



# ABD 2022 Annual Report

In 2022, the ABD has been committed to increasing engagement with diplomates and training programs. We believe this engagement will improve the programs we offer to diplomates and trainees, and ultimately improve patient care. We have used surveys, interviews, focus groups, and requests for feedback to reach as many diplomates as possible. We will continue these efforts going forward and look forward to learning more about diplomates' needs and preferences.

In addition, we are working with subspecialty societies to develop an online library of important journal articles that we will make available to all diplomates beyond their use for CertLink learning and assessment.

## Engagement

- Surveys conducted on these topics:
  - o Professionalism policy (sent to all diplomates)
  - o Strategic planning (sent to all diplomates soliciting their opinions about how the ABD is performing its core functions, and what they would like to see from the ABD in the future).
  - o Pathway to certification (sent to new diplomates who took the APPLIED Exam in 2021)
  - o Dashboards for programs and trainees (sent to program directors and administrators, inviting them to share the prototypes with trainees)
  
- Focus groups conducted with diplomates who, through the strategic planning survey, indicated an interest in providing additional feedback
  
- Town halls (3) with program directors and administrators
  
- New dashboards for programs, residents, and fellows completed
  
- "Is My Dermatologist Certified?" tool added to website homepage to distinguish diplomates. Phase II of this project will allow diplomates to add information, including location and practice type
  
- Perspectives
  - o [New Ways the ABD Helps you Show Your Certification Pride](#)
  - o [Survey of Residents Reveals Support, Suggestions for New Certification Pathway](#)
  - o [Common Questions about CertLink](#)
  - o [ABD Professionalism Policy Approved After Revisions Based on Diplomate Survey](#)
  
- Social media
  - o [Facebook](#)
  - o [Twitter](#)
  - o [LinkedIn](#)

## Strategic Planning

A Strategic Planning Task Force of ABD Directors, Executive Staff and diplomate volunteers has been working on a five-year strategic plan for how the ABD will advance excellence and promote distinction in dermatologic care. The new plan will contain four priority strategic goals designed to advance ABD's core mission and vision. The mission and vision have been preserved, with a refresh to the language to simplify and sharpen each statement. After the strategic plan is approved by the ABD Board of Directors, anticipated in December 2022, it will be shared with all diplomates and appropriate professional organizations.

## Transparency

Continuing our commitment to financial transparency, the ABD has maintained our [Platinum GuideStar status](#), the highest transparency rating for non-profit organizations that annually must publish their tax filing (Form 990). The icon linking to the ABD's GuideStar page is anchored in the footer of the website and is visible on every page.

The [ABD Policy Library](#) on our website has been updated and enhanced, giving full access to diplomates, residents, programs and patients.

We have [added bios](#) on the website of all Board of Directors members, providing more information about ABD leadership.

## Examinations

The last MOC Exams were given in 2022 (spring and fall). All diplomates are encouraged to participate in CertLink – those who took an MOC Exam in 2018 or earlier are required to begin CertLink in January 2023. Those who took an MOC exam in 2019 or later will be required to enroll by 2026. We are working with our psychometrics firm to establish a passing standard as we transition to using CertLink as the ABD's assessment as well as learning platform.

<b>ABD Executive Team</b>	Dr. Randall K. Roenigk – Executive Director Dr. Stanley Miller – Associate Executive Director for Continuing Certification Dr. Marta Petersen – Associate Executive Director for Candidate, Program & Diplomate Relations Dr. Julie Schaffer – Associate Executive Director for Exam Development Dr. Lela Lee – Senior Executive Consultant Dr. Thomas Horn – Emeritus Executive Director
<b>2022 Directors</b>	Drs. David M. Allen (Ogden, UT), Christopher K. Bichakjian (Ann Arbor, MI), Anna L. Bruckner (Aurora, CO), Jason Castillo ( <i>observer member</i> , Irvine, CA), Keith A. Choate (New Haven, CT), Karynne O. Duncan, MD (St. Helena, CA), Tammie Ferringer (Danville, PA), Mercedes E. Gonzalez (Coral Gables, FL), Warren R. Heymann (Marlton, NJ), Christine J. Ko (New Haven, CT), Delphine J. Lee (Torrance, CA), Moise L. Levy (Austin, TX), Julia R. Nunley (Richmond, VA), Kanade Shinkai (San Francisco, CA), Mary S. Stone (Iowa City, IA), Allison T. Vidimos (Cleveland, OH), Carl V. Washington (Atlanta, GA) and Mr. Bruce M. Bartels ( <i>public member</i> , Jaffrey, NH).  Directors Elect: Drs. Ryan W. Hick (Dallas, TX), Mary G. Mercurio (Rochester, NY)
<b>2022 Executive Committee</b>	Drs. Mary S. Stone, President; Julia R. Nunley, Vice President; Moise L. Levy, Carl V. Washington, Tammie D. Ferringer
<b>EXAMINATIONS</b>	
<b>BASIC Examination</b>	The 2022 BASIC Examination was administered April 7 to first-year residents. 569 residents took the exam from 140 ACGME-accredited US programs, 6 Canadian programs, and 5 international programs. Additionally, 35 faculty members took the exam for informational purposes.
<b>CORE Examination</b>	The CORE Exam comprises 4 CORE modules: Medical Dermatology, Pediatric Dermatology, Surgical Dermatology and Dermatopathology. There were 666 candidates in February, 532 candidates in July, and 403 candidates in November. To date, pass rates for each of the 4 modules have been over 90%.
<b>APPLIED Examination</b>	The APPLIED Examination was administered to 558 graduating residents on July 22 at nationwide Pearson VUE Test Centers. The pass rate was 97.3%.

<b>MOC Examination</b>	<p><i>Spring Administration:</i></p> <p>23 candidates took the examination. 23 candidates took the General Dermatology module, 14 took Medical Dermatology, 2 took Surgical Dermatology, 1 took Dermatopathology, 2 took Pediatric Dermatology and 1 took the Pediatric Dermatology subspecialty module. Pass rates were 91% (General Dermatology) and 100% (all other modules).</p> <p><i>Fall Administration:</i></p> <p>In the fall, 19 candidates took the examination. 19 candidates took the General Dermatology module, 10 took Medical Dermatology, 4 took Surgical Dermatology, 3 took Dermatopathology, 1 took Pediatric Dermatology and 2 took Dermatopathology Subspecialty. Pass rates were 75% (Surgical Dermatology) and 100% (all other modules).</p> <p>The MOC exam will no longer be offered. CertLink is the new option for continuing certification assessment.</p>
<b>Dermatopathology Subspecialty Examination</b>	<p>The Dermatopathology Subspecialty Certification Examination was administered by the American Board of Pathology via Pearson VUE September 12-24. All 30 dermatologists who took the exam passed.</p>
<b>Pediatric Dermatology Subspecialty Examination</b>	<p>The Pediatric Dermatology Subspecialty Examination transitioned from bi-annual to annual administrations in 2021. The 2022 exam was administered on October 13 to 15 candidates. The pass rate was 92%.</p>
<b>Micrographic Dermatologic Surgery Subspecialty Examination</b>	<p>The MDS Subspecialty examination was administered September 19-24, at nationwide Pearson VUE Test Centers to 460 candidates. During the 5-year practice pathway, certified ABD diplomates who completed an ACGME-accredited fellowship <b>OR</b> who can attest to active practice of micrographic surgery are eligible to apply for the exam. After the practice pathway period, any ABD-certified dermatologist who wishes to become certified in MDS must complete the ACGME fellowship in MSDO to be eligible for the MDS Exam. The pass rate was 90%.</p>
<b>CertLink Assessment</b>	<p>Since its January 6, 2020, launch, 9,577 diplomates (82% of all diplomates participating in Continuing Certification) have enrolled in CertLink, 2,556 of whom have subspecialty certification.</p>