At its Summer 2015 meeting, the Commission on Dental Accreditation directed that proposed revisions to Standard 3-6 of the Accreditation Standards for Dental Hygiene Education Programs be distributed to the communities of interest for review and comment, with comments due June 1, 2016. Comments will additionally be accepted at a hearing conducted at the American Dental Hygienists’ Association (ADHA) June 2016 Annual Session. Comments will be considered at the Summer 2016 Commission meeting.

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

ATTN: Ms. Patrice Renfrow
Ms. Alyson Ackerman
Managers, Allied Dental Education
211 E. Chicago Avenue, 19th Floor
Chicago, IL 60611

Proposed Revised Standards
Additions are Underlined
Strikethroughs indicate Deletions

Accreditation Standards for Dental Hygiene Education Programs
STANDARD 3 - ADMINISTRATION, FACULTY AND STAFF

Faculty

3-6 The faculty to student ratios must be sufficient to ensure the development of competence and ensure the health and safety of the public. The faculty to student ratios for in preclinical, clinical and radiographic clinical and laboratory sessions, there must not be less than one faculty for every to six five students. Faculty to student ratios for in laboratory sessions in for dental materials courses, there must not be less than one faculty for every to twelve ten students to ensure the development of clinical competence and maximum protection of the patient, faculty and students.

Intent:
The adequacy of numbers of faculty should be determined by faculty to student ratios during laboratory, radiography and clinical practice sessions rather than by the number of full-time equivalent positions for the program. The faculty to student ratios in clinical and radiographic practice should allow for individualized instruction and evaluation of the process as well as the end results. Faculty are responsible for both ensuring that the clinical and radiographic services delivered by students meet current standards for dental hygiene care and for the instruction and evaluation of students during their performance of those services.

Examples of evidence to demonstrate compliance may include:
- faculty teaching commitments
- class schedules
- listing of ratios for clinical, radiographic and laboratory courses