
CODA Communicator

Fall/Winter 2021



CODA*

Commission on Dental Accreditation

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Summer 2021 Commission Meeting Highlights

This year's Summer 2021 Meeting was held virtually on August 4-6, 2021. The Unofficial Report of Major Actions provides a summative review of the major activities during this meeting.

In advance of the Summer 2021 Commission meeting, CODA conducted a Mega Issue Strategic Planning Discussion on August 4, 2021. The 2022-2026 Strategic Plan was adopted on August 6, 2021 and includes priorities related to: Accreditation Process and Outcomes, Organizational Effectiveness, and

Confidence in Accreditation and the Commission's Reputation. Goals and strategies related to each strategic priority were adopted by the Commission. The Commission also revised its Mission, Vision and Values. The [2022-2026 Strategic Plan](#) is found on the Commission's website.

Major Actions of Interest to All Accredited Programs

The Commission on Dental Accreditation (CODA) reviewed accreditation reports and took 341 accreditation actions on dental, advanced dental, and allied dental education programs and recorded three (3) mail ballots on dental hygiene, oral and maxillofacial surgery (residency), and orofacial pain education programs. [Accreditation Status Actions](#) can be found on the Commission's website.

A total of 11 new programs were granted accreditation.

One (1) dental hygiene, one (1) general practice residency, and one (1) periodontics program received a formal warning that accreditation will be withdrawn in February 2022 unless the requested information, demonstrating compliance with the accreditation standards or Commission policy, is submitted prior to that time.



The Commission affirmed the reported voluntary discontinuance effective date or planned closure date of one (1) advanced education in general dentistry, two (2) general practice residency, one (1) orthodontics and dentofacial orthopedics, and two (2) dental hygiene programs, at the request of their respective sponsoring institutions.

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Actions of General Interest

Standards Adopted by CODA

At its Summer 2021 Meeting, the Commission adopted:

- Accreditation Standards for Dental Education Programs, revision to the term “Should” within the Definition of Terms, with immediate implementation.
- Accreditation Standards for Dental Therapy Education Programs, revision to the term “Should” within the Definition of Terms, with immediate implementation.
- Accreditation Standards for Advanced Dental Education Programs in Oral and Maxillofacial Pathology, as a result of the 2021 Validity and Reliability Study, with immediate implementation.

You will find more details on the CODA website’s on [Standards](#).

Commission Policies and Procedures

After discussion, the Commission took multiple actions to revise policies found within the [Evaluation and Operational Policies and Procedures](#) manual, and all appropriate Commission documents, including policies on:

- Due Process Related to Review Committee Special Appearances
- International Predoctoral Dental Education Site Visits
- Site Visitors
- Reporting Program Changes in Accredited Programs
- Distance Education

New Guidelines for Reporting to CODA

Following adoption of a revised Policy on Distance Education, the Commission adopted new **Guidelines for Reporting the Use of Distance Education**. Any program that plans to incorporate distance education, whether temporary or permanent use, must report this change to the Commission using the Guidelines.

The Commission has also published **Guidelines for Reporting an Interruption of Education**.

All CODA reporting [Guidelines](#) are found on the Commission’s website.

Other Actions of Interest

The Commission directed further study of the topic of volunteerism and stipend for all Commission volunteers, at all levels of the Commission.

The Commission directed that its Standing Committee on Communication and Technology review the Commission’s Communication Plan in 2022-2023 to address CODA’s future strategic needs as well as the ongoing technology needs of the Commission.

The Commission directed the establishment of a multidisciplinary Work Group composed of current and former Pediatric Dentistry Review Committee members as well as representation from the Dental Anesthesiology Review Committee and the Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery Review Committee to study the use of sedation in patient management, including the potential need for revision of the Accreditation Standards for Advanced Dental Education Programs in Pediatric Dentistry.

Visit CODA’s [Post Meeting Actions](#) page and read the *Summer 2021 Unofficial Report of Major Actions* for more information on these and other Commission actions.

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Call for Comment and Upcoming Commission Events

CODA Call for Comment on Standards

Proposed Standards currently in circulation for public comment are due December 1, 2021 and June 1, 2022. Visit the [Proposed Accreditation Standards](#) webpage for the list of standards open for comment and their respective due date for submission of comments.

The Commission now accepts commentary on proposed standards in circulation for public comments via a dedicated *Online Comment Portal* **only**. **CODA no longer accepts comments via email, U.S. Post or overnight shipping services.** To submit comments on any proposed standard in circulation, click on the URL included in the cover page of each standard, or listed along with the standard on the [Proposed Accreditation Standards](#) webpage.

Fall/Winter 2021/2022 Commission on Dental Accreditation Meetings:

- Training Program for New Review Committee, Commission and Appeal Board Members – December 9-10, 2021 (Virtual)
- Review Committee Meetings – January 10-14, 2022 (Virtual)
- Commission Meeting – February 10, 2022 (Closed Session) and February 11, 2022 (Open Session)
- The Open Session, February 11, will begin at 10:00am Central (Format TBD)

For a more comprehensive list of all upcoming meeting dates, read [Review Committee and CODA Meeting Dates](#).

Online CODA Resources Available

The Commission has made resources from several CODA events available online. Click the links below to visit the [CODA webpages](#) housing these resources:

[Commission on Dental Accreditation Q&A Session](#)

[Alternative Site Visit Methods Orientation for Programs](#)

[Ongoing Site Visitor Updates](#)

[Alternative Site Visit Methods Orientation for Site Visitors](#)

General Site Visit Orientations:

[Dental School Programs](#)

[Advanced Education Programs](#)

[Allied Education Programs](#)



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CODA Extra

Call for Site Visitor Nominations

The Commission uses site visitors with education and practice expertise in the discipline or areas being evaluated to conduct its accreditation program. **The Commission is seeking nominations for all site visitor roles. Nominations are due December 1, 2021.**

The site visitor will be expected to complete the Commission's online training program and attend a two-day training workshop in Chicago in June prior to their term start date. The site visitor will also be expected to be accessible and able to communicate by fax, electronic mail and the Commission's web-based communication tools.

The Criteria for Appointment and Nomination Form are found on the [Call for Nominations](#) page.

Call for Review Committee Nominations

CODA requests nominations to fill vacancies for Review Committee roles. You can learn more about all of these positions on the Commission's [Call for Nominations](#) page. Review Committee Nomination Forms are due to CODA staff by **June 1, 2022** for consideration at the Commission's Summer 2022 meeting.

Accreditation is a peer-review process, and CODA volunteers are an integral part of that process. The Commission provides comprehensive training to all its volunteers, so volunteers will be ready to serve when their term begins. In addition, CODA staff is available to support volunteers throughout their term.

Electronic Accreditation Portal

CODA's *Electronic Accreditation Portal* supports submission of applications, self-study, and/or large reports to the CODA office. **Land-based shipping of paper and electronic copies is no longer accepted.**

Visit the [Electronic Submissions Guidelines](#) page for more information regarding the Electronic Accreditation (E-Accreditation) Portal.



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Deadlines for Program Reports

Deadlines for many Program Change Reports are December 1. Please refer to the [Program Changes and Other Report Guidelines](#) page for details. The Commission expects programs to adhere to published deadlines. These deadlines allow sufficient time for the appropriate Review Committees and the Commission to review the report and determine whether the change could impact the program's ability to comply with the Accreditation Standards. You may also contact Commission staff with specific questions about reports and deadlines.

NOTE: Program reports and documentation must not include Patient Protected Health Information (PHI) or Personally Identifiable Information (PII). A \$4,000 administrative fee will be assessed if a program submits documentation that fails to comply with the CODA policy on privacy and data security.

A resubmission that continues to contain PHI or PII will be assessed an additional \$4,000 fee.

Review the [Policy on Privacy and Data Security Summary for Institutions/Programs](#) on CODA's website.

Programs are also reminded that they must comply with CODA's [Electronic Submission Guidelines](#). It is advisable that you contact the Commission office and its staff by email and telephone; please do not send postal mail to the Commission office.

Anytime	Applications for programs pursuing CODA accreditation. The first opportunity for the Commission to consider the program, provided that the application is in order, is generally 12 to 18 months following the Commission's formal acknowledgement of receipt of the application and initiation of the review process. See Application Process
November 15, 2021	Deadline for Progress Reports related to Site Visits.
December 1, 2021	Deadline for Initial Response to Preliminary Draft Site Visit Reports.
December 1, 2021	Deadline for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Program Change Report • Request for Enrollment Increase Report • Sites Where Educational Activity Occurs Report • Teach-Out Report • Other reports for Commission review in Winter 2022 Contact CODA Staff if you have questions.

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Staff Contact Information

CODA Director

[Dr. Sherin Tooko](#), director
CODA Operations
International Accreditation Program

Operations

[Ms. Marjorie Hooper](#), operations coordinator

Allied Dental Education

[Ms. Jamie Asher Hernandez](#), manager
Dental assisting education
Dental laboratory technology education

Open, manager (Contact CODA Director)
Dental hygiene education

Advanced Dental Education

[Ms. Jennifer Snow](#), manager
Endodontics
Oral and maxillofacial surgery
Orthodontics and dentofacial orthopedics
Periodontics

[Ms. Kirsten Nadler](#), manager
Dental public health
Oral and maxillofacial pathology
Oral and maxillofacial radiology
Pediatric dentistry
Prosthodontics

[Ms. Peggy Soeldner](#), manager
Advanced education in general dentistry
General practice residency
Dental anesthesiology
Oral medicine
Orofacial pain

Predoctoral Dental Education

Open, manager (Contact CODA Director)
Predoctoral dental education
Dental therapy

Communication and Technology Strategies

Open, manager (Contact CODA Director)

Site Visit Coordination

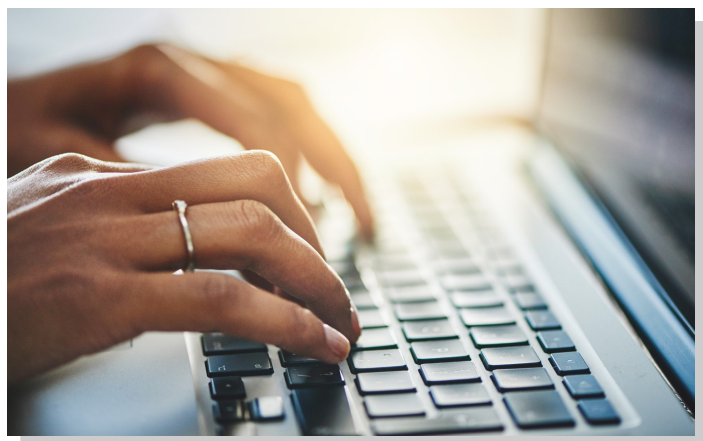
[Ms. Bernadette Molina](#), coordinator
[Ms. Kelsey Loveless](#), coordinator

Commission Office

It is advisable that the Commission's communities of interest contact the Commission office and its staff primarily by email and telephone.

The Commission conducts business electronically and requests that you not send postal mail to the CODA office.

Please contact Commission staff to determine the best method to submit information, reports, and/or documents to CODA.



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