

**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.

**Advanced Dental Education in Oral and Maxillofacial Pathology**

Alternative Assessment Methods (for example, patient vs simulation)

For the Class of 2021, alternative methods for training and assessment are acceptable and may include distance education, case based instruction, OSCE, patient based simulation, and archival slide/study sets. It is up to the program to ensure all graduates are competent upon completion of the program.

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)

For the Class of 2021, programs have flexibility to temporarily reduce the program-dictated requirements while also assuring the student/resident is competent in the area being assessed. In addition, if completion of the fellowship examination is a program requirement, other outcomes measures may be used if the fellowship examination is delayed or cancelled due to COVID-19.

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

For the Class of 2021, the program length requirement will be maintained. However, if program component length (for example, rotations, services, etc.) cannot be fulfilled, temporary substitution of archival material related to the rotation or service may be used.

**Accreditation Standards for Advanced Dental Education Programs in Oral and Maxillofacial Pathology**

**OMP Standard 4-2.2**

**Although quality of education is stressed, the laboratory must receive at least 2000 oral and maxillofacial pathology accessions of adequate variety annually.**

Temporary Guidance: For the Class of 2021, the annual measurement for this Standard may be considered by calendar year or resident year to allow temporary flexibility in achieving this Standard.

**OMP Standard 4-2.4**

**Surgical oral and maxillofacial pathology case conferences must be held at least weekly, but daily conferences are recommended.**

Temporary Guidance: For the Class of 2021, temporary flexibility is provided through the use of alternative educational methods such as distance learning or other appropriate methods to conduct case conferences.

**OMP Standard 4-5.1**

**An acceptable program must provide for a substantial period, of at least six (6) months duration, of residency-level training in anatomic pathology as part of an active, hospital-based pathology department or other laboratory facility in a program accredited and approved by the ACGME.**

Temporary Guidance: No flexibility; anatomic pathology is still in operation.

**OMP Standard 4-5.2**

**Students/Residents must obtain experience with autopsy pathology on at least ten (10) cases, which may be satisfied by review of archival autopsy material.**

Temporary Guidance: No flexibility; flexibility is already provided through the option for review of archival autopsy material.

**OMP Standard 4-9.1**

**An advanced oral and maxillofacial pathology program must be a minimum of 36 months.**

Temporary Guidance: For the Class of 2021, the program length requirement will not be modified. Temporary flexibility is provided through the use of alternative educational methods for continued educational engagement which may include case-based instruction, OSCE, patient-based simulation, and archival slide/study sets.