
ADA STANDARDS PROGRAM FAQs

WHAT HAPPENED TO THE ADA STANDARDS COMMITTEE ON DENTAL PRODUCTS (SCDP) AND THE ADA STANDARDS COMMITTEE ON DENTAL INFORMATICS (SCDI)?

The SCDP and SCDI are being transformed into 12 new Consensus Bodies which will operate under the accredited procedures by the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) to develop national dental standards. The new CBs are designed to be streamlined and more subject-matter specific focused following a similar structure to the subcommittees under SCDP and SCDI. Everyone, including those on the SCDP and SCDI, are invited to review the new Consensus Bodies and choose which they wish to participate in. Individuals can apply to join as a designated representative of an organization or company (with a letter to support that appointment) or as an individual expert (some restrictions apply).

WHAT HAPPENED TO THE US TECHNICAL ADVISORY GROUP TO ISO/TC 106 (US TAG)? HOW DO I PARTICIPATE IN INTERNATIONAL STANDARDS DEVELOPED IN ISO/TC 106?

The US TAG (and Sub-TAGs) are now merged into Consensus Bodies based on subject matter. If you are a member of a Consensus Body, you will be given the opportunity to review and comment on all ISO/TC 106 standards in the subject area of that Consensus Body to help formulate the US position. If you are a voting member of that Consensus Body, you will also cast a ballot on the recommended US vote to be submitted.

Working Groups may also be consulted to help formulate the US position but the Consensus Body will be the authority to approve the US vote.

WHAT ARE THE NEW CONSENSUS BODIES (CB)?

- CB 1: Restorative and Orthodontic Materials*
- CB 2: Prosthodontic Materials*
- CB 3: Terminology & SNODENT*
- CB 4: Dental Instruments*
- CB 5: Infection Prevention and Control*
- CB 6: Dental Equipment*

- CB 7: Oral Hygiene Products*
- CB 8: Dental Implants*
- CB 9: CAD/CAM in Dentistry*
- CB 10: Forensic Odontology*
- CB 11: Dental Data Structure and Exchange
- CB 12: Artificial Intelligence & Knowledge Management*

* Denotes Consensus Bodies that will review and develop the US position and vote on ISO/TC 106 standards. Fees apply for producer members (except for CBs 3 and 10), see below.

ARE THERE STILL WORKING GROUPS?

Yes, all Working Groups under SCDP and SCDI are being carried over under the new Consensus Body structure. You will need to indicate which Working Groups you wish to remain a part of or join as part of the application. Working Group voting membership is subject to approval in order to maintain a balance of interest categories.

I AM CURRENTLY SERVING ON THE SCDP OR SCDI AS A REPRESENTATIVE OF AN ORGANIZATION. WHAT HAPPENS NOW?

All organizations that have representatives on the SCDP or SCDI will be contacted and given the opportunity to appoint representatives to the new Consensus Bodies.

I WORK FOR A UNIVERSITY / ORGANIZATION. SHOULD I JOIN A CONSENSUS BODY AS A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE UNIVERSITY / ORGANIZATION OR AS AN INDIVIDUAL EXPERT?

We encourage you to speak with your university / organization to be represented on a Consensus Body and for their support to appoint you as their representative. A letter of support from your university / organization will be required in order to list you as their representative. If this is not possible, you may join as an individual representative.

HOW MANY REPRESENTATIVES CAN AN ORGANIZATION OR COMPANY¹ HAVE ON A CONSENSUS BODY?

Each organization / company¹ can appoint one voting member and 2 alternates. Voting memberships are subject to approval in order to maintain a balance of interest categories. Unlimited observer members are permitted.

¹ fees apply for producer members, see below

I WORK FOR A MANUFACTURER¹. CAN I JOIN A CONSENSUS BODY AS AN INDIVIDUAL EXPERT?

If you work for a manufacturer (producer member), you can only have one voting representative per company even if joining as an individual expert. If you are joining as a representative of your company, you will need to have a letter of support from your company naming you as their representative on a Consensus Body. You can join Working Groups as an individual expert without a letter of support. Voting memberships are subject to approval in order to maintain a balance of interest categories.

WHAT IS THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN A WORKING GROUP AND A CONSENSUS BODY?

Working Groups are granular in the subject matter covered by the standards deliverables they develop and are organized under broader subjects covered by Consensus Bodies. Working Group members are all individual experts and no supporting documentation is needed to join. Working Group membership is still limited to one voting member and two alternates per organization / company in order to maintain a balance of interests (unlimited observers are allowed). Working Groups collaborate on developing drafts of standards and the voting members of a Working Group approve the draft to go to the Consensus Body leadership for approval for All Interested Parties review.

Consensus Bodies have the ultimate authority in approving national standards for publication and submission to ANSI to become ANSI/ADA standards. They can review and recommend new work items for development to the ADA Standards Oversight Committee for approval. They also have the authority to vote on the US position on ISO/TC 106 standards.

HOW DO I KNOW WHICH GROUP(S) TO JOIN¹?

Working Groups are organized under Consensus Bodies. If you want to participate in the writing and developing of a standard on a particular topic, you will want to join the specific Working Group in your area of interest and expertise. If you want to have the opportunity to cast an official vote on whether that standard gets approved for publication, you will want to join a Consensus Body.

¹ fees apply for producer members, see below

I DO NOT LIVE IN THE UNITED STATES. CAN I STILL PARTICIPATE?

International persons are not eligible for memberships on Consensus Bodies that develop the U.S. position on international standards (all CBs except CB 11) unless from a U.S. branch office of a foreign company registered or authorized to do business in one or more U.S. states or territories. International members may participate as observers on individual Working Groups.

DO I HAVE TO BE A MEMBER OF A CONSENSUS BODY IN ORDER TO PARTICIPATE ON A WORKING GROUP?

You do not need to be a member of the Consensus Body in order to join a Working Group¹.

¹ fees apply for producer members, see below

I'VE BEEN PARTICIPATING IN ADA STANDARDS DEVELOPMENT FOR YEARS – WHY DO I HAVE TO REAPPLY?

The reorganization of the program requires us to ask all standards volunteers which new Consensus Bodies they would like to be a part of. It also is a good opportunity for our volunteers to rethink which groups they would like to participate in.

ARE THERE ANY FEES TO PARTICIPATE?

There are no fees to participate for general interest and consumer members.

Producer members pay the following annually to participate in any group that reviews international standards (no fees for CBs 3 and 10):

Consensus Body Membership

- Voting: \$600
 - Includes 1 primary voting and 2 alternate members on Consensus Body and all Working Groups under that Consensus Body
- Observer: \$300
- Premium Voting (All Consensus Bodies): \$4500
 - Includes 1 primary voting and 2 alternate members on all Consensus Bodies and all Working Groups under all Consensus Bodies

Individual Working Groups Only (if not on affiliated Consensus Body)

- Voting: \$150

— Observer: \$75

HOW DO I PAY MY FEE TO PARTICIPATE?

Once your application is received, an invoice will be sent for electronic payment.

WHAT IS THE TIME COMMITMENT?

This depends on the number of groups you join and how active those groups are. Consensus Body voting members are expected to review and vote on all proposed standards deliverables and ballots. If you are a member of a Consensus Body, your participation in at least one meeting every two years is required although you may appoint a proxy to fulfill this requirement. Working Group voting membership may be dependent on how active you are and is at the discretion of the Working Group chair.

HOW OFTEN ARE MEETINGS HELD?

The opportunity for in-person meetings happen twice a year – once in March in the days preceding the annual meeting of AADOCR (in the city where that is held), and then in October in the days preceding SmileCon (in the city where that is held). Hybrid participation is on a case-by-case basis.

Additional in-person meetings with hybrid capabilities can be held upon request and availability at ADA Headquarters in Chicago. Virtual meetings can be held throughout the year and are encouraged.

DO I HAVE TO TRAVEL TO MEETINGS?

While encouraged, no travel is required as the ability to designate a proxy is available at in-person meetings. Meetings will also be supplemented with the opportunity to participate in standards development online through the ADA Standards Program document sharing platform, ADA Connect.

HOW DO I GET STARTED?

Review the **ADA Standards Program Structure** and choose which Consensus Body/Bodies and/or Working Group(s) you would like to join. If you are joining a Consensus Body as an appointed representative of an organization / company, obtain a letter of support for your appointment as their named representative.

Review the **Read Before Starting Application** for filling out the application so you have everything you need to fill the application out at once. When ready, fill the application out [at this link](#).

WHAT IF I HAVE QUESTIONS?

We're here to help! Send any questions to standards@ada.org or call 312-440-2533 to speak with someone directly.