Guidance Document: Temporary Flexibility in Accreditation Standards to Address Interruption of Education Reporting Requirements Resulting From COVID-19 for the Class of 2020

Below is the *temporary flexibility* guidance on select Accreditation Standards. Only those Accreditation Standards which include *temporary flexibility* are included, all others have been retained as written in the current published Accreditation Standards document.

Dental Laboratory Technology Education

Alternative Assessment Methods (for example, patient vs simulation)
Programs may use alternative instructional and assessment methods, including distance education, virtual simulations, and other appropriate methods determined by the program to enable the program to continue to provide curricular content and evaluation of student competence.

Modification/Reduction of Curriculum Content or Curriculum Requirements (for example, modification/reduction of program-dictated requirements, CODA competency requirements, and/or CODA quantitative numbers-based requirements)
Although there are no (0) CODA-specified quantitative numbers-based requirements for dental laboratory technology education programs, programs need to affirm competence of the graduates. A program may have flexibility to modify or reduce its own requirements as long as the program can assure its graduates are competent.

Program Length or Program Component Length (for example, rotations, services, etc.)
Programs may use alternative educational delivery and assessment methods to ensure continued compliance with the CODA Standard requiring that dental laboratory technology education programs be two (2) academic years of full-time study or its equivalent. Each dental laboratory technology education program may have program-specific time requirements for practical experience, although this is not dictated by the Accreditation Standards. Programs can modify specific prescribed requirements as long as the program assures its graduates are competent. It is up to the program to determine when its students have fulfilled the program's requirements and are competent to graduate.

Accreditation Standards for Dental Laboratory Technology Education Programs

Dental Laboratory Technology Standard 2-4
The curriculum must be structured on the basis of two academic years of full-time study or its equivalent at the postsecondary level.

> Temporary Guidance: For the Class of 2020, temporary flexibility is permitted such that programs may use alternative educational delivery and assessment methods to ensure continued compliance with the CODA Standard requiring that dental laboratory

technology education programs be two (2) academic years of full-time study or its equivalent.

Dental Laboratory Technology Standard 2-23
Practical experiences to support the development of competency in performing laboratory procedures must be provided either in the program facilities or off-site facilities.

Temporary Guidance: For the Class of 2020, temporary flexibility is permitted such that programs may modify specific prescribed requirements related to practical experience, as long as the program assures its graduates are competent. It is up to the program to determine when its students have fulfilled the program's requirements and are competent to graduate. Each program must individually assess whether the student has achieved competency to fulfill this and all other standards noted in Standard 2.