Annual Report 2022

The report of the Commission on Dental Accreditation

CODA

Commission on Dental Accreditation

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CODA*
Commission on Dental Accreditation

The Commission's mission, vision and values were adopted August 6, 2021 in accordance with the development of the 2022-2026 Strategic Plan.

Mission

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

Vision

The Commission on Dental Accreditation is a globally recognized leader for accrediting educational programs in the dental professions.

Values

The Commission is committed to:
- Collegiality
- Consistency
- Integrity
- Quality
- Transparency

Read the Strategic Plan

2022-2026

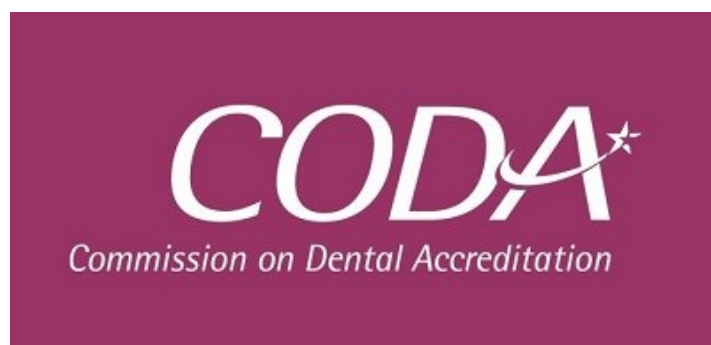CODA
Commission on Dental Accreditation

Who We Are

From 1937 to 1974, prior to the formation of the Commission on Dental Accreditation (CODA), the American Dental Association's Council on Dental Education (now known as the Council on Dental Education and Licensure) served as the accrediting agency for dental and dental-related education programs. In 1973, the House of Delegates of the American Dental Association approved the establishment of a Commission on Accreditation of Dental and Dental Auxiliary Educational Programs. The Commission began operating in 1975, and in 1979 this body's name was officially changed to the Commission on Dental Accreditation.

Since 1952, the Commission on Dental Accreditation, and its predecessor, has been recognized by the Secretary of the United States Department of Education (USDE) as the sole agency to accredit dental and dental-related education programs conducted at the post-secondary level. CODA's mission is to serve the public and dental professions by developing and implementing accreditation standards that promote and monitor the continuous quality and improvement of dental education programs. The general public and communities of interest have direct access to many important resources through CODA's website. Many questions related to CODA's role and responsibility are answered in the Questions and Answers about CODA. The Commission also makes available to the public its Meeting Agenda and Materials in an effort to demonstrate transparency to its communities of interest. Additionally, updated information about CODA's activities is available by reviewing information in Accreditation Updates.

The Commission on Dental Accreditation accredits dental education programs, advanced dental education programs and allied dental education programs in the United States. The Commission also accredits fully-operational international dental education programs. The Commission functions independently and autonomously in all matters of developing and approving accreditation standards, making accreditation decisions on educational programs and developing and approving procedures that are used in the accreditation process. It is structured to include an appropriate representation of the communities of interest.

Commission Structure

Site Visit Teams

The foundation of the accreditation process is the site visit, and the primary role of the Site Visit Team is to gather and evaluate data and facts. Members on each team can include those with expertise in the discipline, biomedical sciences, clinical sciences, curriculum, finance, or national licensure. To maintain accreditation, programs self-assess their compliance with CODA's accreditation standards and provide CODA with documented evidence through the Self-Study process. CODA's site visitors review such materials, visit programs to evaluate process, interview faculty and students/residents, tour facilities, and more in order to assess a program's compliance with CODA standards. The site visit team then clearly and comprehensively reports on its findings to the Review Committees and Commission. The Commission provides a number of resources to programs and site visitors throughout the Site Visit Process.

Review Committees

Review Committees meet twice per year, two to three weeks before each Commission Meeting, to review reports submitted by Site Visit teams as well as programmatic reports and requests, and to discuss policy and procedures related to the committee's discipline. As of this publication, there are seventeen (17) Review Committees, each focused on one or more disciplines within dental education. These committees review and discuss the reports submitted by site visit teams and educational programs, and make recommendations to the Commission. The Review Committees also consider policy, some new and some annual recurring policy, which is applicable to the discipline. Note that the Review Committees **do not** make final accreditation or policy decisions – they instead make recommendations to the Commission, which then considers these recommendations at its Winter and Summer Meetings. In this regard, Review Committees are advisory to the Commission.

Commission on Dental Accreditation

The Commission on Dental Accreditation makes the final decision to grant, continue or withdraw an accreditation status to a dental education program. The Commission bases its decision on the program's compliance with the Accreditation Standards and Commission Policies. In this regard, the Commission continuously evaluates and monitors educational programs for compliance with the Accreditation Standards. The Commission also ensures Standards reflect the

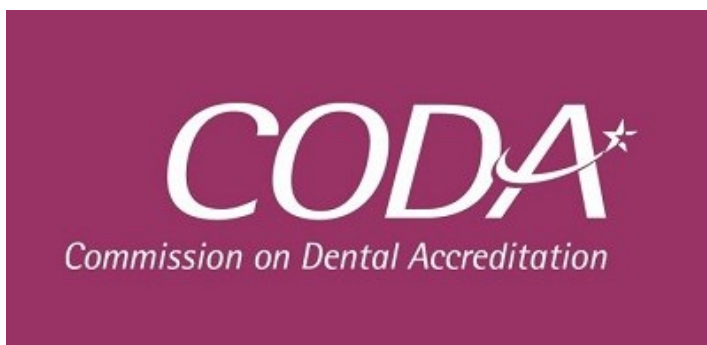# Composition of CODA Board of Commissioners

Organization	Appointments
American Dental Association (dental practitioners)	4
American Association of Dental Boards (licensure community)	4
American Dental Education Association (dental educators)	4
American Dental Education Association and Special Care Dentistry Association—joint appointment (postdoctoral general dentistry)	1
American Academy of Oral and Maxillofacial Pathology, American Academy of Oral and Maxillofacial Radiology, American Academy of Oral Medicine, American Academy of Orofacial Pain, American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry, American Academy of Periodontology, American Association of Endodontists, American Association of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons, American Association of Orthodontists, American Association of Public Health Dentistry, American College of Prosthodontists, American Society of Dentist Anesthesiologists (1 each representing the advanced dental disciplines)	12
American Dental Assistants Association (dental assistants)	1
American Dental Hygienists' Association (dental hygienists)	1
National Association of Dental Laboratories (dental laboratory technicians)	1
Public (consumers/public)	4
American Dental Education Association, American Student Dental Association—joint appointment (student)	1
TOTAL	33

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evolving practice of dentistry by formulating and adopting requirements and guidelines for the accreditation of dental, advanced dental, and allied dental education programs under its purview. The Commission seeks input from all of its broad communities of interest related to the development and periodic revision of Accreditation Standards through Hearings and Comments, thus ensuring the Standards remain current and define the quality of dental education. CODA maintains continuous contact with those important communities through various mechanisms. The Commission also establishes Policies and Guidelines to guide the evaluation and decision making process to ensure fairness, consistency, and appropriate levels of due process.

Appeal Board

The principal function of the Appeal Board is to hear and make judgments on withdrawal of accreditation or denial of accreditation, at the request of an educational program or institution. The Appeal Board will determine whether the Commission on Dental Accreditation, in arriving at a decision regarding the withdrawal or denial of accreditation for a given program, has properly applied the facts presented to it. In addition, the Commission's Rules stipulate that the Appeal Board shall provide the educational program filing the appeal the opportunity to be represented by legal counsel and shall give the program the opportunity to offer evidence and argument in writing and/or orally to try to refute or overcome the findings and decision of the Commission. The Appeal Board is an autonomous body, separate from the Commission. Appeal Board members are selected in accordance with the Rules of the Commission on Dental Accreditation.

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The Year in Numbers

2022 February: Number of CODA-Accredited Programs

Discipline	Number of Programs	Approval without Reporting	Approval with Reporting*	Initial Accreditation	Approval without Reporting (teach out)	Approval with Reporting (teach out)	Initial Accreditation (teach out)
Predoctoral	69	63	3	3	0	0	0
Predoctoral International	1	1	0	0	0	0	0
Dental Assisting	238	223	12	1	2	0	0
Dental Hygiene	330	300	20	9	1	0	0
Dental Laboratory Technology	13	11	1	0	1	0	0
Dental Therapy	1	0	1	0	0	0	0
Advanced Education in General Dentistry	94	89	0	3	2	0	
General Practice Residency	175	170	3	2	0	0	0
Orofacial Pain	12	12	0	0	0	0	0
Dental Anesthesiology	8	7	0	1	0	0	0
Oral Medicine	6	6	0	0	0	0	0
Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery (and clinical fellowships)	109	105	2	2	0	0	0
Orthodontics and Dentofacial Orthopedics (and clinical fellowships)	74	72	0	2	0	0	0
Endodontics	55	53	1	1	0	0	0
Periodontics	56	56	0	0	0	0	0
Pediatric Dentistry	82	78	2	2	0	0	0
Prosthodontics (all, including MxPros and combined programs)	55	55	0	0	0	0	0
Oral and Maxillofacial Radiology	9	9	0	0	0	0	0
Oral and Maxillofacial Pathology	15	14	0	1	0	0	0
Dental Public Health	15	14	0	1	0	0	0
Ortho/Periodontic	1	1	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	1418	1339	45	28	6	0	0

*Includes programs on "Approval with Reporting Requirements," with "intent to withdraw" and "required period of non-enrollment" statuses.

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The Year in Numbers

2022 August: Number of CODA-Accredited Programs

Discipline	Number of Programs	Approval without Reporting	Approval with Reporting*	Initial Accreditation	Approval without Reporting (teach-out)	Approval with Reporting (teach-out)	Initial Accreditation (teach-out)
Predoctoral	70	63	3	4	0	0	0
Predoctoral International	1	1	0	0	0	0	0
Dental Assisting	235	217	15	0	3	0	0
Dental Hygiene	332	294	26	12	0	0	0
Dental Laboratory Technology	13	11	0	0	2	0	0
Dental Therapy	2	1	0	1	0	0	0
Advanced Education in General Dentistry	94	89	0	5	0	0	0
General Practice Residency	174	170	1	1	2	0	0
Orofacial Pain	12	12	0	0	0	0	0
Dental Anesthesiology	8	7	1	0	0	0	0
Oral Medicine	6	6	0	0	0	0	0
Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery (and clinical fellowships)	110	108	1	1	0	0	0
Orthodontics and Dentofacial Orthopedics (and clinical fellowships)	75	72	0	3	0	0	0
Endodontics	55	53	2	0	0	0	0
Periodontics	57	55	1	1	0	0	0
Pediatric Dentistry	84	79	1	4	0	0	0
Prosthodontics (all, including MxPros and combined programs)	56	55	0	1	0	0	0
Oral and Maxillofacial Radiology	9	9	0	0	0	0	0
Oral and Maxillofacial Pathology	15	14	0	1	0	0	0
Dental Public Health	15	13	0	2	0	0	0
Ortho/Periodontic	1	1	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	**1424**	**1330**	**51**	**36**	**7**	**0**	**0**

*Includes programs on "Approval with Reporting Requirements," with "intent to withdraw" and "required period of non-enrollment" statuses.

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Total Enrollment in Dental Education Programs

Dental Education Area	Enrollment (difference from prior year)	Year
Predoctoral	25,995 (+188)	2020-2021
Advanced Education	7,343 (-12)	2020-2021
Dental Hygiene	16,079 (-99)	2020-2021
Dental Assisting	5,331 (-581)	2020-2021
DLT	401 (-69)	2020-2021
All Programs	**55,149 (-749)**	**Source: Surveys of Dental Education Programs**

*Includes 638 students at King Abdulaziz University in Saudi Arabia.

You will find current Enrollment and other data on the Program Surveys page of the CODA website. Updates will be made to this page as available.

Programs, Volunteers, and Staff

- **1,413** CODA-accredited education programs in approximately 750+ institutions

- More than **600** Volunteer Commissioners, Site Visitors and Review Committee Members

- **Eight** Professional Staff

- **One** Coordinator of Operations

- **Two** Site Visit Coordinators

- **Four** Support Staff

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Accreditation Actions at the 2022 Winter and Summer Meetings

In 2022, the Commission reviewed accreditation reports and took **746 accreditation actions** on dental, advanced dental, and allied dental education programs and recorded **6 mail ballots** on dental, advanced dental, and allied dental education programs. A total of **25 new programs** were granted accreditation:

Educational Program	Number
Predoctoral Dental Education	2
Advanced Education in General Dentistry (12-month)	2
Advanced Education in General Dentistry (24-month)	1
Dental Assisting	1
Dental Hygiene	7
Dental Public Health	2
Dental Therapy	1
General Practice Residency (12-month)	1
Maxillofacial Prosthetics	1
Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery (Residency)	1
Orthodontics and Dentofacial Orthopedics (Residency)	2
Pediatric Dentistry	3
Periodontics	1

The Commission affirmed the reported voluntary discontinuance effective date or planned closure date of the following education programs, at the request of their respective sponsoring institutions:

Educational Program	Number
Dental Assisting	6
Dental Hygiene	2
Advanced Education in General Dentistry	2
General Practice Residency	2
Dental Public Health	1
Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery (Residency)	1
Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery (Fellowship)	2

The Commission currently accredits **1,424** education programs in twenty-one dental and allied dental disciplines.

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Standards Revisions at the 2022 Winter and Summer Meetings

The Commission adopted revisions to the following Accreditation Standards:

February 2022

♦ Accreditation Standards for Clinical Fellowship Training Programs in Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery, specifically the deletion of the word "proficiency" within the Definition of Terms, with immediate implementation.

♦ Accreditation Standards for Clinical Fellowship Training Programs in Craniofacial and Special Care Orthodontics, with an implementation date of January 1, 2023

♦ Accreditation Standards for Advanced Dental Education Programs in Pediatric Dentistry, specifically related to the Definition of Terms and intent statement within Standard 4-7, with immediate implementation.

♦ Accreditation Standards for Advanced Dental Education Programs in Periodontics, with an implementation date of January 1, 2023.

August 2022

♦ Accreditation Standards for Advanced Dental Education Programs in Advanced Education in General Dentistry, following a validity and reliability study, with immediate implementation.

♦ Accreditation Standards for Advanced Dental Education Programs in General Practice Residency, following a validity and reliability study, with immediate implementation.

♦ Accreditation Standards for Dental Assisting Education Programs, related to institutional accreditation, with immediate implementation.

♦ Accreditation Standards for Dental Hygiene Education Programs, related to institutional accreditation, with immediate implementation.

♦ Accreditation Standards for Dental Laboratory Technology Education Programs, related to institutional accreditation, with immediate implementation.

♦ Accreditation Standards for Advanced Dental Education Programs in Prosthodontics Education, following a validity and reliability study, with immediate implementation..

♦

November 2022 (by mail ballot)

♦ Accreditation Standards for Dental Assisting Education Programs, related to institutional accreditation, with immediate implementation.

♦ Accreditation Standards for Dental Hygiene Education Programs, related to institutional accreditation, with immediate implementation.

2022 Highlights

Finance

For 2023, the Commission:

- Adopted a 2% increase in annual accreditation fees for all domestic and international disciplines
- Maintained application fees
- Maintained International fees
- Directed the CODA Administrative Fund Fee of $25 per program in 2023 be rescinded and there be no ($0) Administrative Fund Fee in 2023
- Directed CODA's Chair to sign the Intercompany Memorandum of Understanding and Services Agreement with the American Dental Association
- Directed that the Commission's 2023 budget include the addition of three (3) full-time equivalent staff positions dedicated solely to the Commission
- Directed authorization of Administrative Fund disbursement of up to $20,000, to engage with a financial analyst to study CODA's revenue and expense planning model and assist the Commission with long-term projection modeling to obtain a revenue-neutral budget, and to conduct a comparative analysis among other accreditors related to financial models and administrative funds.

Find more details on the CODA website's Fees page.

Documentation and Policy Review

- Directed continued monitoring of the adequate number of volunteers, including discipline-specific volunteers, to serve on all levels of the Commission including review committees and the Board of Commissioners and consider modifications, as necessary, in the future
- Adopted several proposed revisions to the Evaluation and Operational Policies and Procedures Manual
- Directed the deadlines for submitting reports to CODA be revised to a new deadline of May 1 and November 1, with immediate implementation
- Directed the adoption and immediate implementation of proposed revisions to the Criteria for Granting Accreditation.
- Directed the adoption and immediate implementation of proposed revisions to the Commission's Policy on Application for Accreditation for Fully Operational Programs with Enrollment and Without Accreditation, and the Policy on Application for Initial Accreditation for Developing Programs
- Directed the adoption and immediate implementation of proposed revisions to the Policy on Interruption of Education and related Guidelines for Interruption of Education
- Directed the adoption and immediate implementation of proposed revisions to the Policy and Procedure Regarding Investigation of Complaints Against Educational Programs, section on Anonymous Comments/Complaints

2022 Highlights

Quality Assurance and Strategic Planning

The Commission adopted the 2022-2026 Strategic Plan Progress Tracking Sheet and Operational Effectiveness Tracking Sheet in accordance with the new strategic plan

Communication and Technology

In 2021, the Commission directed a review of the Communication Plan in 2022-2023 to ensure that the next communication plan addresses the Commission's strategic needs, as well as ongoing communication and technology needs of the Commission, including an electronic accreditation tool.

The Commission also continues its work to identify, secure, and develop a long-term solution for its electronic accreditation platform needs.

Re-recognition of CODA by the United States Department of Education

On September 18, 2020, the Commission on Dental Accreditation submitted its petition for re-recognition by the United States Department of Education (USDE). From January 2021 through June 2022 the Commission underwent review by the USDE, including observations of meetings, review of petition documents, and file reviews. CODA's Director and Vice-Chair attended the National Advisory Committee on Institutional Quality and Integrity (NACIQI) meeting July 19-22, 2022, during which CODA made a presentation and answered questions in support of its petition for re-recognition. On October 21, 2022, the Commission was notified by the Office of the Under Secretary of its renewed recognition by the USDE for the full scope of five (5) years (2022-2027).

The Commission's Scope of Recognition is as follows:

Scope of Recognition: The accreditation of predoctoral dental education programs (leading to the D.D.S. or D.M.D. degree), advanced dental education programs, and allied dental education programs that are fully operational or have attained "Initial Accreditation" status, including programs offered via distance education.

MEETING MINUTES

Unofficial Major Actions and Meeting Minutes are provided on the Commission's website at:

POST MEETING ACTIONS

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2022 Highlights

Ad Hoc Committees and their Progress

Ad Hoc Committee on Alternative Site Visit Methods:

- Adopted the proposed revisions to the Policy on Temporary Use of Alternative Site Visit Methods to include protocols for in-person follow-up site visits following virtual site visits, with immediate implementation.

- Directed staff to initiate the follow-up on-site visit planning, and to develop and disseminate to programs and CODA site visitors a template Site Visit Schedule and template Site Visitor Evaluation Report specific to the on-site visit process following a virtual site visit.

- Directed staff to gather data to facilitate the Ad Hoc Committee on Alternative Site Visit Method's study of alternative site visit methods to identify whether any changes in processes or procedures for the conduct of site visits using alternative methods could be implemented long-term.

Ad Hoc Committee on Volunteerism:

- Directed the Standing Committee on Finance to review the Commission's funding model to determine the impact of a stipend and honorarium on the Commission's operational budget, with a report to the Commission in Summer 2022.

- Directed a survey of past and current site visitors and current Review Committee members to determine barriers to service, perceptions and attitudes toward volunteering, and links of volunteerism to service, promotion and tenure, with further consideration by the Ad Hoc Committee on Volunteerism and Commission in Summer 2022.

- Directed that term limits for all Commission volunteers be retained, as dictated by current Commission policy.

- Directed that a single public member may serve as a member of more than one (1) Review Committee during their tenure as a Review Committee Public Member, effective immediately, with revision to the Commission's Evaluation and Operational Policies and Procedures.

Ad Hoc Committee to Consider Establishing a Process of Accreditation for Advanced Dental Education Programs in Geriatric Dentistry:

- Directed that the Commission not establish a process of accreditation for advanced dental education programs in geriatric dentistry at this time. The Commission further directed a formal communication to the Special Care Dentistry Association (SCDA) notifying SCDA of the Commission's action.

Ad Hoc Committee to Consider Establishing a Process of Accreditation for Advanced Dental Education Programs in Operative Dentistry, Cariology and Biomaterials:

- Directed a request from The Academy of Operative Dentistry be reviewed with a report to the Commission in Winter 2023.

Ad Hoc Committee on Oral Medicine Reciprocity:

- Directed appointment of a Joint CODA-CDAC Ad Hoc Committee to examine the potential inclusion of Oral Medicine in the Reciprocity Agreement between the Commission on Dental Accreditation and Commission on Dental Accreditation of Canada, following consideration of a request from the Commission on Dental Accreditation of Canada in February 2021.
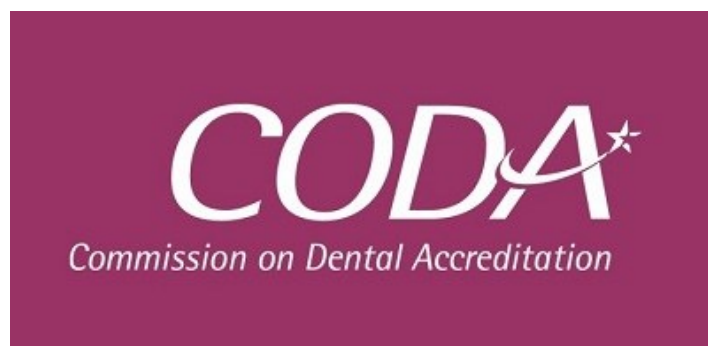
Ad Hoc Committee to Consider Advanced Dental Education Delivery Models and Combined Programs:

- Directed that the Commission not establish a process for accreditation of combined advanced dental education programs in two (2) discipline areas.

- Directed formal review of any future requests for the development of Standards and related documents for accreditation of a new combined program in two (2) disciplines, in accordance with Commission policies and procedures, to determine whether development of an accreditation process for a combined (two-disciplined) program is warranted.

- Directed the Ad Hoc Committee to Consider Advanced Dental Education Delivery Models and Combined Programs to continue its review of the changing landscape of healthcare delivery centers that may sponsor advanced dental education programs, with a report to the Commission in Winter 2023.

- Directed, through the Finance Committee, the authorization of Administrative Fund disbursement up to $10,000, to engage with an expert legal consultant with knowledge of higher education accreditation to assist the Commission's Ad Hoc Committee to Consider Advanced Dental Education Delivery Models and Combined Programs.

Commission Appointments and Elections:

The Commission approved nominees to fill vacancies for discipline specific positions, public member positions and non-disciplines specific positions on its Review Committees and the Appeal Board beginning fall 2022. The Commission elected Dr. Sanjay Mallya as chair of the Commission and Dr. Maxine Feinberg as vice-chair of the Commission, October 2022 through October 2023.

Annual Call for Nominations

The Commission on Dental Accreditation accepts nominations each year for volunteer Review Committee member and Site Visitor positions.

The mission of CODA is to serve the public and dental professions by developing and implementing accreditation standards that promote and monitor the continuous quality and improvement of dental education programs. Accreditation is a peer-reviewed process, and CODA volunteers are an integral part of that process. The Commission provides comprehensive training to all its volunteers, so each will be ready to serve when their term begins. In addition, CODA staff is available for support throughout the process.

The Commission takes into account a balance in geographic distribution as well as representation of the various types of educational settings and diversity, including underrepresented groups. Board certification and experience requirements may apply.

The typical work of a Review Committee member includes the following:
- Review and become familiar with the CODA accreditation process, and participate in training at CODA headquarters.
- Review policy matters, site visit reports, progress reports and other reports on accredited or developing educational programs, which are submitted to the Commission for final action.
- Communicate by electronic mail and the Commission's web-based communication tools.
- Time commitment can vary depending on committee assignment; however, CODA asks that you are willing to commit ten (10) to twenty (20) days per year to Review Committee activities.

The typical work of a Site Visitor includes the following:
- Attend training, conduct comprehensive review of print and electronically delivered materials and travel to Commission headquarters to learn and understand the requirements and guidelines for the accreditation of dental, advanced dental or allied dental educational programs.
- Objectively review materials, which programs submit as evidence of the program's compliance with accreditation requirements.
- Visit educational programs to evaluate process, interview faculty and students/residents/fellows, view facilities, and more in order to assess the program's compliance with CODA standards.
- Develop reports on findings through review of the program's materials and on-site.
- Time commitment can vary; however, site visits are typically 1-4 days in length and require approximately 10+ hours of preparation. You may be asked so serve on at least 1 or more visits per year.

Nominating yourself or a peer is very straightforward. For a list of upcoming vacancies, the nomination criteria and nomination forms, as well as deadlines for nominations in each category, visit Call for Nominations, and then follow the instructions on that page.

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Online Resources

The Commission's website, at Commission on Dental Accreditation (CODA), offers a wide variety of Commission reports, data, and valuable information:

- Accreditation Standards are available under the Standards tab

- Search for CODA-accredited programs on the Find a Program page

- Visit the Call for Nominations page to learn about and submit Review Committee Member and Site Visitor nominations

- To see schedules of Site Visits, go to the Site Visit Process and Site Visit Schedules page

- Acquire a current copy of the Policy & Procedure Manual under the Policies/Guidelines tab

Additional Online Resources for Educational Programs:

Deadlines for Submission of Reports are May 1 (Summer CODA meeting) and November 1 (Winter CODA meeting)

- Program Change and Other Report Guidelines

  - Reporting Program Changes

  - Reporting Distance Education

  - Reporting a Teach-Out

  - Reporting a Transfer of Sponsorship

- Reporting Use of Sites Where Educational Activity Occurs

- Enrollment Increases

- Electronic Submission and CODA Portal

And More….

For futher information on topics in this Annual Report, please contact the Commission office.