

Commission on Dental Accreditation
Unofficial Report of Major Actions
SPECIAL CLOSED MEETING
April 13, 2020

The Commission on Dental Accreditation (CODA) conducted a special, closed meeting on April 13, 2020 to further discuss the impact of COVID-19 on dental and dental-related education programs. The Commission considered the proposed *temporary flexibility* for the Class of 2020 based on recommendations of each of its Review Committees. The Commission also considered the impact of COVID-19 on CODA's operations related to ongoing work of the Commission.

The items noted below highlight the major actions taken by the Commission.

Interruption of Education: The Commission on Dental Accreditation continues to understand that dental education programs have implemented innovative approaches to maintain the quality of dental education for students, residents, and fellows using valid and reliable educational modalities. The Commission on Dental Accreditation also recognizes that all CODA-accredited dental and dental related education programs have an obligation and responsibility to ensure the competence of the program's graduates, including the Class of 2020, in accordance with the requirements of CODA's Accreditation Standards, policies, and procedures.

- The Commission adopted, with immediate implementation, the *temporary flexibility guidance document* for each discipline under the Commission's purview, related to the Class of 2020.
- The Commission directed that the *temporary flexibility guidance document* for each discipline be distributed to all Commission-accredited dental education programs, to be used as a resource to address the mandatory interruption of education reporting requirements resulting from COVID-19 for the Class of 2020.
- The Commission further directed that informational webinars be scheduled to provide program directors with general guidance on development of the required interruption of education report.

Ongoing CODA Operations: The Commission took the actions below recognizing that the impact of COVID-19 is evolving and may create continued delays in some of the Commission's operations based upon social distancing, availability of CODA volunteers, ability to access and collect data on projects, and other work that must take precedence.

- Spring 2020 Validity and Reliability Studies
 - The Commission directed that the Spring 2020 Validity and Reliability Studies for predoctoral dental education and oral and maxillofacial pathology education be delayed until Spring 2021.
- Ad Hoc Committees for Standards Revisions
 - The Commission directed that the three (3) Ad Hoc Committees to consider standards revisions for Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery, Orthodontics and

Dentofacial Orthopedics, and Periodontics, respectively, be directed to submit update reports in Winter 2021 rather than Summer 2020.

- Ad Hoc Committee on CODA Structure and Function
 - The Commission directed that the Ad Hoc Committee on CODA Structure and Function continue its work, with a report in Winter 2021 rather than Summer 2020.
- Ad Hoc Committee on Use of Educational Activity Sites
 - The Commission directed that the Ad Hoc Committee on Use of Educational Activity Sites continue its work, with a report in Winter 2021 rather than Summer 2020.
 - The Commission further directed that its mandatory survey of all dental education programs on the use of educational activity sites be delayed during the COVID-19 interruption.
 - The Commission further directed cancelation of the Summer 2020 Mega Issue Discussion on the use of educational activity sites.
- Management of Applications for Accreditation
 - The Commission directed a delay of further processing of applications during the COVID-19 interruption.
- Commission Meetings and Hearings on Accreditation Standards
 - The Commission directed that virtual Hearings on Accreditation Standards be scheduled for Pediatric Dentistry and Dental Hygiene, in lieu of previously directed hearings at national meetings which have subsequently been canceled.
 - The Commission further directed that a reminder be distributed to all communities of interest that individuals may submit comments on proposed Accreditation Standards directly to the Commission office, by email, in lieu of submission of comments during a Hearing on Standards, which may have been canceled in response to COVID-19.

Commission Members: Dr. John Agar, Dr. Joel Berg, Dr. Linda Casser, Dr. Eladio DeLeon, Dr. Steven Friedrichsen, Dr. Christopher Hasty, Dr. Monica Hebl, Dr. John Hellstein, Dr. Jeffery Hicks (vice chair), Dr. Arthur Chen-Shu Jee (chair), Dr. Bradford Johnson, Dr. Susan Kass, Dr. James Katancik, Dr. Barbara Krieg-Menning, Dr. Steven Levy, Dr. Sanjay Mallya, Mr. Charles McClemens, Dr. William Nelson, Dr. Marsha Pyle, Dr. Bruce Rotter, Dr. Timothy Schwartz, Ms. Ambika Srivastava, Ms. Deanna Stentiford, Dr. Marshall Titus, and Dr. Lawrence Wolinsky.

Dr. Kevin Haubrick, Dr. Adolphus Jackson, and Dr. Alan Stein attended a portion of the meeting.

Dr. Scott DeVito and Dr. Marybeth Shaffer were not in attendance.