

# National Commission on Recognition of Dental Specialties and Certifying Boards

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Glenn, Gayle, 2024, Texas, chair  
Warner III, Ben F., 2026, Texas, vice-chair  
Aste, Leonard R., 2025, Utah  
Beauchamp, Karyl J., 2027, Tennessee  
Beeler, Michele F., 2025, Kentucky  
Chaffin, Jeffrey G., 2024, Iowa  
Clem, Donald S., 2025, California  
Cordell, Kitrina G., 2027, Louisiana  
Felsenfeld, Alan L., 2024, California  
Fennell, Renee, 2024, Pennsylvania  
Gluskin, Alan H., 2026, California  
Halpern, David F., 2024, Maryland  
Huber, Michael A., 2024, Texas  
Hudis, Stephen I., 2026, New Jersey  
Lang, Maureen E., 2024, Texas  
Manz, Julius N., 2027, New Mexico  
Mashni, Michael, 2027, California  
Murphy, Kathleen, 2026, Illinois  
Murphy, Ned, 2025, Wisconsin  
Radack III, Stephen T., 2026, Pennsylvania  
Raman, Prabu, 2024, Missouri  
Ramesh, Aruna, 2025, Massachusetts  
Sherwood, Cynthia E., 2027, Kansas  
Wyckoff, Douglas A., 2027, Missouri  
Young, Brenda J., 2024, Virginia

Baumann, Catherine A., director

The National Commission's 2023–24 liaison is Dr. John E. Hisel (Board of Trustees, Eleventh District)

## **Areas of Responsibility as Set Forth in the *Bylaws or Governance and Organizational Manual of the American Dental Association***

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As stated in Chapter IX, Section 30.D. of the ADA *Bylaws*, the duties of the National Commission shall be to:

- a. Formulate and adopt procedures for the recognition of specialties and specialty certifying boards in accord with the *Requirements for Recognition of Dental Specialties and National Certifying Boards for Dental Specialties*.
- b. Grant or deny specialty recognition to specialty organizations and specialty certifying boards seeking recognition in accord with the *Requirements for Recognition of Dental Specialties and National Certifying Boards for Dental Specialties*.
- c. Provide a means for sponsoring organizations and certifying boards to appeal an adverse recognition decision.
- d. Submit an annual report to the House of Delegates of this Association and interim reports on request.
- e. Submit the National Commission's annual budget to the Board of Trustees of the Association.

### **Key Accomplishments and Outcomes: Agency Programs, Projects, Results and Success Measures**

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The National Commission has been granted independent authority through the ADA *Bylaws* to recognize dental specialty sponsoring organizations and their respective certifying boards. The National Commission determines its own strategic goals and objectives.

**Initiative/Program:** National Commission

**Success Measure:** Adoption of the National Commission 2025-2030 Strategic Plan, Action Plan and Dashboard by July 1, 2024.

**Target:** Successful adoption and development of the initial steps for implementation of the National Commission 2025-2030 Strategic Plan, Action Plan and Dashboard.

**Range:** Completion by July 1, 2024.

**Outcome:** The National Commission 2025-2030 Strategic Plan focuses on strengthening external communication with the communities of interest and educating patients and the public in general as it relates to dental specialties and board certification.

**Initiative/Program:** National Commission

**Success Measure:** Completion and implementation of initial strategies related to the revised National Commission Communication Plan based on the National Commission 2025-2030 Strategic Plan.

**Target:** Successful development of measurable goals and objectives for the revised National Commission Communication Plan based on the National Commission 2025-2030 Strategic Plan.

**Range:** Completion of the revised Communication Plan by December 31, 2024.

**Outcome:** The revised National Commission Communication Plan focuses on strengthening external communication with the communities of interest, patients and the public in general as it relates to the dental specialties, board certification and the National Commission.

**Initiative/Program:** National Commission

**Success Measure:** Successful presentation of in-depth training modules to incoming Commissioners by December 31, 2024. Incoming Commissioners all “pass” an exit exam after completing modules.

**Target:** Successful completion of in-depth training modules for in-coming Commissioners to aid in preserving the historical knowledge and current operations of the National Commission.

**Range:** Completion by December 31, 2024.

**Outcome:** Training modules thoroughly orient new Commissioners to their roles and responsibilities on the Board of Commissioners. National Commission Communication and Technology Committee will meet periodically throughout the year to monitor content and progress on the completion of the in-depth training session to be conducted by October 1, 2024.

### **Emerging Issues and Trends**

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The National Commission continues to monitor trends in specialty recognition occurring in other health-related professions and continues to investigate whether subspecialty designation is appropriate for the dental

profession. The National Commission completed the Periodic Review of Dental Specialties in 2021, with emerging issues and trends for each of the 12 recognized specialty sponsoring organizations that is available for review on the National Commission website. The National Commission determined, through the Periodic Review process, that each of the 12 recognized specialty sponsoring organizations continue to meet all of the *Requirements for Recognition*. In addition, the National Commission conducts an Annual Survey of Recognized Certifying Boards and generates an Annual Report, with emerging issues and trends for each of the 12 recognized certifying boards identified that is available for review on the National Commission's website.

### **Responses to House of Delegates Resolutions**

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There were no House of Delegates resolutions directed at the National Commission in 2023.

### **Self-Assessment**

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The National Commission is next scheduled to conduct a self-assessment in 2028.

### **Policy Review**

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The National Commission currently oversees the recognition of the 12 dental specialty sponsoring organizations and their respective certifying boards. The National Commission implemented its own policies and procedures related to specialty recognition in 2018. A three (3) year review of individual National Commission policies was adopted as part of the strategic plan. The National Commission adopts new and revised policies as part of its regular, annual meeting agenda, which was held on April 15, 2024. There are currently no ADA policies related to the National Commission that the National Commission has been charged with reviewing in accord with Resolution 170H-2012, Regular Comprehensive Policy Review.

### **Commission Minutes**

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For more information on recent activities, see the Commission's [minutes](#) on ADA.org.