



THE AMERICAN BOARD OF PERIODONTOLOGY

APPEALS PROCESS

A candidate who has failed the Oral Examination may file an appeal with the Director of Examinations (DE). To be valid, the appeal must be received by the DE within thirty (30) days after receipt by the candidate of notice of the adverse decision. The appeal must be accompanied by a check in the amount of \$500 made payable to the American Board of Periodontology to help defray the Board's costs in considering the appeal.

An appeal must contain a statement of the specific reason or reasons that the candidate believes that the adverse decision was improper. It must also include any supporting documentation that the candidate wishes to have considered. Failure to provide a specific reason or reasons as to why the candidate believes the decision was improper may be grounds for refusal to consider the appeal.

Disagreement with the judgment of the Examiners is not a valid reason for an appeal. Rather, the candidate must present facts tending to suggest that the conduct of the examination was improper or flawed or that some other event occurred that biased the result. Absent improper conduct of the examination or a biasing event, the Appeals Committee will not substitute its judgment for the judgment of the Examiners and will not re-grade any examination.

Every appeal will be subject to preliminary review by the DE. Unless the Director of Examinations determines that an appeal is frivolous or fails to meet applicable procedural requirements, a properly filed appeal will be considered by an Appeals Committee consisting of three individuals who did not participate in the adverse decision. The Appeals Committee shall be appointed by the DE and shall include at least two current Directors of the Board. If possible, the Committee will not include any periodontist who might reasonably be regarded as being in competition with the candidate, who was involved in training of the candidate, or who is a family member or associate of the candidate.

The Appeals Committee will review the specific grounds for appeal set forth by the candidate. The Committee may request such information from the DE as it believes might be helpful to its resolution of the appeal; and in such form as the Committee may specify. Any written response from the DE to a request by the Committee shall be shared with the candidate.

The candidate is not entitled to an oral hearing. However, the Appeals Committee may elect to schedule a telephone conference or telephonic hearing with the candidate if the Committee, in its sole discretion, determines that a conference or hearing might be helpful to its resolution of the appeal. The DE shall be invited to participate in any telephone conference or telephonic hearing that might be scheduled.

If the Appeals Committee determines that there is no reason to alter the adverse decision, it shall affirm the decision. If the Appeals Committee determines that the adverse decision was improper, it shall reverse or modify the decision. If the Appeals Committee believes that it requires additional information from the candidate or the DE, it may request the additional information either formally or informally.

The Appeals Committee shall notify the candidate in writing of its decision, including the reasons therefore, within thirty (30) days from the date its decision is rendered. The Appeals Committee shall endeavor to reach its decision within sixty (60) days from receipt of a properly filed appeal - unless it has requested additional information from the candidate or the DE. The decision of the Appeals Committee shall be provided to the full Board as information. The decisions of the Appeals Committee shall constitute the final decision of the American Board of Periodontology unless the Board determines to reconsider the decision of the Committee.