



COMMISSION FOR
CONTINUING EDUCATION
PROVIDER RECOGNITION

A photograph showing three people in a professional setting. A woman with her hair in a bun and glasses is on the left, looking towards a man in a white shirt and glasses in the center. Another man in a dark suit is on the right, looking towards the man in the white shirt. They are gathered around a table with a laptop and a coffee cup.

2015 Annual Report

The Commission for Continuing Education Provider Recognition (CCEPR) was established by the American Dental Association in 2014 to oversee the Continuing Education Recognition Program (ADA CERP). The Commission has the authority to formulate and adopt requirements, guidelines and procedures for the recognition of continuing dental education providers and to approve providers that meet rigorous standards for quality.

The sixteen member Board of Commissioners includes representatives appointed by the American Dental Association, American Association of Dental Boards, American Dental Education Association, American Society of Constituent Dental Executives, and the organizations representing the nine recognized dental specialties.

2015–2016 Board of Commissioners

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ADA C·E·R·P[®] | Continuing Education Recognition Program

The ADA Continuing Education Recognition Program (ADA CERP), established in 1993, provides ADA members and the dental community a mechanism to select quality continuing dental education (CE) with confidence and promotes the continuous improvement of continuing dental education both nationally and globally. ADA CERP also provides dental regulatory agencies with a sound basis for uniform acceptance of CE credits that are mandated by licensing jurisdictions in the United States for maintenance of dental licensure.

Through an application and review process, the Commission for Continuing Education Provider Recognition evaluates and recognizes institutions, organizations and individuals that provide continuing dental education. CE providers are evaluated in 14 aspects of program quality set forth in the ADA CERP Recognition Standards and Procedures. Providers approved through the program are designated as ADA CERP Recognized Providers. Once approved, providers are held accountable for maintaining those same high standards through periodic reevaluation.

CCEPR 2015 Activities

Revising the ADA CERP Recognition Standards

The Commission is undertaking a comprehensive review of the CERP Recognition Standards to help ensure that the CERP Standards continue to establish relevant criteria for quality continuing dental education. In 2015 the Commission issued a call for general comments and suggestions from the communities of interest regarding the Standards. Based on the feedback received, the Commission plans to move forward in 2016 with the review and revision process. The Commission will focus on consolidating Standards, reducing the number and prescriptiveness of criteria, and emphasizing those most essential to continuing dental education that supports professionals' ability to provide the best possible care, improve patient outcomes, and protect patient safety. The Commission will invite input and feedback from stakeholders during the review and revision process.

Communications and Outreach

The Commission holds an educational workshop for CE providers each year during the ADA annual meeting. In 2015, members of the Commission presented a session in Washington, D.C. A workshop will be held in Denver as part of ADA 2016 – America's Dental Meeting. Commission representatives also participated in the 2015 Annual Meeting of the Association for Continuing Dental Education (ACDE).

Comprehensive information about ADA CERP is published on the Commission's website ADA.org/CCEPR, including a newsletter for CERP Recognized Providers. Minutes of the Commission's meetings, announcements and calls for comments are also posted on the site.

2015 Recognition Actions

The Commission reviewed 176 applications for ADA CERP recognition in 2015 and 29 progress reports. The Commission granted continued recognition to 139 providers. A total of 23 new providers were granted recognition. Two providers were formally notified of the Commission's intent to withdraw recognition in six months unless the provider supplied information demonstrating compliance with program requirements by that time. Recognition was withdrawn from two providers for failure to meet program requirements. Fourteen providers voluntarily discontinued participation in the program.

ADA CERP Recognized Providers

As of December 2015, 442 providers of continuing dental education were ADA CERP recognized. CERP recognized providers were distributed among a variety of provider types, shown in Table 1 and Figure 2.

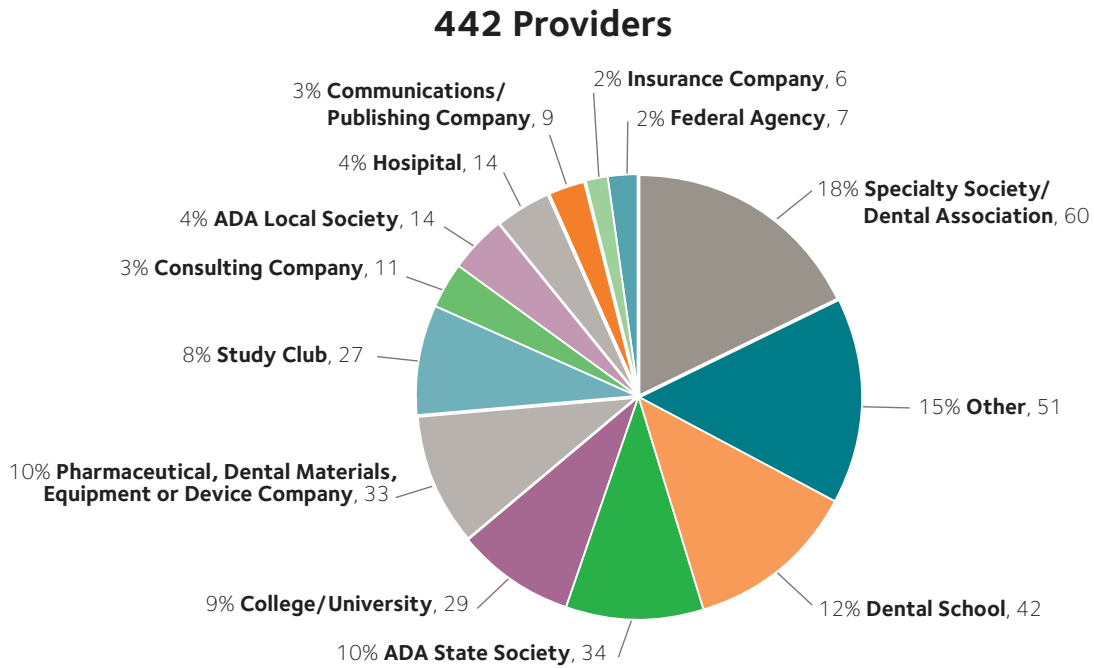
Table 1. ADA CERP Recognized Providers by Type —
Fall 2015

Dental Education Company	105
Specialty Society/Dental Association	60
Other*	51
Dental School	42
ADA State Society	34
Pharmaceutical/Dental Materials, Equipment or Device Company	33
College/University	29
Study Club	27
ADA Local Society	14
Hospital	14
Consulting Company	11
Communications/Publishing Company	9
Insurance Company	7
Federal Agency	6
Total	442

* Includes dental laboratories, foundations, group practices, and other provider types not listed in categories above.



Figure 2. ADA CERP Distribution of Recognized Providers by Type — Fall 2015



Extended Approval Process (EAP)

An additional 107 local dental associations were approved by eligible state dental societies and national dental specialty associations through that ADA CERP Extended Approval Process.



International Provider Participation in CERP

Seventeen providers based outside the United States and Canada are currently ADA CERP recognized. International providers must complete a pre-application process and demonstrate that they meet the Eligibility Criteria for International Providers prior to submitting an application for ADA CERP recognition. In 2015, the Commission revised the categories of eligible international providers to include dental schools and university based CE programs, national governmental health agencies, professional membership associations, and companies dedicated to producing medical and/or dental education or communications.

CERP Recognized Providers — CE Activities in 2014

The Commission collects and publishes aggregated information on the size and scope of ADA CERP recognized providers' CE programs on an annual basis as a service to program participants and other stakeholders.

Information published in this report is based upon data reported by individual ADA CERP recognized providers regarding activities held in the previous year. The Commission attempts to investigate and resolve reporting irregularities, but relies on the accuracy of the information reported by the providers.



Table 3. Size and Scope of ADA CERP Recognized Providers' CE Programs

CDE Activities Offered by ADA CERP Approved Providers	2014	2013	2012	2011
ADA CERP nationally recognized providers	435	437	428	426
Total CDE activities offered	32,699	29,055	22,569	22,564
Total hours of CDE instruction offered	222,893	200,729	171,867	187,102
Total dentist participants	723,239	817,172	697,591	697,092
Total non-dentist participants	696,251	686,155	623,118	632,371

Table 4. Number of CE Activities by Provider and Activity Type (2014)

Activity Type	ADA Local Society	ADA State Society	College/University	Communications/ Publishing Co.	Consulting Co.	Dental Education Co.	Dental School	Federal Agency	Hospital	Insurance Co.	Dental Product Co.	Specialty Society/ Dental Association	Study Club	Other	Grand Total
Live	727	1,698	536	110	1,351	1,962	2,257	351	239	84	3,877	1,225	410	785	15,612
Live (Internet)	1	19	10	26	42	541	118	93	-	6	93	68	472	38	1,527
Hands-on	188	356	160	56	1	1,323	640	84	5	-	1,307	473	38	163	4,794
Self-study (Internet)	-	63	26	683	12	2,779	142	194	18	125	102	1,855	731	326	7,056
Self-study (other)	-	130	37	64	-	3,295	16	7	-	-	-	104	31	26	3,710
Totals	916	2,266	769	939	1,406	9,900	3,173	729	262	215	5,379	3,725	1,682	1,338	32,699

Table 5. Number of Instructional Hours Offered by Provider and Activity Type (2014)

Activity Type	ADA Local Society	ADA State Society	College/University	Communications/ Publishing Co.	Consulting Co.	Dental Education Co.	Dental School	Federal Agency	Hospital	Insurance Co.	Dental Product Co.	Specialty Society/ Dental Association	Study Club	Other	Grand Total
Live	3,004	5,479	5,424	720	2,366	28,245	31,596	2,965	650	228	17,095	11,084	1,453	4,828	115,135
Live (Internet)	1	31	32	26	67	1,177	448	126	-	16	143	98	493	67	2,722
Hands-on	753	1,308	2,198	493	11	14,571	47,210	1,567	12	-	6,508	2,827	336	1,784	79,575
Self-study (Internet)	-	134	284	1,293	18	6,207	781	718	34	171	136	2,414	913	736	13,838
Self-study (other)	-	304	189	107	-	10,284	195	12	-	-	-	399	71	64	11,624
Totals	3,758	7,255	8,126	2,638	2,462	60,483	80,229	5,387	696	415	23,881	16,822	3,265	7,478	222,893

Table 6. Number of Dentist Participants by Activity and Provider (2014)

Activity Type	ADA Local Society	ADA State Society	College/University	Communications/ Publishing Co.	Consulting Co.	Dental Education Co.	Dental School	Federal Agency	Hospital	Insurance Co.	Dental Product Co.	Specialty Society/ Dental Association	Study Club	Other	Grand Total
Live	27,126	58,383	14,615	2,379	2,022	39,280	54,676	7,226	6,079	3,728	46,937	102,952	4,499	31,410	401,312
Live (Internet)	200	1,931	220	3,982	3	29,804	475	5,696	-	839	4,126	3,509	3,727	1,619	56,131
Hands-on	2,593	6,727	2,794	519	6	16,326	9,997	1,000	151	-	12,011	7,129	374	2,332	61,959
Self-study (Internet)	-	2,289	128	20,160	112	48,886	2,330	2,701	184	5,944	4,006	20,952	2,437	48,304	158,433
Self-study (other)	-	2,037	2,184	9,254	-	12,582	61	79	-	-	-	9,892	8,633	682	45,404
Totals	29,919	71,367	19,941	36,294	2,143	146,878	67,539	16,702	6,414	10,511	67,080	144,434	19,670	84,347	723,239

Table 7. Number of Non-Dentist Participants by Activity and Provider (2014)

Activity Type	ADA Local Society	ADA State Society	College/University	Communications/ Publishing Co.	Consulting Co.	Dental Education Co.	Dental School	Federal Agency	Hospital	Insurance Co.	Dental Product Co.	Specialty Society/ Dental Association	Study Club	Other	Grand Total
Live	31,563	85,805	4,769	9,242	6,079	15,797	19,076	746	649	1,106	37,666	39,244	2,972	23,016	277,730
Live (Internet)	53	2,404	227	1,133	513	8,459	324	4,176	-	61	1,660	1,615	6,138	819	27,582
Hands-on	1,370	7,314	1,086	1,406	6	3,980	3,102	231	13	-	3,129	1,360	96	876	23,969
Self-study (Internet)	-	4,037	80	12,704	-	30,864	1,155	20,383	56	4,399	1,139	4,783	6,847	267,851	354,298
Self-study (other)	-	2,160	3,659	25	-	4,053	5	1,986	-	-	-	509	89	186	12,672
Totals	32,986	101,720	9,821	24,510	6,598	63,153	23,662	27,522	718	5,566	43,594	47,511	16,142	292,748	696,251

ADA CERP Definitions

The following terms related to continuing dental education are defined in the ADA CERP Glossary available at ADA.org/CCERP.

Activity

An individual educational experience such as a lecture, clinic or home-study package.

Course

A type of continuing education activity; usually implies a planned and formally conducted learning experience

Live Course/Activity

Continuing education courses that participants must attend (whether in person or virtually) in order to claim credit. Live courses can be offered in a variety of formats including national and local conferences, workshops, seminars, and live Internet-based conferences and teleconferences.

Participation Course

At least 30 percent of course time involves practice of skills.

Provider

An agency (institution, organization, or individual) responsible for organizing, administering, publicizing, presenting, and keeping records for the continuing dental education program. The CDE provider assumes both the professional and fiscal liability for the conduct and quality of the program. If the CDE provider contracts or agrees with another

organization or institution to provide facilities, instructor/author or other support for the continuing education activity, the recognized provider must ensure that the facilities, instructor/author or support provided meet the standards and criteria for recognition. The CDE provider remains responsible for the overall educational quality of the continuing education activity.

Self-Instructional Course/Activity

Continuing education courses in printed or recorded format, including audio, video, or online recordings that may be used over time at various locations.

Sound Scientific Basis

CDE material should have peer-reviewed content supported by generally accepted scientific principles or methods that can be substantiated or supported with peer-reviewed scientific literature that is relevant and current; or the CDE subject material is currently part of the curriculum of an accredited U.S. or Canadian dental education program and, whenever possible, employ components of evidence-based dentistry.

Standards And Criteria For Recognition

The criteria which applicant continuing dental education providers will be expected to meet in order to attain and then retain recognition status.

ADA CERP Recognition Standards and Procedures are available at ADA.org/CCEPR.