



Commission on Dental Accreditation

Conflict of Interest Policy

Evaluation policies and procedures used in the accreditation process provide a system of checks and balances regarding the fairness and impartiality in all aspects of the accreditation process. Central to the fairness of the procedural aspects of the Commission's operations and the impartiality of its decision making process is an organizational and personal duty to avoid real or perceived conflicts of interest. The potential for a conflict of interest arises when one's duty to make decisions in the public's interest is compromised by competing interests of a personal or private nature, including but not limited to pecuniary interests.

Conflict of interest is considered to be: 1) any relationship with an institution or program, or 2) a partiality or bias, either of which might interfere with objectivity in the accreditation review process. Procedures for selection of representatives of the Commission who participate in the evaluation process reinforce impartiality. These representatives include: Commissioners, Review Committee members, site visitors, and Commission staff.

In addition, procedures for institutional due process, as well as strict guidelines for all written documents and accreditation decisions, further reinforce adherence to fair accreditation practices. Every effort is made to avoid conflict of interest, either from the point of view of an institution/program being reviewed or from the point of view of any person representing the Commission.

On occasion, current and former volunteers involved in the Commission's accreditation process (site visitors, review committee members, commissioners) are requested to make presentations related to the Commission and its accreditation process at various meetings. In these cases, the volunteer must make it clear that the services are neither supported nor endorsed by the Commission on Dental Accreditation. Further, it must be made clear that the information provided is based only on experiences of the individual and not being provided on behalf of the Commission.

Revised: 8/15; 8/14; Reaffirmed: 8/12, 8/10

1. Visiting Committee Members: Conflicts of interest may be identified by either an institution/program, Commissioner, site visitor or Commission staff. An institution/program has the right to reject the assignment of any Commissioner, site visitor or Commission staff because of a possible or perceived conflict of interest. The Commission expects all programs, Commissioners and/or site visitors to notify the Commission office immediately if, for any reason, there may be a conflict of interest or the appearance of such a conflict.

All active site visitors who independently consult with educational programs accredited by CODA or applying for accreditation must identify all consulting roles to the Commission and must file with the Commission a letter of conflict acknowledgement signed by themselves and the institution/program with whom they consulted. All conflict of interest policies as noted elsewhere in this document apply. Contact the CODA office for the appropriate conflict of interest declaration form.

Conflicts of interest include, but are not limited to, a site visitor who:

- is a graduate of a program at the institution;
- has served on the program's visiting committee within the last ten (10) years;
- has served as an independent consultant, employee or appointee of the institution;
- has a family member who is employed or affiliated with the institution;
- has a close professional or personal relationship with the institution/program or key personnel in the institution/program which would, from the standpoint of a reasonable person, create the appearance of a conflict;
- manifests a partiality that prevents objective consideration of a program for accreditation;

- is a former employee of the institution or program;
- previously applied for a position at the institution within the last five (5) years;
- is affiliated with an institution/program in the same state;
- is a resident of or owns property in the state; and/or
- is in the process of considering, interviewing and/or hiring key personnel at the institution.

Note: Because of the nature of their positions, a state board representative will be a resident of the state in which a program is located and may be a graduate of the institution/program being visited. These components of the policy do not apply for state board representatives, although the program retains the right to reject an individual's assignment for other reasons.

If an institutional administrator, faculty member or site visitor has doubt as to whether or not a conflict of interest could exist, Commission staff should be consulted prior to the site visit. The Chair, Vice-Chair and a public member of the Commission, in consultation with Commission staff and legal counsel, may make a final determination about such conflicts.

Revised: 8/18; 2/18; 2/16; 8/14; 1/14; 2/13; 8/10; Reaffirmed: 8/12

2. Commissioners, Review Committee Members And Members Of The Appeal Board: The Commission firmly believes that conflict of interest or the appearance of a conflict of interest must be avoided in all situations in which accreditation recommendations or decisions are being made by Commissioners, Review Committee members, or members of the Appeal Board. No Commissioner, Review Committee member, or member of the Appeal Board should participate in any way in accrediting decisions in which he or she has a financial or personal interest or, because of an institutional or program association, has divided loyalties and/or has a conflict of interest on the outcome of the decision.

During the term of service as a Review Committee member, these individuals should not serve as site visitors for an actual accreditation site visit to an accredited or developing program, unless deemed necessary. Two instances when a review committee member could serve on a site visit include: 1) an inability to find a site visitor from the comprehensive site visitor list, or 2) when the review committee believes a member should attend a visit for consistency in the review process. This applies only to site visits that would be considered by the same review committee on which the site visitor is serving. Review committee members may not independently consult with a CODA-accredited program or a program applying for CODA accreditation. In addition, review committee members may not serve as a site visitor for mock accreditation purposes. These policies help avoid conflict of interest in the decision making process and minimize the need for recusals.

During the term of service as a commissioner or appeal board member, these individuals may not independently consult with a CODA-accredited program or a program applying for CODA accreditation. In addition, Commissioners or appeal board may not serve on a site visit team during their terms.

Areas of conflict of interest for Commissioners, Review Committee members and/or members of the Appeal Board include, but are not limited to: close professional or personal relationships or affiliation with the institution/program or key personnel in the institution/program which may create the appearance of a conflict;

- serving as an independent consultant or mock site visitor to the institution/program;
- being a graduate of the institution/program;
- being a current employee or appointee of the institution/program;
- previously applied for a position at the institution within the last five (5) years;
- being a current student at the institution/program;
- having a family member who is employed by or affiliated with the institution;

- manifesting a professional or personal interest at odds with the institution or program;
- key personnel of the institution/program having graduated from the program of the Commissioner, Review Committee member, or member of the Appeal Board;
- having served on the program's visiting committee within the last ten (10) years; and/or
- no longer a current employee of the institution or program but having been employed there within the past ten (10) years.

To safeguard the objectivity of the Review Committees, conflict of interest determinations shall be made by the Chair of the Review Committee. If the Chair, in consultation with a public member, staff and legal counsel, determines that a Review Committee member has a conflict of interest in connection with a particular program, the Review Committee member will be instructed to not access the report either in advance of or at the time of the meeting. Further, the individual must leave the room when they have any of the above conflicts. In cases in which the existence of a conflict of interest is less obvious, it is the responsibility of any committee member who feels that a potential conflict of interest exists to absent himself/herself from the room during the discussion of the particular accreditation report.

To safeguard the objectivity of the Commission, conflict of interest determinations shall be made by the Chair of the Commission. If the Chair, in consultation with a public member, staff and legal counsel, determines that a Commissioner has a conflict of interest in connection with a particular program, the Commissioner will be instructed to not access the report either in advance of or at the time of the meeting. Further, the individual must leave the room when they have any of the above conflicts. In cases in which the existence of a conflict of interest is less obvious, it is the responsibility of any Commissioner who feels that a potential conflict of interest exists to absent himself/herself from the room during the discussion of the particular accreditation report.

To safeguard the objectivity of the Appeal Board, any member who has a conflict of interest in connection with a program filing an appeal must inform the Director of the Commission. The Appeal Board member will be instructed to not access the report for that program either in advance of or at the time of the meeting, and the individual must leave the room when the program is being discussed. If necessary, the respective representative organization will be contacted to identify a temporary replacement Appeal Board member.

Conflicts of interest for Commissioners, Review Committee members and members of the Appeal Board may also include being from the same state, but not the same program. The Commission is aware that being from the same state may not itself be a conflict; however, when residence within the same state is in addition to any of the items listed above, a conflict would exist.

This provision refers to the concept of conflict of interest in the context of accreditation decisions. The prohibitions and limitations are not intended to exclude participation and decision-making in other areas, such as policy development and standard setting.

Commissioners are expected to evaluate each accreditation action, policy decision or standard adoption for the overall good of the public. The American Dental Association (ADA) Constitution and Bylaws limits the involvement of the members of the ADA, the American Dental Education Association and the American Association of Dental Boards in areas beyond the organization that appointed them. Although Commissioners are appointed by designated communities of interest, their duty of loyalty is first and foremost to the Commission. A conflict of interest exists when a Commissioner holds appointment as an officer in another organization within the Commission's communities of interest. Therefore, a conflict of interest exists when a Commissioner or a Commissioner-designee provides simultaneous service to the Commission and an organization within the communities of interest. (Refer to Policy on Simultaneous Service)

3. Commission Staff Members: Although Commission on Dental Accreditation staff does not participate directly in decisions by volunteers regarding accreditation, they are in a position to influence the outcomes of the process. On the other hand, staff provides equity and consistency among site visits and guidance interpreting the Commission's policies and procedures.

For these reasons, Commission staff adheres to the guidelines for site visitors, within the time limitations listed and with the exception of the state residency, including:

- graduation from a program at the institution within the last five years;
- service as a site visitor, employee or appointee of the institution within the last five years; and/or
- close personal or familial relationships with key personnel in the institution/program.

Revised: 8/14; 8/10, 7/09, 7/07, 7/00, 7/96, 1/95, 12/92; Reaffirmed: 8/12, 1/03; Adopted: 1982

**COMMISSION ON DENTAL ACCREDITATION
PREDOCTORAL DENTAL EDUCATION**

PREDOCTORAL DENTAL EDUCATION: In accordance with the Commission's policy on conflict of interest, the following individual was recused from the review of an educational program: **Dr. John Valenza**, A.T. Still University Arizona School of Dentistry and Oral Health.

The Review Committee on Predoctoral Dental Education recommends adoption of the following resolution:

Resolved, that the Commission on Dental Accreditation approve the accreditation classifications for the following programs as listed.

Report on Interruption of Education:

1. **A.T. Still University Arizona School of Dentistry and Oral Health
Mesa, AZ
dental education**

From: Approval without reporting requirements

To: Approval without reporting requirements

2. **Medical University of South Carolina James B. Edwards College of Dental Medicine
Charleston, SC
dental education**

From: Approval without reporting requirements

To: Approval without reporting requirements

**COMMISSION ON DENTAL ACCREDITATION
ADVANCED EDUCATION IN GENERAL DENTISTRY, GENERAL PRACTICE
RESIDENCY, DENTAL ANESTHESIOLOGY, ORAL MEDICINE, AND OROFACIAL
PAIN EDUCATION**

ADVANCED EDUCATION IN GENERAL DENTISTRY, GENERAL PRACTICE RESIDENCY, DENTAL ANESTHESIOLOGY, ORAL MEDICINE, AND OROFACIAL PAIN EDUCATION: In accordance with the Commission's policy on conflict of interest, the following individuals were recused from the review of an educational program: **Dr. Joseph Giovannitti**, Veterans Affairs Medical Center/Pittsburgh.

The Review Committee on Advanced Education in General Dentistry, General Practice Residency, Dental Anesthesiology, Oral Medicine, and Orofacial Pain Education recommends adoption of the following resolution:

Resolved, that the Commission on Dental Accreditation approve the accreditation classifications for the following programs as listed.

Report on Interruption of Education:

1. **1st Dental Battalion/Camp Pendleton-Dental Center
Camp Pendleton, CA
advanced education in general dentistry (12 months)**

From: Approval without reporting requirements
To: Approval without reporting requirements

2. **Veterans Affairs Medical Center/Sepulveda
Sepulveda, CA
general practice residency (12 months/optional 2nd year)**

From: Approval without reporting requirements
To: Approval without reporting requirements

3. **88th Dental Squadron/SGD/Wright-Patterson AFB
Wright Patterson AFB, OH
advanced education in general dentistry (12 months)**

From: Approval without reporting requirements
To: Approval without reporting requirements

4. **Veterans Affairs Medical Center/Pittsburgh
Pittsburgh, PA
general practice residency (12 months)**

From: Approval without reporting requirements

To: Approval without reporting requirements

5. **Johnston Memorial Hospital
Abingdon, VA
advanced education in general dentistry (12 months/optional 2nd year)**

From: Initial Accreditation (Pre-Graduation Site Visit: 2/2022; Special Focused Site Visit: 8/2021)

To: Initial Accreditation (Pre-Graduation Site Visit: 2/2022; Special Focused Site Visit: 8/2021)

**COMMISSION ON DENTAL ACCREDITATION
DENTAL ASSISTING EDUCATION**

DENTAL ASSISTING EDUCATION: In accordance with the Commission's policy on conflict of interest, the following individuals were recused from the review of an educational program: **Ms. Carol Johnson**, Orange Technical College-Orlando, Campus; **Ms. Martha McCaslin**, Indian Hills Community College and St. Louis Community College-Forest Park; and **Ms. Carol Little**, Gateway Technical College.

The Review Committee on Dental Assisting Education recommends adoption of the following resolution:

Resolved, that the Commission on Dental Accreditation approve the accreditation classifications for the following programs as listed.

Report on Interruption of Education:

1. **Traviss Technical College**
Lakeland, FL
dental assisting

From: Approval without reporting requirements
To: Approval without reporting requirements

2. **Orange Technical College-Orlando Campus**
Orlando Campus
dental assisting

From: Approval without reporting requirements
To: Approval without reporting requirements

3. **Ogeechee Technical College**
Statesboro, GA
dental assisting

From: Approval without reporting requirements
To: Approval without reporting requirements

4. **Indian Hills Community College**
Ottumwa, IA
dental assisting

From: Approval without reporting requirements
To: Approval without reporting requirements

5. **University of Maine at Augusta-Bangor**
Bangor, ME
dental assisting

From: Approval without reporting requirements
To: Approval without reporting requirements

6. **South Central College**
North Mankato, MN
dental assisting

From: Approval without reporting requirements
To: Approval without reporting requirements

7. **Metropolitan Community College-Penn Valley**
Kansas City, MO
dental assisting

From: Approval without reporting requirements
To: Approval without reporting requirements

8. **St. Louis Community College-Forest Park**
St. Louis, MO
dental assisting

From: Approval without reporting requirements
To: Approval without reporting requirements

9. **College of Southern Nevada**
Las Vegas, NV
dental assisting

From: Approval without reporting requirements
To: Approval without reporting requirements

10. **Coastal Carolina Community College**
Jacksonville, NC
dental assisting

From: Approval without reporting requirements
To: Approval without reporting requirements

11. **Central Carolina Community College**
Sanford, NC
dental assisting

From: Approval without reporting requirements
To: Approval without reporting requirements

12. **Lane Community College**
Eugene, OR
dental assisting

From: Approval without reporting requirements
To: Approval without reporting requirements

13. **Portland Community College**
Portland, OR
dental assisting

From: Approval without reporting requirements
To: Approval without reporting requirements

14. **Coleman College for Health Sciences, Houston**
Community College System
Houston, TX
dental assisting

From: Approval without reporting requirements
To: Approval without reporting requirements

15. **Gateway Technical College**
Kenosha, WI
dental assisting

From: Approval without reporting requirements
To: Approval with reporting requirements (4/2022)

**COMMISSION ON DENTAL ACCREDITATION
DENTAL HYGIENE EDUCATION**

DENTAL HYGIENE EDUCATION: In accordance with the Commission's policy on conflict of interest, no (0) individuals were recused from the review of an educational program.

The Review Committee on Dental Hygiene Education recommends adoption of the following resolution:

Resolved, that the Commission on Dental Accreditation approve the accreditation classifications for the following programs as listed.

Report on Interruption of Education:

1. **University of Arkansas-Fort Smith, Health Sciences
Fort Smith, AR
dental hygiene**

From: Approval without reporting requirements
To: Approval without reporting requirements

2. **University of Bridgeport/Fones School of Dental Hygiene
Bridgeport, CT
dental hygiene**

From: Approval without reporting requirements
To: Approval without reporting requirements

3. **Tunxis Community College-Allied Health
Farmington, CT
dental hygiene**

From: Approval without reporting requirements
To: Approval without reporting requirements

4. **Valencia College
Orlando, FL
dental hygiene**

From: Approval without reporting requirements
To: Approval without reporting requirements

5. **Lake Land College**
Mattoon, IL
dental hygiene

From: Approval without reporting requirements

To: Approval without reporting requirements

6. **Southern University**
Shreveport, LA
dental hygiene

From: Approval without reporting requirements

To: Approval without reporting requirements

7. **Baltimore City Community College**
Baltimore, MD
dental hygiene

From: Approval without reporting requirements

To: Approval without reporting requirements

8. **Mount Wachusett Community College**
Gardner, MA
dental hygiene

From: Approval without reporting requirements

To: Approval without reporting requirements

9. **Bergen Community College**
Paramus, NJ
dental hygiene

From: Approval without reporting requirements

To: Approval without reporting requirements

10. **Rowan College at Burlington County**
Pemberton, NJ
dental hygiene

From: Approval without reporting requirements
To: Approval without reporting requirements

11. **Community College of Philadelphia**
Philadelphia, PA
dental hygiene

From: Approval without reporting requirements
To: Approval without reporting requirements

12. **Community College of Rhode Island**
Lincoln, RI
dental hygiene

From: Approval without reporting requirements
To: Approval without reporting requirements

13. **Texas State Technical College at Harlingen**
Harlingen, TX
dental hygiene

From: Approval without reporting requirements
To: Approval without reporting requirements

**COMMISSION ON DENTAL ACCREDITATION
ENDODONTICS EDUCATION**

ENDODONTICS EDUCATION: In accordance with the Commission's policy on conflict of interest, the following individual was recused from the review of an educational program: **Dr. William Johnson**, University of Iowa.

The Review Committee on Endodontics Education recommends adoption of the following resolution:

Resolved, that the Commission on Dental Accreditation approve the accreditation classifications for the following program as listed.

Report on Interruption of Education:

1. **University of Iowa College of Dentistry
Iowa City, IA
endodontics**

From: Approval without reporting requirements

To: Approval without reporting requirements

**COMMISSION ON DENTAL ACCREDITATION
ORAL AND MAXILLOFACIAL PATHOLOGY EDUCATION**

ORAL AND MAXILLOFACIAL PATHOLOGY EDUCATION: In accordance with the Commission's policy on conflict of interest, the following individuals were recused from the review of an educational program: **Dr. Kathryn Korff**, University of Buffalo School of Dental Medicine.

The Review Committee on Oral and Maxillofacial Pathology Education recommends adoption of the following resolution:

Resolved, that the Commission on Dental Accreditation approve the accreditation classifications for the following programs as listed.

Report on Interruption of Education:

1. **University of Buffalo School of Dental Medicine
Buffalo, NY
oral and maxillofacial pathology**

From: Approval without reporting requirements

To: Approval without reporting requirements

**COMMISSION ON DENTAL ACCREDITATION
ORAL AND MAXILLOFACIAL SURGERY EDUCATION**

ORAL AND MAXILLOFACIAL SURGERY EDUCATION: In accordance with the Commission's policy on conflict of interest, no (0) individuals were recused from the review of an educational program.

The Review Committee on Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery Education recommends adoption of the following resolution:

Resolved, that the Commission on Dental Accreditation approve the accreditation classifications for the following program as listed.

Report on Interruption of Education:

1. **North Memorial Medical Center**
Robbinsdale, MN
oral and maxillofacial surgery clinical fellowship-oncology

From: Approval without reporting requirements (1)

To: Approval without reporting requirements (1)

**COMMISSION ON DENTAL ACCREDITATION
ORTHODONTICS AND DENTOFACIAL ORTHOPEDICS EDUCATION**

ORTHODONTICS AND DENTOFACIAL ORTHOPEDICS EDUCATION: In accordance with the Commission's policy on conflict of interest, the following individuals were recused from the review of an educational program: **Dr. Sarandeep Huja**, University of Minnesota; and **Dr. Brent Larson**, University of Minnesota.

The Review Committee on Orthodontics and Dentofacial Orthopedics Education recommends adoption of the following resolution:

Resolved, that the Commission on Dental Accreditation approve the accreditation classifications for the following programs as listed.

Report on Interruption of Education:

1. **University of Minnesota School of Dentistry
Minneapolis, MN
orthodontics and dentofacial orthopedics**

From: Approval without reporting requirements

To: Approval without reporting requirements

2. **Montefiore Medical Center - Dental Dept.
Bronx, NY
orthodontics and dentofacial orthopedics**

From: Approval without reporting requirements

To: Approval without reporting requirements

3. **Maimonides Medical Center
Brooklyn, NY
orthodontics and dentofacial orthopedics**

From: Approval without reporting requirements

To: Approval without reporting requirements

**COMMISSION ON DENTAL ACCREDITATION
PEDIATRIC DENTISTRY EDUCATION**

PEDIATRIC DENTISTRY EDUCATION: In accordance with the Commission's policy on conflict of interest, the following individuals were recused from the review of an educational program: **Dr. Joseph Morales**, Zucker School of Medicine at Hofstra/Northwell at Long Island Jewish Medical Center; and **Dr. Janice Townsend**, NYU Langone Hospitals.

The Review Committee on Pediatric Dentistry Education recommends adoption of the following resolution:

Resolved, that the Commission on Dental Accreditation approve the accreditation classifications for the following programs as listed.

Report on Interruption of Education:

1. **Children's National Medical Center**
Washington, DC
pediatric dentistry

From: Approval without reporting requirements
To: Approval without reporting requirements

2. **Children's Hospital of Michigan**
Detroit, MI
pediatric dentistry

From: Approval without reporting requirements (Special Focused Site Visit 8/2021)
To: Approval without reporting requirements (Special Focused Site Visit 8/2021)

3. **Rutgers School of Dental Medicine**
Newark, NJ
pediatric dentistry

From: Approval without reporting requirements
To: Approval without reporting requirements

4. **Zucker School of Medicine at Hofstra/Northwell at Long Island Jewish Medical Center**
New Hyde Park, NY
pediatric dentistry

From: Approval without reporting requirements
To: Approval without reporting requirements

5. **Mount Sinai Hospital Medical Center**
New York, NY
pediatric dentistry

From: Approval without reporting requirements
To: Approval without reporting requirements

6. **NYU Langone Hospitals**
New York, NY
pediatric dentistry

From: Approval without reporting requirements (Special Focused Site Visit: 8/2021)
To: Approval without reporting requirements (Special Focused Site Visit: 8/2021)

**COMMISSION ON DENTAL ACCREDITATION
PERIODONTICS EDUCATION**

PERIODONTICS EDUCATION: In accordance with the Commission's policy on conflict of interest, the following individuals were recused from the review of an educational program: **Dr. James Katancik**, University of Pennsylvania; and **Dr. Charles Powell**, University of Pennsylvania.

The Review Committee on Periodontics Education recommends adoption of the following resolution:

Resolved, that the Commission on Dental Accreditation approve the accreditation classifications for the following programs as listed.

Report on Interruption of Education:

1. **Loma Linda University School of Dentistry
Loma Linda, CA
periodontics**

From: Approval without reporting requirements
To: Approval without reporting requirements

2. **Veterans Affairs Medical Center/Indianapolis
Indianapolis, IN
periodontics**

From: Approval without reporting requirements
To: Approval without reporting requirements

3. **Boston University Goldman School of Dental Medicine
Boston, MA
periodontics**

From: Approval without reporting requirements
To: Approval without reporting requirements

4. **University of Michigan School of Dentistry**
Ann Arbor, MI
periodontics

From: Approval without reporting requirements
To: Approval without reporting requirements

5. **Temple University The Maurice H. Kornberg School of Dentistry**
Philadelphia, PA
periodontics

From: Approval without reporting requirements
To: Approval without reporting requirements

6. **University of Pennsylvania School of Dental Medicine**
Philadelphia, PA
combined orthodontics and dentofacial orthopedics/periodontics

From: Approval without reporting requirements
To: Approval without reporting requirements