Memo

AMERICAN **OSTEOPATHIC** ASSOCIATION

Date: March 10, 2009   **CC:**

To: **Specialty Certifying Boards**
Specialty Groups
Osteopathic Postdoctoral Training
Institutions

From: ==**Bureau of Osteopathic Specialists**==

RE: ==**BOARD ELIGIBILITY: JULY 1, 2009**==

Effective July 1, 2009 the Board eligibility policy for AOA certification will be as follows:

1. ==Candidates for certification will have six years to be board eligible and complete the certification process.==

2. At the end of six years of board eligibility, if the candidate has not obtained final certification, the candidate may petition the Board to reenter the certification process. The Board will grant the candidate the ability to reenter the process. The candidate must begin at the beginning of the process and must start at the next available administration of the exam. The candidate will have two attempts to pass each step of the examination process. If a failure of any of the steps occur the candidate must repeat that failure at the next available administration.

3. After exhausting the above process the candidate is not eligible to continue the process.

4. In order for a candidate to be eligible to reenter the certification process a candidate must re-petition the Board. The Board will establish criteria that must be met prior to granting re entry. The reentry process needs to be submitted and approved by the Standards Review Committee (SRC) of the Bureau of Osteopathic Specialists (BOS). The applicant upon approval of the Board will follow the same process as outlined in number 2. If the candidate is unsuccessful in this attempt, there will be no further opportunities to become certified.

5. Certifying boards may have more stringent requirements in the limitation of time in which a candidate for certification must complete the entire certification process.

Any candidate entering the certification process after July 1, 2009 will be effective by this policy change. Please contact the AOA Division of Certification, 800/ 621-1773 extension 8266 with any questions.