Our Mission
The Commission on Dental Accreditation serves the public and profession by developing and implementing accreditation standards that promote and monitor the continuous quality and improvement of dental education programs.

ACCREDITATION BENEFITS MANY

Students and Residents who are the consumers, seeking the education programs we accredit

Educational Institutions that maintain quality education programs by complying with nationally accepted accreditation standards

Licensing and Regulatory Bodies that license and register dental professionals

The Public who expect their oral health care needs are safely and expertly served

ACCREDITATION FOSTERS EDUCATION IMPROVEMENT

Accreditation in higher education is a self- and peer-assessment process that ensures improvement of academic quality and public accountability

CODA is the only nationally recognized agency for programmatic accreditation of dental and allied dental education programs at the post-secondary level

CODA receives its accreditation authority from the acceptance of all stakeholders within the dental community and from recognition by the United States Department of Education

ALL STAKEHOLDERS PARTICIPATE

Dental, advanced dental, and allied dental disciplines are under the accreditation purview of CODA

When reviewing and updating standards, CODA ensures standards reflect the evolving practice of dentistry by seeking input from all its communities of interest

CODA maintains continuous contact with those important communities through various mechanisms
MONITORED THROUGH RIGOROUS PEER REVIEW

Dental and allied dental education programs apply for accreditation based on Accreditation Standards.

To maintain accreditation, institutions self-assess their adherence to the Accreditation Standards.

CODA uses comprehensive internal quality assurance and in-depth training of its volunteers (who are qualified, experienced professionals), who evaluate programs on site and clearly and comprehensively report their findings to the Commission.

The Commission makes the final decision to award, continue or remove an accreditation status. The Commission bases its judgments on the program’s compliance with the Accreditation Standards and Commission Policies.

CODA ACCREDITS MORE THAN 1,400 DENTAL EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS

- Advanced Education in General Dentistry
- Advanced General Dentistry Education in Dental Anesthesiology
- Advanced General Dentistry Education in Oral Medicine
- Advanced General Dentistry Education in Orofacial Pain
- Dental Assisting
- Dental Laboratory Technology
- Dental Hygiene
- Dental Therapy
- Dental Public Health
- Endodontics
- General Practice Residency
- Oral and Maxillofacial Pathology
- Oral and Maxillofacial Radiology
- Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery
- Maxillofacial Prosthetics
- Orthodontics and Dentofacial Orthopedics
- Pediatric Dentistry
- Periodontics
- Predoctoral Dental Education
- Prosthodontics
- Fellowships in Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery and Craniofacial and Special Care Orthodontics

WHERE TO LEARN MORE

For more information about what the Commission on Dental Accreditation does, or a listing of programs CODA accredits, please go to ADA.org/CODA to access resources available online, such as standards, a listing of currently accredited programs, and more. You can also contact the CODA staff:

The Commission on Dental Accreditation
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