MEMO FROM NMBODHC

10 March 2017

RE: THIRD PARTY PAYER RECOGNITION OF DENTAL SPECIALISTS

It has come to the attention of the NM Board of Dental Health Care that certain third-party payers do not recognize dental specialists unless that dentist has a dental specialty license.

There are two pathways that a dental specialist can get a dental license in NM. These are defined in statute and rules. It does not matter which pathway a dental specialist obtains their NM dental license. As long as they have graduated and have certification from an ADA recognized and accredited specialty residency program, they are able to practice, advertise, and announce themselves to the public as a specialist. They may have a general license to practice dentistry, or a specialty license. Either way, the Board recognizes that they are a dental specialist.