

ABD DIRECTOR SELECTION PROCESS

A committee of senior directors comprising the ABD Futures Committee convenes annually to discuss the needs of the Board. One of the committee's tasks is to nominate potential candidates to replace directors whose terms will be completed the following year. Nominees' names may come from a variety of sources including the public. Consideration for nomination is given to demonstrated test item writing capability, test committee experience, practice type (private practice/academia), areas of expertise (medical, pediatrics, dermatopathology, surgery, basic science, etc.), geographical distribution, evidence of commitment to service, and collegiality. Typically two nominees are proposed for each position. Names are presented to the Board of Directors at the Annual Meeting in June; directors then have the opportunity to suggest additional names to the Futures Committee. At the Interim Meeting in December the final list of nominees is presented, discussed and voted upon by the directors. Individuals chosen are contacted and asked if they are willing to serve.

Directors serve three year terms with a potential for two renewals (nine years total). During each year a director typically participates in 1-3 item writing/curriculum committees, a test development committee, an American Board of Medical Specialties committee, a task force committee, a standing committee of the ABD, and, with seniority, the Executive Committee. Some ABD directors are members of the Dermatology and the Dermatopathology Residency Review Committees. A recent informal survey of ABD Directors indicated that a Director spends on average 210 hours per year in Board related work. There is no financial compensation for this work.

The primary function of the board is the administration of 5 examinations. The Board annually administers the primary dermatology certifying examination, a dermatopathology subspecialty certifying examination, the recertification/maintenance of certification examination, and the resident in-training examination. The pediatric dermatology subspecialty certifying examination is given every other year. Other important functions of the Board can be found at:

<http://www.abderm.org/about/purpose.html>

Most directors serve for several years on one of the item writing/curriculum committees of the Board writing questions for the examinations prior to becoming a director. There are five the item writing/curriculum committees: general dermatology, dermatopathology, pediatric dermatology, procedural dermatology and basic science.

If you are interested in serving as a director on the Board or on an item writing /curriculum committee, please write to the address below and send a curriculum vitae. Deadline: October 1, of the present year.

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