

REPORT OF THE REVIEW COMMITTEE ON PERIODONTICS EDUCATION TO THE COMMISSION ON DENTAL ACCREDITATION

Committee Chair: Dr. Paul Luepke. Committee Members: Dr. Dolphus Dawson, Dr. Wayne Kye, Dr. A.C. Liles, III, Dr. Vishal Shah, and Dr. Dimitris Tatakis. Guests (Open Session Only, Virtual): Dr. Jennifer Bain, education consultant, American Academy of Periodontology (AAP). Commission Staff: Dr. Yesenia Ruiz, manager, Advanced Dental Education, Dr. Sherin Tooks, senior director, Ms. Taylor Weast, manager, Advanced Dental Education, and Ms. Shelby Burgus, senior project assistant, Commission on Dental Accreditation (CODA). The meeting of the Review Committee on Periodontics Education (PERIO RC) was held on January 9, 2025, via a virtual meeting.

CONSIDERATION OF MATTERS RELATED TO PERIODONTICS EDUCATION

Informational Report on Periodontics Programs Annual Survey Curriculum Data (p. 1300): At its Winter 2015 meeting, the Commission directed that all Review Committees consider the informational report on aggregate data from the Curriculum Section of the Annual Survey in years when this data is available. At this meeting, the Periodontics RC reviewed the informational report on aggregate data from the Curriculum Section for the periodontics programs conducted in August/September 2024, without comment.

Recommendation: This report is informational in nature, and no action is required.

Consideration of Accreditation Standards for Advanced Dental Education Programs in Periodontics Related to Administrative Oversight at Major Sites Where Educational Activity Occurs (p. 1301): At its Winter 2024 meeting, the Commission on Dental Accreditation (CODA) directed an Ad Hoc or Standing Committee to investigate in-person, on-site work expectations for program directors to determine if changes are needed in the discipline-specific Accreditation Standards for dental education, advanced dental education, and allied dental education programs. As directed, in advance of the Summer 2024 CODA meeting, the Ad Hoc Committee, which was comprised of all current CODA Commissioners, reviewed the background materials, which included the Commission's action leading to the Ad Hoc Committee, and the Standards for each discipline related to program director (**Appendix 1, Policy Report p. 1301**). The Committee noted that while all CODA Standards have a requirement for clinical supervision at all educational activity sites, most Standards do not address overall administrative oversight of the program, by the program director or a designee, at all sites where a student spends a majority or all their time. The Committee discussed whether virtual oversight or assignment of a responsible individual would be appropriate at all educational sites. The Committee believed there must be consistency in the educational program at all program sites. Following consideration, the Ad Hoc Committee concluded that each Review Committee that does not currently have a Standard related to administrative oversight at major educational activity sites (e.g., off-campus sites where students spend a majority or all their time) should review this topic and determine whether a Standard is needed to address the Commission's expectation for administrative oversight, for consideration by the Commission in

Winter 2025. In considering this matter, the Commission noted that inclusion of Intent Statements, in conjunction with proposed Standards, could further clarify the flexibility permitted for programs to oversee educational sites in a variety of ways, while ensuring administrative oversight and consistency in the educational program across all sites. At its Summer 2024 meeting, the Commission on Dental Accreditation concurred with the recommendations of the Ad Hoc Committee.

At its Winter 2025 meeting, the Review Committee on Periodontics Education (PERIO RC) considered the periodontics Accreditation Standards (**Appendix 1, Policy Report p. 1301**) related to administrative oversight at major educational activity sites (e.g., off-campus sites where students spend a majority or all their time) to determine whether revisions are needed to address the Commission's expectation for administrative oversight. The Review Committee noted that periodontics programs complete most of the education and training at the primary site, using major educational sites for some rotations as desired by each program. The PERIO RC believed that the program director's responsibilities should include administrative oversight at major educational activity sites.

Following consideration, the Review Committee determined that the Standards require modification to address overall administrative oversight of the program, by the program director or a designee, at all sites where a student/resident spends a majority or all their time. Therefore, the Review Committee proposes the addition of "h" to the current Standard 2-1 (**Appendix 1**) within the periodontics Accreditation Standards. The Review Committee recommended that the proposed revision be circulated to the communities of interest for review and comment for one (1) year, with Hearings conducted in conjunction with the American Dental Education Association (ADEA) Annual Meeting and American Dental Association (ADA) Annual Session, with review of all comments received by the Review Committee and Commission in Winter 2026.

Recommendation: It is recommended that the Commission on Dental Accreditation direct the proposed revision to the Accreditation Standards for Advanced Dental Education Programs in Periodontics (**Appendix 1**) related to administrative oversight at major sites where educational activity occurs be circulated to the communities of interest for review and comment for one (1) year, with Hearings conducted in conjunction with the American Dental Education Association (ADEA) Annual Meeting and American Dental Association (ADA) Annual Session, with review of comments received by the Review Committee and Commission in Winter 2026.

Consideration of Accreditation Standards for Advanced Dental Education Programs in Periodontics Related to Diversity and Humanistic Culture and Learning Environment (p. 1302): On December 1, 2023, the Commission received a letter from The National Coalition of Dentists for Health Equity (TNCDHE) (**Appendix 1, Policy Report p. 1302**), which provided short-term and long-term suggestions to CODA to improve diversity in all academic dental, allied dental, and advanced dental education programs. In Winter 2024, each Review Committee of the Commission provided comment to CODA on TNCDHE letter. Following consideration of

Review Committee Reports, the Commission directed establishment of an Ad Hoc Committee composed of all Commissioners who chair the discipline-specific Review Committees in dental, allied dental, and advanced dental education, and additional CODA Commissioners, to study the Accreditation Standards for possible revision related to the letter from TNCDHE.

In advance of the Commission's Summer 2024 meeting, the Ad Hoc Committee, which was comprised of all current CODA Commissioners, reviewed the background materials, which included the prior work of the Commission on this topic, the letters from TNCDHE, CODA Standards related to diversity and the humanistic culture including proposed revisions, Annual Survey data on dental programs related to diversity, and information from other accrediting agencies. The Committee noted that this is an important topic, but other considerations must also be acknowledged including differences among institutions related to missions, resources, funding, state and federal regulations, and legal considerations. It was noted that some states do not permit initiatives focused on diversity, and the Commission cannot impose Standards that would conflict with state or federal law. As such, the Committee noted the proposed predoctoral dental education Standard revision, which discusses diversity efforts, would be consistent with university policy and state law. At its Summer 2024 meeting, following consideration of the Ad Hoc Committee Report, the Commission directed that all Review Committees consider the proposed revisions for the Dental Standards 1-2 and 1-3 and revisions for the Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery Standards 1-11 and 2-1.7 (adopted Summer 2024), for possible inclusion of similar Standards within the Review Committee's own discipline(s) to address diversity and the humanistic culture, with a report to the Commission in Winter 2025.

At its Winter 2025 meeting, the Review Committee on Periodontics Education (PERIO RC) considered the periodontics Accreditation Standards and reference materials including the proposed Dental Standards 1-2 and 1-3 and adopted revisions for Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery Standards 1-11 and 2-1.7 (**Appendix 2, Policy Report p. 1302**) for possible inclusion of similar Standards to address diversity and the humanistic culture and learning environment. The Review Committee noted the importance of the report and supports diversity and the humanistic culture and learning environment. However, the PERIO RC believed that some federal and state regulations may affect a program's ability to comply with requirements related to diversity. The Review Committee will continue to monitor the environment related to diversity in academia but noted that Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery Standards 1-11 and 2-18 could be considered in the future.

Following consideration, the Review Committee determined that the Standards may require a future modification to address diversity and the humanistic culture and learning environment. The Review Committee will review this topic and consider proposed revisions in the future.

Recommendation: It is recommended that the Commission on Dental Accreditation direct there be no revision at this time to the Accreditation Standards for Advanced Dental Education in Periodontics related to diversity and the humanistic culture and learning environment.

**CONSIDERATION OF MATTERS RELATING TO MORE THAN
ONE REVIEW COMMITTEE**

Matters related to more than one review committee are included in a separate report.

**CONSIDERATION OF SITE VISITOR APPOINTMENTS TO THE COMMISSION ON
DENTAL ACCREDITATION IN THE AREA OF PERIODONTICS EDUCATION**

The Review Committee on Periodontics Education (PERIO RC) considered site visitor appointments for 2025-2026. The Committee's recommendations on the appointments of individuals are included in a separate report.

CONSIDERATION OF MATTERS RELATED TO ACCREDITATION STATUS

Matters related to accreditation status of programs are included in a separate report.

Respectfully submitted,

Dr. Paul Luepke
Chair, Review Committee on Periodontics Education

Commission on Dental Accreditation

Proposed Revision to Standard 2-1

Additions are Underlined
~~Strikethroughs~~ indicate Deletions

Accreditation Standards for Advanced Dental Education Programs in Periodontics

1 **STANDARD 2 - PROGRAM DIRECTOR AND TEACHING STAFF**
2

3 **The program must be administered by one director who is board certified in the respective**
4 **advanced dental education discipline of the program. (All program directors appointed after**
5 **January 1, 1997, who have not previously served as program directors, must be board**
6 **certified.)**
7

8 *Intent: The director of an advanced dental education program is to be certified by nationally*
9 *accepted certifying board in the advanced dental education discipline. Board certification is to be*
10 *active. The board certification requirement of Standard 2 is also applicable to an interim/acting*
11 *program director. A program with a director who is not board certified but who has previous*
12 *experience as an interim/acting program director in a Commission-accredited program prior to 1997*
13 *is not considered in compliance with Standard 2.*
14

15 Examples of evidence to demonstrate compliance may include:
16

17 For board certified directors: Copy of board certification certificate; letter from board
18 attesting to current/active board certification
19

20 (For non-board certified directors who served prior to January 1, 1997: Current CV
21 identifying previous directorship in a Commission on Dental Accreditation- or Commission
22 on Dental Accreditation of Canada-accredited advanced dental education program in the
23 respective discipline; letter from the previous employing institution verifying service)
24

25 **The program director must be appointed to the sponsoring institution and have sufficient**
26 **authority and time to achieve the educational goals of the program and assess the program's**
27 **effectiveness in meeting its goals.**
28

29 **Documentation of all program activities must be ensured by the program director and available**
30 **for review.**
31

32 **2-1 The program director must have primary responsibility for the organization and**
33 **execution of the educational and administrative components of the program. The**
34 **director must devote sufficient time to the program to include the following:**
35

- 36 **a. Utilize a faculty that can offer a diverse educational experience in**
37 **biomedical, behavioral and clinical sciences;**
38 **b. Promote cooperation between periodontics, general dentistry, related**
39 **dental specialties and other health sciences;**
40 **c. Select students/residents qualified to undertake training in periodontics**
41 **unless the program is sponsored by a federal service utilizing a centralized**
42 **student/resident selection process;**
43 **d. Develop and implement the curriculum plan;**

- e. Evaluate and document student/resident and faculty performance;
- f. Document educational and patient care records as well as records of student/resident attendance and participation in didactic and clinical programs; **and**
- g. Responsibility for the quality and continuity of patient care; **and**
- h. **Maintain administrative oversight of the academic program at all major educational sites.**

Intent: The program director should be an experienced educator in periodontics and should be a full-time faculty member with a primary commitment to periodontics.

- 2-2 The program director must prepare graduates to seek certification by the American Board of Periodontology.
 - a. The program director must track Board Certification of program graduates.
- 2-3 A combination of full-time and part-time faculty is most desirable. The number and time commitment of faculty must be sufficient to provide didactic and administrative continuity.
- 2-4 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.
- 2-5 Faculty must be assigned for all clinical sessions and immediately available for consultation with students/residents and patients. There must be direct supervision by periodontists of students/residents who are performing periodontal and dental implant related surgical procedures.
- 2-6 Faculty must take responsibility for patient care and actively participate in the development of treatment plans and evaluation of all phases of treatment provided by students/residents.
- 2-7 Faculty must be formally evaluated at least annually by the program director to determine their effectiveness in the educational program.
- 2-8 In addition to their regular responsibilities in the program, full-time faculty must have adequate time to develop and foster advances in their own education and capabilities in order to ensure their constant improvement as clinical periodontists, teachers and/or researchers.

1 *Intent: The program director and faculty should demonstrate their continued pursuit*
2 *of new knowledge in periodontics and related fields.*

3
4 **2-9 The program director and faculty must actively participate in the assessment of**
5 **the outcomes of the educational program.**

6
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