

Guidance Document: Temporary Flexibility in Accreditation Standards to Address Interruption of Education Reporting Requirements Resulting From COVID-19 for the Class of 2021

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.

Endodontics Education

Alternative Assessment Methods (for example, patient vs simulation)

Programs should consider alternative methods of assessment, such as simulation, as needed.

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)

Programs with additional requirements beyond the Accreditation Standards may adjust minimum program expectations as long as the program assures that the student/resident is competent upon graduation.

Program Length or Program Component Length (for example, rotations, services, etc.)

Programs will remain their full accredited program length, even though it may not be comprised of patient experiences for its full length.

Accreditation Standards for Endodontics Education Programs

Current Endodontics Standard 4-1

An advanced dental education program in endodontics must encompass a minimum duration of 24 months (104 weeks) of full-time study.

Proposed Endodontics Standard 4-1 (under circulation, underline is addition, ~~strikethrough~~ is deletion)

An advanced dental education program in endodontics must encompass a minimum duration of 24 months (~~104 weeks~~) of full-time study.

Intent: To ensure that during the 104 weeks it is expected that endodontic students/residents will have a maximum of 8 weeks available for vacations, legal holidays, sick leave and personal time. To ensure that the program's student/resident leave policy and procedure aligns with institutional policies with regard to leave and due process, and complies with a minimum program duration of 24 months.

Temporary Guidance: For the Class of 2021, temporary flexibility is permitted with regard to a minimum program duration of 24 months, rather than 104 weeks, as noted in

the current proposed revised Accreditation Standards. However, given the temporary flexibility in determining competency (for example, simulation versus patient-based) as needed, there is no need to modify the program's accredited length as long as the program demonstrates that its graduates are competent.

Endodontics Standard 4-6

A minimum of 40% and a maximum of 60% of the total clock hours in a two-year (24 months) program must be devoted to clinical care.

Temporary Guidance: For the Class of 2021, temporary flexibility is permitted related to the percentage of clinical care clock hours; however, there must be documentation that the students/residents have had sufficient clinical training to be competent upon graduation.

Endodontics Standard 6-1.1

The research experience and results must be compiled into a document in publishable format.

Temporary Guidance: For the Class of 2021, temporary flexibility is permitted such that the program may accept a student's/resident's research protocol in lieu of a document in a publishable format. It should be noted that if the research experience is associated with attainment of a degree, the completion of a project may be dictated by the degree-granting program.