Commission on Dental Accreditation

At its Winter 2017 meeting, the Commission directed that the proposed revisions to Dental Assisting Standard 2-1 be distributed to the appropriate communities of interest for review and comment, with comment due December 1, 2017, for review at the Winter 2018 Commission meeting.

Written comments can be directed to smithmi@ada.org or mailed to:

ATTN: Ms. Michelle Smith, 19th Floor
Manager, Allied Dental Education
Commission on Dental Accreditation
211 East Chicago Avenue
Chicago, IL 60611

Proposed Revised Standards
Underline indicate additions; Strikethroughs indicate Deletions

Accreditation Standard 2-1 for Dental Assisting Education Programs
PROPOSED REVISIONS TO ACCREDITATION STANDARDS FOR DENTAL ASSISTING EDUCATION PROGRAMS

Admissions

2-1 Admission of students must be based on specific published criteria, procedures and policies that include a high-school diploma or its equivalent, or post-secondary degree.

Previous academic performance or other predictors of scholastic aptitude and ability must be utilized as criteria in selecting students with the potential to successfully complete the program. Applicants must be informed of the criteria and procedures for selection, goals of the program, curricular content, course transferability, scope of practice and employment opportunities for dental assistants.

Intent:
The dental assisting program is based on a science-oriented program of study and skill development offered at the post-secondary level that requires critical thinking, psychomotor skills, and ethical reasoning.

The program administrator and faculty, in cooperation with appropriate institutional personnel establish admissions criteria and procedures which are non-discriminatory, contribute to the quality of the program, and allow selection of adult post-secondary students with the potential to successfully complete the program to be successful. Because enrollment is limited by facility, capacity, and special program admissions criteria and procedures are necessary to ensure that students are selected based on a demonstrated potential for completing the program. Published promotional materials and website information related to student recruitment and admissions comply with the Commission’s “Policy on Principles of Ethics in Programmatic Advertising and Student Recruitment”.

Examples of evidence to demonstrate compliance may include:

Criteria and Selection Process:
• There is an established admissions committee which includes the program administrator, representatives of the program faculty, general education faculty who teach dental assisting students and counseling staff.
• Previous college academic performance and/or performance on standardized national scholastic tests are utilized for criteria in selecting students.
• High school class rank
• Cumulative grade point averages in previous education with particular attention given
to grades in science subjects

- **Copies of catalogs, program brochures, admissions packets, or other published materials**

**Academic Strengthening:**

- If academic strengthening is needed to meet basic admission criteria or to proceed satisfactorily through the curriculum, the institution and program should have the resources necessary to assist students.
- Academic strengthening occurs prior to entry into the program courses.