

Commission on Dental Accreditation

At its Summer 2024 meeting, the Commission directed that the proposed revision to Accreditation Standards for Dental Hygiene Education Programs be distributed to the appropriate communities of interest for review and comment, with comment due December 1, 2024, for review at the Winter 2025 Commission meeting.

Written comments will only be accepted through the Commission's Electronic Comment Submission Portal at this link:

https://surveys.ada.org/jfe/form/SV_0weaNF7BSvBt7dH

Additions are Underlined
~~Strikethroughs~~ indicate Deletions

Accreditation Standards for Dental Hygiene Education Programs

STANDARD 3 - ADMINISTRATION, FACULTY AND STAFF

Faculty

3-6 ~~Full-time and part-time~~ **All** faculty of a dental hygiene program who teach in a didactic course must possess a baccalaureate or higher degree. All ~~part-time~~ faculty whose teaching is limited to a clinical and dental science laboratory faculty course must possess an associate or higher degree. ~~appointed prior to July 1, 2022 are exempt from the degree requirement.~~

All dental hygiene program faculty members must have:

- a) current knowledge of the specific subjects they are teaching.
- b) documented background in current educational methodology concepts consistent with teaching assignments.
- c) faculty who are dental hygienists or dentists must be graduates of programs accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation. A dentist who was appointed as a faculty prior to July 1, 2022 is exempt from the graduation requirement. An internationally trained dentist or dental hygienist is exempt from the graduation requirement.
- d) faculty who are internationally trained dental hygienists or dentists must hold credentials required by the state.
- ~~e~~e) evidence of faculty calibration for clinical evaluation.

Intent:

Faculty should have background in current education theory and practice, concepts relative to the specific subjects they are teaching, clinical practice experience and, if applicable, distance education techniques and delivery. These criteria apply to dentists and dental hygienists who supervise students' clinical procedures should have qualifications which comply with the state dental or dental hygiene practice act. Individuals who teach and supervise dental hygiene students in clinical enrichment experiences should have qualifications comparable to faculty who teach in the dental hygiene clinic and are familiar with the program's objectives, content, instructional methods and evaluation procedures.

Examples of evidence to demonstrate compliance may include:

- faculty curriculum vitae with recent professional development activities listed
- evidence of participation in workshops, in-service training, self-study courses, on-line and credited courses
- attendance at regional and national meetings that address education
- mentored experiences for new faculty
- scholarly productivity
- maintenance of existing and development of new and/or emerging clinical skills