

## POLICY ON VOLUNTARY DISCONTINUANCE OF RECOGNITION

The National Commission becomes aware of a recognized organization's decision to voluntarily discontinue its recognition with the National Commission when it receives official notification from the sponsoring organization and/or certifying board's executive director.

Because voluntary discontinuance of recognition, specifically, of a sponsoring organization has an impact on the composition of the National Commission as outlined in its *Rules*, the discontinuance of recognition will become effective at the close of the American Dental Association (ADA) House of Delegates meeting in the ensuing year. Voluntary discontinuance of a recognized certifying board will become effective on the date determined by the certifying board, with final approval by the Board of Commissioners.

When the National Commission becomes aware of an organizations intent to voluntarily discontinue recognition, it takes the following steps:

1. Within 30 days, National Commission staff contacts the organizations executive director to acknowledge the effective discontinuance and informs the executive director that:
  - (a) If the organization is a recognized sponsoring organization, discontinuance will become effective at the close of the ADA House of Delegates meeting in the ensuing year, the organization will no longer be recognized by the National Commission and will be removed from the list of recognized specialties. The communities of interest will be notified of the discontinuance of recognition.
  - (b) If the organization is a recognized certifying board, discontinuance will become effective at the date requested by the organization with final approval by the Board of Commissioners; however, the respective sponsoring organization that has a close working relationship with the certifying board will be notified that in order to remain in compliance with the *Requirements for Recognition of Dental Specialties*, another certifying board must be established. If the sponsoring organization is unable to establish a certifying board, the National Commission will further withdraw recognition from the sponsoring organization.
2. If a recognized sponsoring organization requests voluntary discontinuance of recognition, the National Commission will notify the ADA Board of Trustees of the impact the voluntary discontinuance will have on the National Commission's composition, which will equate to one less general dentist appointee to the Board of Commissioners. Given that the ADA Board of Trustees makes annual appointments to the National Commission based on the number of Commissioners whose terms are expiring in a given year, the National Commission will suggest to the Board of Trustees that it has the option to retire one (1) general dentist commissioner early or appoint one (1) less general dentist Commissioner who will be eligible to serve a four (4) year term on the National Commission.
3. At its next meeting, or by mail ballot if waiting until the next meeting precludes a timely review, the National Commission will take action to affirm the organization's decision to voluntarily discontinue recognition and notify the National Commission's communities of interest.

Adopted 4/21