

POLICY ON PERIODIC REVIEW OF DENTAL SPECIALTY EDUCATION AND PRACTICE

The National Commission will conduct periodic reviews of dental specialty education and practice at ten-year intervals*. The Periodic Review allows the National Commission to gather strategic information that will be of value to the National Commission, the profession and the public. This review focuses on the current environment; changes occurring within the specialty education and practice environments (e.g., disease trends, technology, program enrollments, and demographics); potential trends for the future; and how these may impact the public and the profession. If a new specialty is recognized, the specialty sponsoring organization will be placed into the ten (10) year Periodic Review cycle based on the year the National Commission granted specialty recognition.

The report will be divided into four (4) sections:

Section I: General Information and Demographic Data of the Specialty

- History of the Dental Specialty
- Documentation showing compliance with the current *Requirements for Recognition*
- Strategic Planning
- Description of Specialty Membership
- Specialty Certification

Section II: Major Research Initiatives and Technology Advances

Each specialty organization is requested to examine the impact of major dental research and new technology on its specialty practice over the last decade. Specifically, each organization is required to list major research initiatives and major technology advances over the last ten years, and provide comments on how it believes these changes and advances have affected the practice of the specialty.

Section III: Trends in Specialty Education

Each specialty organization will review summary data collected over the last ten years regarding the number of accredited, advanced education programs, program enrollments and faculty and provide comments on past and future trends.

Section IV: Changes in Scope of Practice

Each specialty organization is requested to highlight recent epidemiological data or studies that establish the incidence and/or prevalence of major conditions routinely diagnosed and/or treated by practitioners in the specialty and describe how these changes have affected the practice of the specialty.

Procedure for Periodic Review:

1. The National Commission will notify recognized specialty sponsoring organizations twelve (12) months prior to the consideration of the periodic reviews by the National Commission at its annual meeting that the periodic review process has commenced.
2. The National Commission will forward a web-based electronic survey/report link to each of the specialty sponsoring organizations.
3. Specialty sponsoring organizations will have nine (9) months from the official notice to submit a draft of their report to the National Commission.
4. The Review Committee on Specialty Recognition will review the draft reports for completeness. Reports needing clarifications, additional information, and/or revision will be returned to the specialty sponsoring organization for revision.
5. Draft reports are to be finalized one (1) month prior to the annual meeting of the National Commission.

6. The National Commission may make the following determinations for each specialty:
 - a. The *Requirements for Recognition of Dental Specialties* continue to be met and the sponsoring organization is granted the continued status of Recognition.
 - b. The *Requirements for Recognition of Dental Specialties* may not be met-additional information needed and the sponsoring organization is granted the recognition status of Recognition with reporting requirements.
 - c. The *Requirements for Recognition of Dental Specialties* are not met and the specialty recognition should be withdrawn and the sponsoring organization is granted the recognition status of Recognition, with reporting requirements, intent to withdraw. The sponsoring organization will be given six (6) months to come into compliance prior to recognition being Withdrawn.
 - d. The *Requirements for Recognition of Dental Specialties* is not met-recognition withdrawn.
7. Specialty sponsoring organizations have the right to appeal any adverse decision regarding the periodic review of that particular specialty.
8. The findings of the periodic reviews will be published and disseminated to the communities of interest.

*Starting in 2029 the Periodic Reviews will be conducted over a four (4) year period to create a staggered cycle of completion. In 2029, three (3) recognized specialty sponsoring organizations will complete the Periodic Review, in 2030 three (3) recognized specialty sponsoring organizations will complete the Periodic Review, in 2031 three (3) recognized specialty sponsoring organizations will complete the Periodic Review and in 2033 three (3) recognized specialty sponsoring organizations will complete the Periodic Review. Upon completion of the first full round of the staggered Periodic Review cycle, all of the recognized specialty sponsoring organizations will be back to a ten (10) year interval that corresponded with the revised staggered cycle.

Adopted 5/18; Revised 3/20, 9/20, 4/21, 3/22