

# Commission on Dental Accreditation

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On January 31, 2025 the Commission adopted the Accreditation Standards for Advanced Dental Education Programs in Endodontics, related to the intent statement of Standard 2-2, for administrative oversight at major sites where educational activity occurs, with immediate implementation.

Additions are Underlined

## Accreditation Standards for Advanced Dental Education Programs in Endodontics

## STANDARD 2 - PROGRAM DIRECTOR AND TEACHING STAFF

The program **must** be administered by one director who is board certified in the respective advanced dental education discipline of the program. (All program directors appointed after January 1, 1997, who have not previously served as program directors, **must** be board certified.)

*Intent: The director of an advanced dental education program is to be certified by a nationally accepted certifying board in the advanced dental education discipline. Board certification is to be active. The board certification requirement of Standard 2 is also applicable to an interim/acting program director. A program with a director who is not board certified but who has previous experience as an interim/acting program director in a Commission-accredited program prior to 1997 is not considered in compliance with Standard 2.*

Examples of evidence to demonstrate compliance may include:

- For board certified directors: Copy of board certification certificate; letter from board attesting to current/active board certification
- (For non-board certified directors who served prior to January 1, 1997: Current CV identifying previous directorship in a Commission on Dental Accreditation- or Commission on Dental Accreditation of Canada-accredited advanced dental education program in the respective discipline; letter from the previous employing institution verifying service)

**The program director must be appointed to the sponsoring institution and have sufficient authority and time to achieve the educational goals of the program and assess the program’s effectiveness in meeting its goals.**

**Documentation of all program activities must be ensured by the program director and available for review.**

**2-1 The sponsoring institution must appoint a program director whose time commitment is no less than twenty-four hours per week to the advanced dental education program in endodontics.**

*Intent: To ensure that the program director has sufficient time to participate in all aspects of the program including direct student/resident contact in didactic and clinical activities.*

**2-2 Responsibilities of the program director must include:**

- a. **Development of mission, goals, and objectives for the program;**
- b. **Development and implementation of a curriculum plan;**
- c. **Planning for and operation of the facilities used in the endodontic program;**
- d. **Student/resident selection unless the program is sponsored by a federal service utilizing a centralized student/resident selection process;**

- e. Ensuring ongoing evaluation of student/resident performance and faculty teaching performance;
- f. Evaluation of teaching program and faculty supervision in affiliated institutions;
- g. Maintenance of records related to the educational program, including written instructional objectives and course outlines;
- h. Overall continuity and quality of patient care as it relates to program;
- i. Ongoing planning, evaluation and improvement of the quality of the program;
- j. Preparation of graduates for certification by the American Board of Endodontics; and
- k. Ensuring formal (written) evaluation of faculty members at least annually to assess their performance in the educational program.

*Intent: To ensure that the program director has complete authority to administer all aspects of the advanced education program and that all administrative records are maintained within the institution. The program director should ensure administrative oversight is present at any major site where educational activity occurs.*

- 2-3** The number of faculty and the professional education and development of faculty must be sufficient to meet the program’s objectives and outcomes.
- 2-4** There must be attending faculty responsible for all clinical activities.
  - 2-4.1** Attending faculty must have specific and regularly scheduled clinic assignments to provide direct supervision appropriate to a student’s/resident’s level of training in all patient care.
- 2-5** Program directors and full time faculty must be provided time and resources to engage in scholarly pursuits, which may include:
  - a. Participation in continuing education in endodontics;
  - b. Participation in regional or national endodontic societies;
  - c. Participation in research; and
  - d. Presentation and publication of scientific/clinical studies.
- 2-6** All faculty, including those at major and minor educational activity sites, must be calibrated to ensure consistency in training and evaluation of students/residents that supports the goals and objectives of the program.