

DANB Background Information Policy

Contact DANB with any questions at 1-800-367-3262 or email professionalconduct@danb.org.

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DANB's Background Information Policy

The Dental Assisting National Board (DANB) is committed to promoting public safety by providing credentialing services to the dental community. To take DANB exams and earn DANB credentials, candidates should embody professional values that are in the best interest of patients.

Responses to the Background Information Questions (BIQs) allow DANB to make informed decisions regarding our credentials and ultimately the safety of our stakeholders. Requiring answers to the BIQs supports DANB's mission by removing or restricting the use of credentials to those who exhibit behavior inconsistent with DANB's Code of Professional Conduct.

National exam, certification renewal, certification reinstatement, and emeritus applications contain three BIQs that exam candidates and certificants ("DANB Individuals") are required to answer. Failure to answer the questions will result in the application being returned as incomplete. DANB Individuals must submit documentation, with their completed application, related to each affirmative response. DANB will review the documentation related to each affirmative response and make a case-by-case determination, in consultation with legal counsel, as to the candidate's eligibility to test, earn certification, or recertify. Dependent on specific disclosures made, DANB reserves the right to bring individuals for review under DANB's Disciplinary Policy & Procedures.

Note: Any person being held on criminal charges or serving a sentence of confinement (e.g., prison, jail, home detention, or any equivalent mode of confinement) for any offense must be fully released from confinement before applying for and/or taking a DANB exam or before renewing or reinstating DANB certification.

Background Information Questions – DANB National Exam Applications

BIQ 1 Is your answer "yes" to either of the following?

- In the last five years, have you been convicted of, or pled guilty or no contest to, a felony or any crime punishable by confinement in a state or federal prison for any length of time?
- Are you currently serving a sentence of confinement, home detention, parole, probation, or other court-ordered supervision, or are you subject to a reporting requirement (e.g., sex offender or violent offender registry) in connection with **any** felony conviction received in your lifetime?

It is not necessary to report misdemeanor convictions. If you are uncertain whether a conviction was for a felony or a misdemeanor, you must mark "yes."

BIQ 2 Have you ever been the subject of any of the following?

- Suspension, revocation, or voluntary surrender of your dental assisting license, registration, or other state-recognized dental assisting credential?
- Suspension, revocation, or voluntary surrender of a license, registration, or other state-recognized credential in any profession?
- Loss of authorization to practice dental assisting or any profession as an employee of the federal government?
- Loss of authorization to practice dental assisting or any profession in a jurisdiction that does not require registration, licensure, or other recognized employment credential?
- Disciplinary action by a professional regulatory board, certifying or examination agency, or other professional body?
- Investigation by or dismissal from an educational institution or employer for cheating, violating an educational institution's or other organization's code of conduct or similar document, or any other ethical violation?

BIQ 3 Have you ever been declared mentally incompetent by a court of law?

Background Information Questions – Certification Renewal Forms, Certification Reinstatement Forms, and Emeritus Applications

BIQ 1 Is your answer “yes” to either of the following?

- Since you last renewed your certification or applied for a DANB national certification or component exam, have you been convicted of, or pled guilty or no contest to, a felony or any crime punishable by confinement in a state or federal prison for any length of time?
- Are you currently serving a sentence of confinement, home detention, parole, probation, or other court-ordered supervision, or are you subject to a reporting requirement (e.g., sex offender or violent offender registry) in connection with any felony conviction?

It is not necessary to report misdemeanor convictions. If you are uncertain whether a conviction was for a felony or a misdemeanor, you must mark “yes.”

BIQ 2 Since you last renewed your certification or applied for a DANB national certification or component exam, have you been the subject of any of the following?

- Suspension, revocation or voluntary surrender of your dental assisting license, registration or other state-recognized dental assisting credential?
- Suspension, revocation or voluntary surrender of a license, registration or other state-recognized credential in any profession?
- Loss of authorization to practice dental assisting or any profession as an employee of the federal government?
- Loss of authorization to practice dental assisting or any profession in a jurisdiction that does not require registration, licensure or other recognized employment credential?
- Disciplinary action by a professional regulatory board, certifying or exam agency, or other professional body?
- Investigation by or dismissal from an educational institution or employer for cheating, violating an educational institution’s or other organization’s code of conduct or similar document, or any other ethical violation?

BIQ 3 Since you last renewed your certification or applied for a DANB national certification or component exam, have you been declared mentally incompetent by a court of law?

Documentation Required if an Applicant Answers “Yes”

Documentation must be submitted with the completed application.

Step 1 – Personal Statement

The applicant must attach a signed and dated personal statement describing the circumstances surrounding each occurrence, the offense or reason for the conviction or disciplinary action, the date of the adverse action, the penalties imposed, and the dates when penalties for each occurrence were or will be completed.

Step 2 – Supporting Documentation

The applicant must also provide official documentation related to each occurrence, including but not limited to:

BIQ 1 For felony convictions, judgment of conviction, sentencing order and termination of probation order, if applicable, and any other documentation deemed necessary by DANB.

BIQ 2 For regulatory, credentialing or educational disciplinary action, an official statement from the disciplining agency or educational institution describing the offense and penalties imposed (e.g., consent order, decision) and, if applicable, providing evidence of completion or expiration of all penalties, including reinstatement of license or credential.

BIQ 3 For a court declaration of mental incompetence, official copies of all relevant court orders and related documents.