



**LASER CERTIFICATION  
PROGRAM 2009**

Dear Colleague,

The Academy of Laser Dentistry has a unique and proud tradition of independent education and certification for the safe and effective use of dental lasers since 1993. The dental industry and licensing communities recognize this tradition and welcome its non-partisan stance.

Under this mandate, the Academy has provided a multi-level education and certification program in which dentists and auxiliary staff can gain both recognition and certification for their clinical knowledge and application in the use of lasers. These courses and examinations will be offered at **ALD 2009: Lasers in Dentistry, the Academy's 16<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference & Exhibition at Green Valley Ranch, Las Vegas, NV, USA, April 22-25, 2009.**

Enclosed are certification program Fact Sheets. Specific dates for courses and examinations are noted throughout this packet. Please review the information and for additional details or clarification, you may visit our website at [www.laserdentistry.org/ald2009vegas](http://www.laserdentistry.org/ald2009vegas). Should you wish to enroll in the various courses, you may register online or submit your application by mail to the Academy of Laser Dentistry, P.O. Box 8667, Coral Springs, Florida 33075, USA or by Fax, 954-757-2398. Early registration is strongly recommended due to limited space.

Whether you are a novice or an experienced clinician, I do believe that you will benefit through increased confidence, proficiency and recognition by participating in our challenging education and certification program.

**ALD**  
*Academy of Laser Dentistry*

With kind regards,

Frank Y.W. Yung, DDS  
Chair, Certification Committee

Enclosures: Laser Certification Program Description  
Conference & Certification Application

## Certification Programs Fact Sheet


**Where:** Green Valley Ranch, Las Vegas, Nevada, USA  
Phone: 702-617-7777 or, Toll Free: 1 (866) 782-9487  
**When:** Wednesday, April 22, 2009 and Thursday, April 23, 2009

### Where to submit application:

**Online:** [www.laserdentistry.org/ald2009vegas](http://www.laserdentistry.org/ald2009vegas)  
**Mail:** Academy of Laser Dentistry  
Certification Program – Heather Meiselman, LCSW  
P.O. Box 8667, Coral Springs, FL 33075  
**Phone:** (954) 346-3776 x204  
**Fax:** (954) 757-2598

### Required Items:

1. Introductory Course Application (see Conference Application).  
Standard Proficiency Application (see Conference Application).  
Advanced Proficiency Application (see Conference Application).  
Conference Registration Application.  
3. ALD Membership (where applicable).



**Important Course and Exam Dates**

**Advanced Proficiency** - Online Tutor and Written Exam -  
Must be completed by March 2, 2009  
**Clinical Simulation Exam** - Wednesday, April 22, 2009  
**Case Study Presentation** - Wednesday, April 22, 2009

- **Standard Proficiency**
  - Standard Proficiency Course – Wednesday, April 22, 2009
  - Written Online Exam - Within 60 days of on-site course and clinical exam
  - Clinical Simulation Exam – Thursday, April 23, 2009
- **Introduction to Lasers Hands-On Course** - Wednesday, April 22, 2009

### Important Application Deadlines

- **Advanced Proficiency**
  - **Case Study Presentation Application** **October 15, 2008\***
  - **Written & Clinical Exam Application** **December 15, 2008 \*\***
  - **Case Study Submission to Mentor** **December 15, 2008**
- **Standard Proficiency Application** **March 2, 2009 \*\***

\* Candidates for Case Study Presentations should already be preparing cases prior to this date.

\*\* Enrollment is limited in order to optimize opportunities for student-faculty interaction. We cannot guarantee availability through the published deadlines. Early registration is strongly recommended.

## CONFERENCE COURSE DESCRIPTIONS:

**Introductory Course:** This program provides an understanding of laser physics and the uses of lasers in dentistry. It includes didactic presentations and hands-on participation. This course satisfies one of the pre-requisite requirements for participation in ALD recognized Standard Proficiency. *Dentists, Dental Hygienists, Dental Assistants, Office Managers, Industry Representatives and anyone interested in learning more about the scientific, clinical and practice management aspects of lasers in dentistry are welcome in this course.*

**Standard Proficiency:** Standard proficiency status is the basic level of education in dental laser usage. This includes specific laser proficiency and clinical knowledge. Candidates for the standard level must demonstrate an understanding of all wavelengths via an on-line examination and clinical proficiency, with at least one wavelength via a clinical simulation examination. Dentists and dental hygienists will perform a simulated clinical procedure; other auxiliary personnel will both assist and act as a laser safety officer. This level defines the standard of care for the dental professional. *Applicants may be anyone affiliated with dentistry or laser usage including dentists, hygienists, dental assistants, office managers, industry representatives, hospital staff, etc. Membership in the Academy of Laser Dentistry is not a pre-requisite for the standard applicant, but is strongly encouraged and is necessary to receive Academy recognition.*

### Requirements for Application:

- 1) Successful completion of a recognized introduction to lasers course is a mandatory prerequisite for Standard Proficiency Certification. The required hours needed to satisfy this prerequisite are two or greater than 2.5 credit hours. The introductory material must be approved by the discretion of the Academy or the ALD Recognized Course Director (RCP). As noted above, the introductory course does satisfy this requirement.
  - 2) The candidate must own or have access to a dental laser.
- All certification candidates must register for the annual conference and must pay all applicable fees.

### Advanced Proficiency

This level represents advanced knowledge and clinical experience with dental lasers. Advanced Proficiency certification for clinicians is awarded to dentists or dental hygienists. Advanced Proficiency for a laser safety officer (LSO) is awarded to dental assistants or related staff members, as well as to industry representatives. Candidates for Advanced Proficiency must demonstrate knowledge of all laser wavelengths through a review course & on-line examination, then demonstrate advanced clinical proficiency using the dental laser of their choosing. Clinician candidates must prepare five (5) clinical case studies, bring all five (5) cases to the annual session, and be prepared to present a minimum of two of them. Clinician candidates must pass all three parts in sequence; LSO candidates do not take Case Study presentation but must pass parts written and clinical exams. This level of education exceeds the standard of care for the dental professional.

### Requirements for Application:

- 1) Applications must wait a minimum of one year after their standard level certification prior to applying for the online Review Course and Examination. Candidates may apply for both Written and Clinical exam simultaneously, but must pass the written exam prior to taking clinical exam at the annual conference.
- 2) Clinician candidates must wait a minimum of two years at the standard level prior to applying for the clinical case presentation section of the examination and must have successfully completed the advanced proficiency written examination and clinical simulation. Applicants may not take The Written, Clinical & Case Studies in one given year.
- 3) Applicants must be a member of the Academy of Laser Dentistry.
- 4) All certification candidates must register for the annual conference and must pay all applicable fees.

**During the Introduction to Lasers Hands-On Course, Candidates will:**

- Participate in 7-hours of educational instruction.
- Participate in hands-on clinical use of many different laser devices.
- Learn laser physics and the fundamentals of lasers.
- Learn laser safety and infection control.
- Understand the capabilities and limitations of various dental lasers.
- Review laser types, delivery systems, operating parameters and power settings.
- Review scientific studies of both hard and soft tissue laser applications.
- Review clinical simulations and treatment applications.

**During the Standard Proficiency Course and Examination, Candidates will:**

- Participate in 12-hours of educational instruction.
- Learn laser physics and the fundamentals of lasers.
- Learn laser safety and infection control.
- Understand the capabilities and limitations of various dental lasers.
- Review laser types, delivery systems, operating parameters and power settings.
- Review scientific studies of both hard and soft tissue laser applications.
- Review clinical simulations and treatment applications.
- Discuss the management of patient treatment.
- Participate in clinical simulation examination.
- Take a multiple choice on-line examination.
- Receive a Certificate of Successful Completion if eligible.

**In preparation for the Advanced Proficiency Examination, Candidates will:**

Receive an extensive preparation information packet including a suggested time table and be assigned a mentor who has advanced proficiency using the wavelength of your choice.

- Demonstrate advanced knowledge of laser wavelengths via a multiple choice on-line exam before the annual conference.
- Demonstrate advanced clinical proficiency using a specified laser device during Part II clinical simulation examination at the annual conference.
- Prepare (5) five clinical case studies according to the Essential Elements of Clinical Case Studies if participating in Case Study Presentations of the Advanced Proficiency Examination. (Candidates seeking advanced proficiency as laser safety officers do not participate in the clinical case study section). Submit two (2) of the five case studies by December 15 prior to the annual conference. (Please make sure your cases include photographs which are of high quality and illustrate the treatment that you are discussing).
- Present of a minimum two of the five cases orally during the Advanced Proficiency Clinical Case Presentation Examination at the annual conference.
- Receive a Certificate of Successful Completion if eligible.

**Faculty**

Certification Courses are conducted by experienced laser clinicians who are recognized by the Academy of Laser Dentistry. Each faculty member has fulfilled the rigorous task of meeting the standards for Standard Proficiency Dental Laser Educator as set forth in the Curriculum Guidelines and Standards for Dental Laser Education and has successfully submitted their course materials to the Academy for review and recognition as a Recognized Course Provider.

Academy of Laser Dentistry 16th Annual Conference  
**STANDARD & ADVANCED CERTIFICATION**  
**EXAM APPLICATION PROCESS**  
• Green Valley Ranch, Las Vegas, Nevada, USA •

**Application Instructions and Procedures:**

- Submit your application with payment to the Academy of Laser Dentistry.
- Space is limited. Applications will be processed in the order received.
- All candidates will receive an acknowledgement and additional instructions from the Academy upon receipt of completed application.
- All candidates are encouraged to register for ALD 2009, ALD's 16<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference in addition to the certification registration.

**For Additional Information:**

**Heather M Meiselman, LCSW, Membership & Communications**

Academy of Laser Dentistry, PO Box 8667, Coral Springs, FL 33075 USA

Telephone: 954-346-3776 • Toll Free 1-877-LASERS6 (527-3776)

Fax 954-346-2598 Email: [meiselman@laserdentistry.org](mailto:meiselman@laserdentistry.org)

ALD Membership Website: [www.laserdentistry.org](http://www.laserdentistry.org)

ALD Conference Website: [www.laserdentistry.org/ald2009vegas](http://www.laserdentistry.org/ald2009vegas)



*Academy of Laser Dentistry*