

## What is a Diplomate?

A Diplomate is a periodontist who is certified by the American Board of Periodontology.

## What does it mean to be a Diplomate?

A Diplomate of the American Board of Periodontology is a periodontist who has made significant achievements beyond the mandatory educational requirements of the specialty.

*To be educationally qualified for Board certification requires:*

- Certification as a dentist, including basic college education and completion of four years of dental school to earn the DDS or DMD degree and;
- Certification as a periodontist after at least two years of postdoctoral study in an ADA approved program. This period of study is concentrated on the diagnosis, treatment, and prevention of periodontal disease.

*In addition to the educational requirements, Board certification requires:*

- At least four years of actual experience in the clinical practice of periodontics.
- Comprehensive oral and written examinations covering all phases of periodontal disease and its treatment, including dental implants.
- Presentation of detailed reports on a broad range of actual treatment personally provided by the candidate.

## What this means to you as a patient.

- Your periodontist has been examined by a panel of internationally respected peers and awarded Diplomate status;
- Your periodontist has received one of the highest recognitions of achievement afforded by the specialty;
- By successfully completing the examination process, your periodontist has demonstrated motivation for:
  - continued professional development
  - self evaluation
  - critical review of results of therapy
  - interest in providing the best, most up to date care

## What is The American Board of Periodontology?

The American Board of Periodontology was founded in 1939 to elevate the standards and advance the science and art of periodontology by encouraging its study and advancing its practice. It is officially the oldest ADA recognized specialty board and is the only national certifying board in the dental specialty of periodontics.

*For over fifty years the Board has served the public and profession by:*

- Creating and administering a certification process to identify experts in the field of periodontics;
- Creating and administering a re-certification process to maintain expertise;
- Granting and issuing Diplomate certificates to certified experts;
- Furnishing, on request, to patients, insurance consultants and hospital administrators, a list of Board Certified Diplomates.

# Your Periodontist is a Diplomate of the American Board of Periodontology

This brochure has been made available  
to you by your periodontist who is a  
Diplomate of the American Board of Periodontology.

For more information  
regarding the Board certification process,  
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