



The American Board of Pathology
Report to
Intersociety Pathology Council
2006

1) 70th ANNIVERSARY

The American Board of Pathology is celebrating its 70th Anniversary in 2006. The ABP was incorporated in Michigan in 1936. The original trustees were Drs. F. W. Hartman, E. B. Krumbhaar, H. T. Karsner, J. J. Moore, A. H. Sanford, F. H. Lamb, A. G. Foord, and R. R. Kracke. Dr. William Hartmann, Executive Vice President Emeritus of the ABP, will be giving a presentation on the history of the ABP at the 100th anniversary meeting of the International Academy of Pathology in Montreal in September 2006.

2) ABP OFFICERS

The following trustees were elected as officers for 2006: Jeffrey McCullough, M.D., president; James L. Madara, M.D., vice president; Robert McKenna, M.D., secretary; Rebecca Johnson, M.D., treasurer; and M. Desmond Burke, M.D., immediate past president.

3) TRUSTEES

The following former trustees were elected Life Trustees: Dwight K. Oxley, M.D.; Ross E. Zumwalt, M.D.; and Juan Rosai, M.D.

4) ON-LINE APPLICATIONS

Application forms will no longer be mailed to applicants. Applications for all certifications (primary, subspecialty, recertification, and single certification) are available on ABP Web site, www.abpath.org. These applications are to be downloaded, filled in on the computer, printed, and mailed to the ABP with the necessary accompanying information by the application deadlines. Applications completed by hand will not be accepted.

5) CHANGES TO ABP WEB SITE

The ABP has recently made a number of changes and additions to its Web site in order to make the site more user-friendly and provide additional information and services. A number of format changes were made to make navigation around the site easier. The addition with the biggest impact is probably the availability of on-line credit card payments for examinations, verification of credentials, rescoring of examinations, and replacement certificates. The development of an on-line payment system is the first step toward totally Web-based applications.

Other changes to the Web site include revisions to the *Booklet of Information* and the Instructions for Candidates section. The 2006 *Booklet of Information* is the most accurate source of ABP and procedures as they apply to the initial application for primary and/or subspecialty policies certification. The Instructions for Candidates section has been updated and expanded to include a more complete description of the AP and CP examinations.

6) MAINTENANCE OF CERTIFICATION

In addition to being the 70th anniversary of the ABP, 2006 represents a major milestone in ABP history. All certificates issued by the ABP beginning January 1, 2006, will be time-limited. Certificates will expire on December 31 ten years after the date they are issued. All diplomates receiving time-limited certificates must participate in the ABP Maintenance of Certification (MOC) program and must satisfactorily complete all of the MOC requirements in order to receive a new certificate at the end of the 10-year certification period. Requirements for MOC encompass the areas of professional standing, life-long learning and self-assessment, cognitive expertise, and evaluation of performance in practice. The MOC program is mandatory for ABP diplomates certified in 2006 or later but is also open to diplomates holding lifetime certificates.

The ABP has added a Maintenance of Certification booklet of information to its Web site. This booklet reflects the basics of the ABP program of MOC and will be updated throughout the year as the program is further developed. Candidates with time-limited certificates should review this booklet frequently to ensure that they are meeting the requirements of the MOC program. MOC will be the focus of the annual meeting of the ABP and its cooperating societies in May 2006.

7) VOLUNTARY RECERTIFICATION

The Voluntary Recertification program is still available for diplomates with lifetime certificates who do not wish to participate in the MOC program. The Voluntary Recertification booklet is available on the ABP Web site and has been revised for 2006.

The CME requirements for voluntary recertification have been modified to require that 100 of the mandatory 150 CME credits be classified as Category 1. Of these 100 Category 1 credits, 80 must be directly related to the applicant's field of practice. If you plan to seek voluntary recertification in 2006, please review the revised booklet carefully.

8) CERTIFYING EXAMINATION PERFORMANCE REPORTS

Each year in January, primary and subspecialty program directors receive performance reports for candidates in their programs who have taken the certifying examination. As in previous years, the director receives two reports, each covering the last 5 years. One lists candidates and their examination performance histories by year of examination taken. This report goes only to the program director. The second report separates results of first-time candidates from results of those who have repeated an examination. It also reports performance for candidates who completed all of their training in a given program versus those who did only part of their training in that program. This second report is also provided to the Residency Review Committee for Pathology at the time of the program's ACGME accreditation visit. Program directors should review these reports carefully and report any questions or problems to Dr. Bennett at the ABP.

9) NEW DIPLOMATES

During 2005, 608 pathologists were certified in a primary area of pathology, including 421 in combined anatomic pathology and clinical pathology, 133 in anatomic pathology, 35 in clinical pathology, and 19 in combined primary and subspecialty areas. Twenty-three physicians were certified in blood banking/transfusion medicine, 110 in cytopathology, 47 in dermatopathology, 19 in forensic pathology, 107 in hematology, 5 in medical microbiology, 16 in neuropathology, 29 in molecular genetic pathology, and 19 in pediatric pathology. Fifty-eight pathologists were recertified in 2005.

CUMULATIVE EXAMINATION PERFORMANCE

Primary Examinations 2001-2005

	Total Candidates		First-Time Takers			Repeaters		
	#	% Fail	#	# Fail	% Fail	#	# Fail	% Fail
AP	3,565	34.78	2,430	567	23.33	1,135	673	59.30
CP	3,053	35.11	2,186	556	25.43	867	516	59.52

Subspecialty Examinations

2001-2005

	Total Candidates		First-Time Takers			Repeaters		
	#	% Fail	#	# Fail	% Fail	#	# Fail	% Fail
BB/TM	177	28.81	135	26	19.26	42	25	59.52
CYP	611	18.17	518	79	15.25	93	32	34.41
DP	320	28.44	235	57	24.26	85	34	40.00
FP	223	32.74	151	33	21.85	72	40	55.56
HEM	548	32.66	398	102	25.63	150	77	51.33
MGP	100	17.00	95	15	15.79	5	2	40.00
MMB	22	22.73	20	4	20.00	2	1	50.00
NP	121	25.62	105	25	23.81	16	6	37.50
PP	75	9.33	68	6	8.82	7	1	14.29