

The PINNACLE



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COLLEGE OF DIPLOMATES

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OFFICERS

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Rebeca Weisleder, *President-Elect*
Tawana Feimster, *Secretary*
Ron Taylor, *Treasurer*
John "Jeff" Neal, *Immediate Past President; Sponsorship/ Fundraising*

DIRECTORS

Yehuda Benjamin, *Director, Mock Orals*
Susan Paurazas, *Director, Mentorship*
Ross Rosenblatt, *Director, Marketing / Social media*

CONSULTANT

Craig Schneider, *Special Conferences and Sponsorship/Fundraising*

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Aimee J. Rylko, *Executive Director*

FALL 2026



It is an incredible honor to begin my term as President of the College of Diplomates. The College has long represented something special within our specialty—a community united not simply by

by the achievement of board certification, but by a shared commitment to excellence, lifelong learning, mentorship, and service to the profession.

As I begin this role, I am grateful to those who have led before me and to the dedicated members of our Board of Directors, committees, volunteers, and staff who continue to move our mission forward. I would especially like to recognize our Immediate Past President, Dr. Jeff Neal, for his leadership and service to the College. I am fortunate to inherit an organization with tremendous momentum and an engaged community of Diplomates committed to supporting one another.

That spirit was certainly evident at our 2026 Summer Conference in Key Biscayne. Beyond the Pulp: Expanding the Diagnostic Lens brought together clinicians, educators, residents, and leaders from across endodontics for outstanding education and meaningful conversation. Beyond the exceptional scientific program, one of the greatest strengths of the meeting was simply having time to connect—with colleagues, mentors, friends, and families. Thank you to everyone who attended, presented, volunteered, and helped make the conference such a success.

As we look ahead, our commitment to education and mentorship continues. On September 19, 2026, the College will host our next Mock Oral Board Examination, providing candidates the opportunity to practice in a realistic setting and receive valuable feedback as they prepare for the ABE oral examination. I encourage our Diplomates to consider serving as examiners and mentors.

These interactions are an important part of how we support the next generation of board-certified endodontists.

Looking ahead, please save February 5–7, 2027, for our 17th Annual Board Review Course – Scientific Update. This three-day program is designed to prepare candidates for the ABE written and oral examinations while also providing an excellent scientific update for practicing Diplomates. Final format, location and CE details will be announced.

These programs illustrate what makes the College so valuable. Achieving Diplomate status is an extraordinary milestone, but membership in the College allows that accomplishment to become something larger. We have the opportunity to remain connected, continue learning, mentor those following behind us, and collectively strengthen our specialty.

As we enter another year together, I encourage you to become involved—volunteer as a mentor or mock oral examiner, attend our educational programs, share the College with fellow Diplomates, and connect with us on social media. Membership renewals will arrive in January 2027 and will cover the 2027–2028 membership year. Your continued participation allows us to expand these programs and further our mission.

I am deeply grateful for the opportunity to serve as your President and excited about what lies ahead. My goal during this year is simple: to continue strengthening the community that surrounds board certification and ensure that the College remains a meaningful professional home for Diplomates at every stage of their careers.

Thank you for your membership, your mentorship, and your commitment to excellence. I look forward to an exciting year together.

Andrea DeCerce Lisell
President, College of Diplomates of the American Board of Endodontics



Mentorship Update



DEAR ESTEEMED MEMBERS OF THE COLLEGE OF DIPLOMATES,

On September 19, 2026, the College of Diplomates hosted its biannual Mock Oral Examination. Through the commitment and generosity of 18 volunteer examiners, we provided 18 board-eligible endodontists with the opportunity to participate in a simulated oral examination in preparation for the American

The Mock Oral Examination remains an important part of the College of Diplomates' mission to mentor and support endodontists pursuing board certification. We extend our sincere gratitude to the 18 Diplomate examiners who generously contributed their time, expertise, and thoughtful guidance to make this program possible.

We wish all participating candidates the very best as they prepare for the American Board of Endodontics Oral Examination, scheduled for October 15–17, 2026.

Board of Endodontics Oral Examination.

Each candidate completed a mock examination consisting of two unique cases designed to simulate the structure, rigor, and expectations of the actual board examination. The experience allowed candidates to articulate their clinical decision-making, defend their treatment plans, and receive constructive feedback from Diplomates who have successfully navigated the certification process.

Sincerely,

Yehuda Benjamin, DMD, F.A.G.D., M.S.

*Chair, Mentorship and Mock Oral Exam Committee
College of Diplomates of the American Board of Endodontics*



DEAR ESTEEMED MEMBERS OF THE COLLEGE OF DIPLOMATES,

I am honored to serve as the Mentorship Chair for the College of Diplomates. Volunteer participation as a mentor for the oral and case portfolio examination candidates is critical to the mission of the College of Diplomates. We appreciate the commitment of mentors who give their time and expertise to prepare candidates for the exams.

the menu items, and completing the mentor volunteer form, selecting whether you are available to mentor for oral exam and/or case portfolio exam. Please take a minute to update your profile information as well on the College of Diplomates website, so there is current contact information. In creating a community of mentors, please encourage other diplomates to participate in the mentorship process to share their knowledge, expertise, and advice. It is always an honor to see the outcome of ABE board certification through the generous efforts and commitment to excellence mentors provide to committed candidates. It is a proud moment for all involved. Thank you to all who supported candidates in their preparation of the ABE oral exam October 15-17, 2026. For additional information, please contact Aimee Rylko directly at info@collegeofdiplomates.org.

The response has shown the dedication and generosity of the mentors.

It is important to continue to recruit additional mentors, especially for the case portfolio exam component to continue to support the mission of the College of Diplomates. As there is a single submission deadline of May 1, there will be an increased demand for case portfolio mentors. If you would like to serve as a mentor, you can sign up on the COD website by selecting "Volunteer" from

With sincere appreciation,

Susan Paurazas, DDS, MS, MHSA

*Chair, Mentorship and Mock Case Portfolio Committee
College of Diplomates of the American Board of Endodontics*



Membership News and Updates

College of Diplomates Represented at APICES

AUGUST 14-15, 2026 | HYATT REGENCY, ST. LOUIS

College of Diplomates members Susan Paurazas and Yehuda Benjamin attended APICES, the annual meeting for endodontic residents. They joined the presidents of the American Association of Endodontists and the American Board of Endodontics for the panel "Get to Know Your Specialty." The discussion helped residents understand the interconnected roles of these organizations and highlighted pathways for leadership and professional involvement within endodontics.



Mock Oral Examination

SEPTEMBER 19, 2026

18 EXAMINERS **18** CANDIDATES **2** CASES EACH

The College hosted its biannual Mock Oral Examination with 18 volunteer Diplomate examiners and 18 board-eligible endodontists. Each candidate completed two unique cases designed to simulate the structure, rigor, and expectations of the American Board of Endodontics Oral Examination. Candidates practiced articulating clinical decision-making, defending treatment plans, and receiving constructive feedback.

Yehuda Benjamin, DMD, FAGD, MS
Chair, Mentorship and Mock Oral Examination Committee

ABE ORAL EXAM: OCT. 15-17, 2026



Membership Dues

Two-year payment of \$300, covering both 2027 & 2028 is required to maintain active membership and receive all COD membership benefits including:



COD Webinar Lecture Series

Providing virtual CE free for members.



Registration for Annual Board Review Course

(20 CE credits/year)



New Diplomates

First year of membership is free.



Dues Year Resets

in January 2029



BE ON THE LOOKOUT FOR

Dues Emails in November!

Treasurer's Report

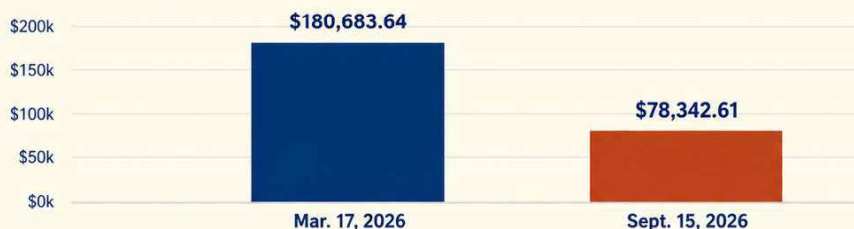
DR. RON TAYLOR, TREASURER

The College experienced higher expenses than income during 2026, primarily reflecting costs associated with the 2026 Summer Conference. As of September 15, 2026, the College reported \$78,342.61 in cash and total assets, with no reported liabilities.

The financial statements reflect a year-to-date decrease of \$50,649.04 through September 15, 2026. August operating expenses totaled \$7,784.24, including Summer Conference-related costs.

Cash Position Comparison

Prior Pinnacle snapshot compared with the September 2026 financial statement



Change between snapshots:

-\$102,341.03
(56.6% decrease)

March figure was reported in the Spring 2026 Pinnacle; September figure is from the current balance sheet.

Current Financial Snapshot

AS OF SEPTEMBER 15, 2026

Cash & Total Assets

\$78,342.61

Reported Liabilities

\$0

2026 YTD Change

-\$50,649.04

August Expenses

\$7,784.24



Looking Ahead

The College anticipates a stronger cash-flow environment in 2027. Membership dues will enter their renewal cycle, while the College will not incur the expense of a Summer Conference in 2027. The 2026 Summer Conference represents a significant educational and community investment by the College, and the alternating conference cycle helps support programs over time.



Summer Conference: Key Biscayne, FL



JULY 23-26, 2026

45 COLLEGE OF DIPLOMATES

MEMBERS GATHERED FOR INCREDIBLE CE
AND FAMILY TIME AT THE RITZ IN KEY BISCAIYNE, FLORIDA.



We thank the incredible speakers and members
for making this year's meeting such a success!
It was a meaningful time of learning, collaboration
and connection in a beautiful setting.



Save the Dates

MOCK ORAL BOARD EXAMINATION

- **JANUARY 30, 2027** (*tentative awaiting ABE 2027 dates*)

COD WEBINAR SERIES (Included for members- Login to COD member account to register)

- **October 6, 2026 - 7PM ET,**
Dr. Bettina Basrani,
Contemporary Root Canal
Disinfection

Upcoming COD Education

SAVE THE DATES | MEMBER EDUCATION & BOARD PREPARATION

COD membership supports lifelong learning through continuing education opportunities offered without additional course registration fees beyond membership dues. The following programs are scheduled for the months ahead.

COLLEGE OF DIPLOMATES
Advancing Endodontics Through Board Certification

FREE COD MEMBER WEBINAR
EDUCATE • ENGAGE • EMPOWER

Contemporary Root Canal Disinfection: Advances, Challenges, and Future Perspectives

FEATURED SPEAKER
DR. BETTINA BASRANI
DOS, MS, PhD

Knowledge Advances Patient Care

TUESDAY OCTOBER 6, 2026
7:00 PM - 8:00 PM ET

LIVE VIRTUAL EVENT
Via Zoom

REGISTER NOW
<http://www.cod.org/pinnacle/cod-webinar-series/>

COD MEMBERS ONLY

Invest in Knowledge. Strengthen Our Profession.

2027-2028 ANNUAL DUES CYCLE

- **Pay \$300 membership dues to stay current**

17TH ANNUAL BOARD REVIEW COURSE - SCIENTIFIC UPDATE

- **February 5-7, 2027**
- Virtual three-day event (20 CE credits)
- Prepare candidates for ABE oral and written examinations
- Free attendance for COD members

