

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

to the
AMERICAN BOARD OF HEALTH PHYSICS

JUNE 1962

During the last half of 1961, the large backlog of applicants from the initial group was steadily decreased as individuals were certified, approved for examination or rejected. The procedures followed were made increasingly routine and a set of files established that contains all of the information on a given candidate. Cross-checks on the progress of a candidate were provided through a card file and a separate listing of the dates actions were taken in each case.

The current status (as of June 1, 1962) of the applications received is given in the attached table. The small number of applications received this year is of particular interest since it may indicate the number to be expected in future years. The current progress is indicated by the fact that only 25 cases have not been reviewed by the Board and approved or rejected. Of these, two have been queried for additional information with no response. They will be rejected if a reply is not forthcoming.

The large number of candidates awaiting examination is of interest. We have sent out questionnaires prior to scheduling the November 4, 1961 and the June 10, 1962 examinations. The results of the latest returns compiled against the responses to the November returns are as follows.

Nov. Exam	June Exam		
	Yes	No	No Reply
Yes	13	4	4
No	5	13 ^(a)	3
No Reply	5	3	41
Newly Qualified	19	6	11
TOTAL	33	31	64

(a) ~~she~~ have indicated that they are no longer interested.

The two year grace period which was adopted at the last meeting means that all of those who were approved prior to June of 1961 must be examined by June of next year or face the necessity of reapplying. For

practical purposes, only those who have been qualified since the last examination will then be eligible. This means a potential examination load of about 64 applicants within the next year. Of these it is doubtful that more than 20 will participate further.

Problems with distributing certificates are lessened with the certifications now coming only after examination. As soon as all certification fees are received from an examination the certificates will be ordered at a cost of \$3.50 per certificate (plus \$0.01 for mailing). This procedure should permit keeping the issuance of certificates current. As of June 1, certificates have been mailed to all certified people with the exception of those passing the November 4 examination and one hold-over from the 1960 applications who was certified without examination recently.

The new member of the Board, replacing W.A. McAdams, is F.P. Cowan whose term expires December 31, 1966. Mr. Cowan's replacement as Chairman of the Examination Panel, is W. Reinig who has accepted for a three year term.

A list of certified health physicists has been made available to several societies which may be potential sponsors of the Board and to a number of individuals. Publicity has been limited to a brief announcement accompanying this list.

The Examination Panel has prepared a study guide for use by the applicants in preparing for the examination. This guide has been distributed to all applicants eligible for examination as well as several interested groups.

A draft code of ethics has been prepared by a group under the direction of R.C. Thorburn. This draft is scheduled for review at the Board meeting in June.

Although a number of problems remain, the Board has now surmounted the hurdle of handling the large number of initial applications and can now devote its time to these problems. Among those which are the most pressing are:

- 1) Obtaining the participation of other societies.
- 2) Providing improved publicity as to the program and its meaning.
- 3) Simplifying procedures for processing applications.
- 4) Instituting oral examinations.
- 5) Clarifying and expanding the bases of certification.

Sincerely yours,

J. W. Healy
J. W. Healy, Chairman
American Board of Health Physics

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FOR USE OF THE AMERICAN BOARD OF HEALTH PHYSICS ONLY

STATUS OF CERTIFICATION PROGRAM

JUNE 1, 1962

	<u>1960</u>	<u>1961</u>	<u>1962</u>	<u>Total</u>
Applications Received	400	34	13	447
(1) Number Certified	196	106	1	303
Withdrawals	--	--	--	5
Did Not Qualify	--	--	--	33
Awaiting Examination	--	--	--	128
Awaiting Board Action				25
Examination Statistics				
Passing				61%
Failed				32%
Awaiting Action				7%

(1) Includes original group of "test cases".

STATUS OF CERTIFICATION PROGRAM

JUNE 1, 1962

	<u>1960</u>	<u>1961</u>	<u>*1962</u>	<u>Total</u>
Applications Received	400	34	13	447
Certified Without Exam	(1) 171	71	1	243
Examination				
Took	(2) 39	(2) 53		102
Passed	25	35		62
Failed	13	20		33
Awaiting Action	(3) 1	(3) 8		9
Withdrawals	--	--	--	5
Rejected	--	--	--	33
Awaiting Examination	--	--	--	128
Awaiting Board Action				
References	--	--	--	5
Information Requested	--	--	--	5
Circulating	--	--	--	15
Total Certified	196	106	1	303
Certificates Issued	115	94	69	278

*To June 1, 1962

(1) Includes 91 of original 100 test cases.

(2) One repeat.

(3) One awaiting oral examination; one awaiting more information; seven awaiting Board review.