

**Guidance Document: Temporary Flexibility in Accreditation Standards to Address Interruption of Education Reporting Requirements Resulting From COVID-19 for the Class of 2020**

Below is the *temporary flexibility* guidance on select Accreditation Standards. Only those Accreditation Standards which include *temporary flexibility* are included, all others have been retained as written in the current published Accreditation Standards document.

**Advanced Dental Education in Prosthodontics**

Alternative Assessment Methods (for example, patient vs simulation)

For the Class of 2020, prosthodontics programs have the flexibility to use alternative assessment methods, such as simulation, literature reviews, seminars, etc. as long as graduates have achieved adequate patient experiences and the program can demonstrate graduates are deemed competent upon completion of the program.

Modification/Reduction of Curriculum Content or Curriculum Requirements (for example, modification/reduction of program-dictated requirements, CODA competency requirements, and/or CODA quantitative numbers-based requirements)

For the Class of 2020, prosthodontics programs have flexibility to modify program-dictated requirements as long as the modifications continue to comply with the CODA Accreditation Standards and the program deems the student/resident competent for graduation.

Program Length or Program Component Length (for example, rotations, services, etc.)

The program length requirement will be maintained for prosthodontics, maxillofacial prosthetics, and combined prosthodontics/maxillofacial prosthetics programs, while allowing flexibility related to educational modality. There are a number of ways to deliver the educational program which offer the programs flexibility and ensures competence of the program graduates.

Prosthodontics programs that are longer than 34 months (prosthodontics, only) may reduce the overall program length as long as the students/residents are competent upon graduation.

**Accreditation Standards for Advanced Dental Education Programs in Prosthodontics**

**PROS Standard 4-1**

**An advanced dental education program in prosthodontics must encompass a minimum of 34 months.**

Temporary Guidance: For the Class of 2020, the program length requirement will not be modified. Temporary flexibility is provided through the use of alternative educational and assessment methods while ensuring competence of the program graduates.

Prosthodontics programs that are longer than 34 months may reduce the overall program length as long as the students/residents are competent upon graduation.

**PROS Standard 4-2**

**An advanced dental education program in prosthodontics that includes integrated maxillofacial training must encompass a minimum of 45 months.**

Temporary Guidance: For the Class of 2020, the program length requirement will not be modified. Temporary flexibility is provided through the use of alternative educational and assessment methods while ensuring competence of the program graduates.

**PROS Standard 4-3**

**A 12-month advanced dental education program in maxillofacial prosthetics must be preceded by successful completion of an accredited prosthodontics program.**

Temporary Guidance: For the Class of 2020, the program length requirement will not be modified. Temporary flexibility is provided through the use of alternative educational and assessment methods while ensuring competence of the program graduates.

**PROS Standard 4-8**

**A minimum of 60% of the total program time must be devoted to providing patient services, including direct patient care and laboratory procedures.**

Temporary Guidance: For the Class of 2020, the minimum 60% requirement is expected for the time frame prior to COVID-19 interruption. Temporary flexibility is provided during COVID-19 interruption as long as competency of required CODA Prosthodontic Accreditation Standards have been achieved by the program graduate.

**PROS Standard 4-30**

**An advanced education program in maxillofacial prosthetics must be provided with a forty-five month integrated prosthodontic program which includes fixed prosthodontic, removable prosthodontic, implant prosthodontic and maxillofacial prosthetic experiences; or a one-year program devoted specifically to maxillofacial prosthetics which follows completion of a prosthodontic program.**

Temporary Guidance: For the Class of 2020, the program length requirement will not be modified. Temporary flexibility is provided through the use of alternative educational and assessment methods while ensuring competence of the program graduates.