



Purpose

The Government Affairs Council is responsible for supporting and advancing the interests of the CDA strategic plan by implementing policy through state legislation, regulation or administrative action, and raising the profile and level of understanding of the dental profession in these arenas.

Primary Duties

- Initiate legislation on behalf of CDA that implements CDA policies and/or resolutions.
- Review legislation introduced by others and evaluate its effect on the practice of dentistry and Californians' oral health to establish CDA positions on such legislation.
- Monitor and assess the activities of state regulatory boards and agencies as to their potential impact on dentistry and Californians' oral health and take appropriate action based on CDA policies and resolutions.
- Evaluate the implementation and administration of previously enacted legislation.
- Convey information regarding the council's activities to CDA membership through a system of verbal and written communications.
- Make recommendations regarding candidates for appointment to state boards, commissions and committees.

Qualifications/Skills

- CDA member in good standing.
- Knowledge of health care public policy issues including dental benefits, opioid policy, pediatric anesthesia and expanded access to dental care.
- Leadership experience in organized dentistry, preferably in government affairs/legislation.
- Strategic thinking and decision-making.
- Strong communication and public speaking skills.

Some members:

- Participation in other dental organizations, groups or societies.
- Experience in corporate/large group practice setting.
- Experience in public health, military or federal/state dentistry.

Time Requirements

- Council meetings: Three to four annually
- Conference calls: As needed to conduct business

Some members:

- Lawmaker/stakeholders meetings: Occasionally
- California legislature hearings: Occasionally
- Respond to media inquiries: Occasionally

Composition

The council shall be comprised of sixteen members.

- Ex officio members (6): President, president-elect, immediate past president, CDA executive director, CDA PAC chair and ADA Government Affairs Council representative.
- At-large members (10): Ten members, recommended by the Committee on Volunteer Placement and elected by the CDA board.
- At least one member must be a dentist within his/her first 10 years of practice.

The chair shall be appointed by the president.

Term/Tenure

The at-large member term shall be two years. The tenure shall be three terms. The term shall begin on December 1 and conclude on November 30.