.

The DALE Foundation launched this scholarship in 2014 to honor Liz Koch and her many years of service and contributions in support of dental assistants, and her commitment to lifelong learning. It is intended to help oral healthcare professionals reach their professional development goals and support their mentorship activities.

The scholarship was open to all dental assistants, DANB certificates, dental office managers and other oral healthcare professionals. After receiving over 40 applications, the scholarship committee selected 16 finalists. From this group, the scholarship committee selected the following winners:

Guadalupe Charles, CDA, has been a dental assistant for over four years, and she already knows it is her calling. “I would like to give back to the community and help those who cannot afford dental care, care for me when I was younger,” she says. Charles grew up in Chile and is motivated to take advantage of all the opportunities available in the United States. She is currently enrolled in a dental assisting program and will use her scholarship toward DANB’s CDA certification. In her role as a dental assistant, she has worked her way up from trainee to trainer. “I share my knowledge with my fellow assistants, motivating them to be the best they can be,” she says. Charles plans to continue developing her skills and knowledge while making time to volunteer in the community.

Sherri Krohn discovered her passion for oral healthcare when she began her career in 1999. She worked as a chairside assistant and eventually transitioned to office management, where she has worked for the last five years. In that role, Krohn has helped coordinate the opening of two additional practices within her company, and has become active with the American Association of Dental Office Managers (AADOM). Krohn plans to apply for an AADOM Fellowship and hopes to be inducted next year. “I absolutely love what I do, love getting up and coming to work in the morning,” she says, “and I believe that we can never stop learning!”

Elizaheth Polak-Silva, CDA, has been impacting patients and her community as a dental assistant since she began studying at Tunxis Community College in Connecticut in 2011. After moving to the U.S. from Poland in 2004, Silva earned DANB Cerified Dental Assistant (CDA) certification in 2012 and has continued her education since then. She plans to apply the scholarship toward a bachelor’s degree program, and eventually attend dental school. In her work and studies, Silva embodies a commitment to lifelong learning. “I learn something new about dentistry with every patient I meet and every x-ray I take,” she says. “I strive to take every opportunity I get to learn something new.”

Congratulations to these 2015 Liz Koch Memorial Scholarship winners, and to the finalists!

2015 Liz Koch Memorial Scholarship Finalists:
- Teneara Anderson
- Jessica Douglas, CDA, COA
- Elizabeth Foss, CDA
- Toni Goerner, CDA
- Monica Mayes, CDA
- Kymberly McCrary, CDA
- Jenna McDermid, CDA
- Alyse Means, CDA

Scholarship winners (left to right) Guadalupe Charles, CDA, Sherri Krohn and Elizabeth Polak-Silva, CDA

Finalists (left to right) Teneara Anderson, Jenna McDermid and Alyse Means. Not pictured: Jessica Douglas, Elizabeth Foss, Toni Goerner, Monica Mayes, Kymberly McCrary, Nataliya Shuty, Calista Slomski, Stacey Stanton, Medge Webster and Brooke Whalen.

The DALE Foundation seeks nominees for Board of Trustees

The DALE Foundation is seeking nominations for the Board of Trustees with expertise in these particular areas:
- Chairside assisting
- Education (dental, hygiene, dental assisting)
- Employment (dental office manager, particularly with multi-site experience)
- Employer (dentist, large group practice)
- The Board will also consider individuals with background or experience in e-learning, financial reporting or accounting, fundraising, public health, and research.
- The DALE Foundation, the official DANB affiliate, benefits the public by providing quality continuing education to dental professionals and conducting sound research to promote oral health.

Please consider nominating yourself or another qualified individual for the DALE Foundation’s Board of Trustees. Complete nominations must be postmarked or received by email or fax by Oct. 19, 2015.

Nominations must include the following:
- Letter of interest from the individual being nominated (or self-nominated), highlighting experience and/or expertise in one or more of the areas outlined above
- Current resume/cumulative vitae
- A letter of recommendation from an employer, supervisor or co-worker, or from someone who has served with the nominee on a committee or board of a state or national oral healthcare organization
- Written response to interview questions (interview questions will be provided to all nominees who meet the Oct. 19, 2015, deadline; responses to interview questions will be due no later than Nov. 16, 2015)

Submit nominations and self-nominations to:
Marissa Filippo
Executive and Strategic Projects Manager
The DALE Foundation
444 N. Michigan Ave., Suite 970
Chicago, IL 60611
Fax: 312-642-1475
Email: nominations@dalefoundation.org

The DALE Foundation’s Nominating Committee may also choose to follow up with nominees by phone. DANB’s Board of Directors will review the recommendations of the Nominating Committee and will hold elections after the materials deadline. All nominees will be contacted with the results of the election by June 1, 2016.

About the DALE Foundation Board of Trustees
Trustees on the DALE Foundation’s Board are elected to serve for a maximum of two three-year terms. The final term may be extended if the Trustee is elected as President-Elect. The DALE Foundation Board of Trustees is a governing board and a working board. The Board of Trustees conducts one-to-two day meetings in person at least twice per year, meeting just before DANB’s winter (January or February) and annual (August) Board of Directors meetings. The DALE Foundation Board of Trustees also meets by conference call or webinar on an as-needed basis. Trustees are provided with professional development opportunities and an IT allowance; they are also reimbursed for all travel and hotel expenses associated with attending a Board meeting and receive a $75 per diem (as described in the DALE Foundation’s Travel Policy).

Upcoming meetings for the Board of Trustees:
Winter Board Meeting: Feb. 18, 2016
New Trustee Orientation: Summer 2016, Chicago
Annual Board Meeting: August 4, 2016, Chicago

For more information, contact Marissa Filippo at nominations@dalefoundation.org.

State of the States
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Dental assistants may take impressions for diagnostic and opposing models, study casts, bleaching and fluoride trays, and temporary oral devices, such as orthodontic retainers.

Effective June 7, 2015, a spouse or state-registered domestic partner of a person serving in the U.S. armed forces may receive a temporary practice permit to practice as a dentist, expanded function dental auxiliary, dental assistant or dental anesthe sia assistant in Washington State if he or she holds an unrestricted, active out-of-state credential for the same profession.
DANB welcomes first NELDA certificant
DANB, DALE Foundation partner with Temple University
Survey shows DANB individuals are connected
DANB’s Stars of Summer

You could be next!
If your certification number matches one of the randomly selected numbers below, you can win $50. Notify the DANB Marketing Department at communications@danb.org within 30 days to claim your $50 prize. Be sure to include your name, address, and certification number.
078481  209370
175627  224507
153651  098252
078481  209370
175627  224507
153651  098252

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DALE Foundation receptions
Join your fellow dental assistants, dental office managers and educators at the DALE Foundation reception during the American Dental Association (ADA) Meeting in Washington, D.C., and Yankee Dental Congress in Boston, Massachusetts.
Attendees can try out e-learning courses and study aids, learn more about the DALE Foundation’s exciting projects, listen to speakers, enjoy light refreshments, network with fellow dental professionals and enter to win raffle prizes. The ADA Meeting reception will start on Nov. 5 at 5:30 p.m. at the Renaissance Washington, D.C. Downtown hotel. RSVP by Nov. 2 to islevents@dalefoundation.org. The Yankee Dental Congress reception date, time and location are TBD.

Calendar of Events
DANB and the DALE Foundation will be exhibiting at several upcoming dental conventions. Please stop by our booth for free gifts and information on our latest courses and study aids.
American Dental Association Meeting
Nov. 5-7, 2015, Washington, DC
www.ada.org/en/meeting
Greater New York Dental Meeting
Nov. 29-Dec. 2, 2015, New York, NY
www.gnydm.com
Star of the South
Jan. 21-23, 2016, Houston, TX
www.starofthesouth.org

The DANB Mission
DANB’s mission is to promote the public good by providing credentialing services to the dental community. We accomplish and measure the success of this mission through the creation of valid dental assisting exams, recertification requirement integrity, and valuable, visible, and accessible DANB exams, certificates, and certifications. We also provide testing services to the oral healthcare community, and information services and resources related to dental assisting credentialing to support DANB’s mission. In order to accomplish these critical outcomes, DANB is committed to a properly governed, financially secure, and administratively sound organization.

Contact DANB
444 N. Michigan Ave., Suite 900
Chicago, IL 60611
1-800-367-3262
Fax: 312-642-8507
Client Services
danbmail@danb.org; 1-800-367-3262
Recertification/Audit/CDE
jrieman@danb.org; ext. 465
Marketing
marketing@danb.org; ext. 419
Certified Press
communications@danb.org; ext. 419
Exam Application Information
kdubroja@danb.org; ext. 422
Test Administration
kslagoski@danb.org; ext. 444
Accounting/Finance
akuenster@danb.org; ext. 420
Appeals/Disciplinary Information
kcapano@danb.org; ext. 463
Trademark Information
kflandsberg@danb.org; ext. 431