

**COMMISSION FOR CONTINUING EDUCATION PROVIDER RECOGNITION  
AMERICAN DENTAL ASSOCIATION HEADQUARTERS, CHICAGO  
September 25-26, 2025  
Minutes**

**Call to Order:** Dr. Marc Nuger, chair, called a regular meeting of the Commission for Continuing Education Provider Recognition (CCEPR) to order on Thursday, September 25, 2025, at 9:00 a.m. Central.

**Roll Call**

**Commissioners present:** Dr. Anil P. Ardeschna; Dr. Joli Chou; Dr. Megan Clويدt; Dr. Steven E. Haas; Dr. Brian Huang; Dr. Andrew (Drew) McDonald; Dr. Anthony R. Mecham; Dr. Amey G. Patil; Dr. Julie Robinson-Smith; Dr. Victor Rodriguez; Dr. Arif Salman; and Dr. Susan K. Zelazo-Smith. In addition, Dr. Jasbir D. Upadhyaya participated virtually.

Dr. Carlos A. Bertot, Ms. Reva Brennan, Dr. Cynthia S. Petrie, Dr. Roberta Pileggi, and Dr. Bruce Seidberg were unable to attend.

In addition, Dr. James Mercer (16th District) Board of Trustees liaison, was in attendance.

**Commission staff present:** Ms. Kelli Cousins, interim director; Mr. Christopher Smith, coordinator.

**ADA staff present for all or portions of the meeting:** Dr. Elizabeth Shapiro, interim executive director; Dr. Nader Nadershahi, senior vice president, Education/Professional Affairs; Ms. Katharine Dunn, senior associate general counsel.

**Guests of the Commission:** Dr. Arthi Kumar, an incoming Commissioner, attended the meeting virtually.

**Preliminary Business**

**Adoption of Agenda and Disclosure of Relationships:** The Commission approved the agenda and authorized the chair to alter the order of agenda items as necessary to expedite business.

Dr. Nuger directed the Commission's attention to the CCEPR Conflict of Interest Policy and reminded commissioners of their obligation to make disclosures as appropriate. The following affiliations were disclosed during the meeting:

<b>Name</b>	<b>Affiliation</b>
Dr. Joli Chou	American Cleft Palate Craniofacial Association, member
Dr. Megan Clويدt	University of Rochester Eastman Institute for Oral Health, alumna
Dr. Amey Patil	American Academy of Orofacial Pain, member
Dr. Julie Robinson-Smith	American Academy of Orofacial Pain, member; UCSF, alumna, daughter of faculty member
Dr. Arif Salman	National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research, member

**Fiduciary Duty and Other Legal Topics:** Ms. Dunn gave a short presentation regarding general legal topics such as volunteers' fiduciary duty and conflicts of interest.

**Approval of Consent Agenda:** A consent calendar was prepared to expedite the business of the Commission. Dr. Nuger reminded Commission members that any report, recommendation or resolution may be removed from the consent calendar for discussion. No items were removed from consent. The following reports were accepted by the Commission on consent.

Approval of Minutes from CCEPR April 2025 Meeting and May 2025 Special Meeting  
Appointments to the Commission  
Consultant and Committee Appointments  
Future CCEPR Meeting Dates  
Results of Fall 2025 CERP Applicant Survey  
CERP Participation and Approval Data

### **Reports from Other Agencies**

**ADA Interim Executive Director:** Dr. Shapiro reported that the House of Delegates transitioned in October 2024 to adopt a Strategic Forecast Committee, which is a working group that has a five-to-ten-year strategic vision for the ADA and is designed to adapt more nimbly to major changes as they arise. Dr. Shapiro also reported on the ADA's three-year membership and engagement pilot program that began in 2025, which is designed to reduce barriers to ADA membership, drive member engagement, and diversify revenue streams. She also presented an update on the Board's actions to ensure a more balanced budget and an overview of the AMS stabilization process. Lastly, she provided an overview of the ADA's advocacy efforts relating to recent public health policy shifts, insurance reimbursement issues, student loan burden, and addressing career burnout in dentists.

**ADA Board of Trustees Liaison:** Dr. Mercer reported on the Board of Trustees' focus on stabilizing the ADA's finances and acknowledged the ways in which the Commission's goals align with those of the ADA.

**ADA Senior Vice President Education and Professional Affairs:** Dr. Nadershahi introduced himself to the group and gave an update on staffing changes within the ADA's Department of Education and Professional Affairs. He then reported on the Coalition on Modernizing Dental Licensure, noting that twelve states have now approved the compact and four are pending with more expected to join.

### **Commission Business, Administration and Governance**

**Planning and Assessment Committee: Strategic Plan Update:** Dr. Upadhyaya stepped in for the Committee Chair, Dr. Pileggi, to provide an informational status report on the Commission's strategic plan and tactics slated for the end of 2025 and into 2026.

**Financial Update:** Dr. Mecham presented an informational report on behalf of the Finance Committee summarizing the Commission's finances through August 2025, which indicated that 2025 revenues were on track to meet or exceed budgeted amounts and were projected to cover both direct and indirect expenses.

**Appointments to the Commission:** The Commission was informed (on consent) of the appointment to the Commission of the following members to fill positions being vacated by members completing their terms: Dr. Colleen Collins-Greene has been appointed by the American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry (AAPD), Dr. Arthi Kumar has been appointed by the American Academy of Oral and Maxillofacial Pathology (AAOMP), Dr. Zachary Kouri has been appointed by the American Dental Association (ADA), Dr. Erin Loggins has been appointed by the American Association of Endodontists (AAE), and Dr. Douglas Schildhaus has been appointed by the American Dental Association (ADA). These Commissioners' four-year terms will begin with the close of the 2025 ADA House of Delegates.

Additionally, the American Association of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons (AAOMS) has appointed Dr. Joli Chou to complete the remainder of Dr. Kelly Kennedy's term on the Commission. Dr. Chou's term is effective immediately and will end with the close of the 2027 ADA House of Delegates.

**Consultant and Committee Appointments:** The Commission received an informational report (on consent) that indicated consultants for 2026 have not yet been selected, and that the Commission will be asked to confirm consultant appointments via email ballot later in 2025. Additionally, the Commission chair will make committee appointments in October 2025.

**Election of 2025-2026 Officers:** In accordance with the Rules of the Commission for Continuing Education Provider Recognition, the Commission elected Dr. Arif Salman as chair of the Commission for 2025-2026, and Dr. Victor Rodriguez as vice-chair of the Commission for 2025-2026. The officers' terms will be effective beginning with the close of the ADA House of Delegates in October 2025 through the close of the House of Delegates in October 2026.

**Acknowledgement of Service:** The Commission acknowledged the following Commissioners whose terms will expire in October 2025: Dr. Marc Nuger, chair, Dr. Jasbir Upadhyaya, vice-chair, Dr. Carlos Bertot, Dr. Roberta Pileggi, and Dr. Susan Zelazo-Smith.

**Future CCEPR Meeting Dates:** The Commission received an informational report (on consent) on the Commission's next meeting dates which are scheduled as follows: April 23, 2026, virtual meeting; September 24-25, 2026, in Chicago; April 22, 2027, virtual meeting; and September 30-October 1, 2027, in Chicago.

### **ADA CERP Standards, Policies and Procedures**

**Policies and Procedures Committee Summary Report:** Dr. Zelazo-Smith provided an update on the Committee's recent meeting, where they discussed a major change that the ADA's Board of Trustees made to the Standing Rules for Councils document, formerly named Standing Rules for Councils and Commissions. The Committee proposed editorial changes to the Rules of the Commission for Continuing Education Provider Recognition (Appendix 1) that would remove all instances where Standing Rules for Councils and Commissions is listed as a governing document.

**Action.** The Commission amends the Rules of the Commission for Continuing Education Provider Recognition as indicated in Appendix 1.

Additionally, the Committee discussed guidance related to Artificial Intelligence (AI) use from a fellow CE accrediting body as well as the ADA's AI policies for volunteers and staff.

**CERP Application Revision Steering Committee Summary Report:** Dr. Salman stepped in for the Committee Chair, Dr. Nuger, to summarize the activity to date regarding the Commission's April 2025 directive that the Committee to develop a new application form and process based on the revised ADA CERP Recognition Standards that will go into effect June 1, 2026. The Commission requested that the revised application process include: a self-study outline with prompts asking providers to describe and document how they met each of the 22 criteria in the ADA CERP Standards 2026; one or two CE activity files to evaluate a provider's performance in practice; assessment of Yes or No as to whether providers meet the requirements (removing the "Partially Meets" option); a standard 4-year term to be awarded to providers seeking continued recognition (new providers would still receive an initial 2-year term of recognition). The Committee considered a draft of the proposed application/self-study outline (Appendix 2).

**Action.** The Commission adopts the draft application/self-study outline attached as Appendix 2 for assessing providers for compliance with the ADA CERP Standards 2026, beginning with the Spring 2027 application cycle, subject to minor changes needed for adapting the outline to an online platform.

Additionally, the Committee discussed the current practice of offering two ADA CERP application forms, the Standard and the Abbreviated, and the suggestion from their February 2025 meeting that the current Abbreviated Application does not significantly reduce the amount of work required for providers to complete it and needlessly complicates the review process. In light of the Commission's April 2027 decision to offer all providers that meet the ADA CERP criteria 4-year terms of continued recognition beginning in 2027, and based on the Committee's review of the current and proposed ADA CERP application forms, the Committee recommended that all providers should be required to complete the same application form.

**Action.** The Commission adopts the proposal that the application/self-study outline presented in Appendix 2 be used for assessing all providers seeking new or continued recognition beginning with the Spring 2027 application cycle, and that an "abbreviated" version not be developed.

In light of the changes to the application form and process outlined above, the Committee discussed using a framework to evaluate providers for each of the 22 criteria from ADA CERP Standards 2026. The Committee the Committee proposed that each criterion be equally weighted, with the exception of 5.0 Patient Protection, and that providers that do not demonstrate that they meet all applicable criteria be required to demonstrate compliance according to the framework detailed below.

**Action.** The Commission adopts ADA CERP recognition framework based on the new application/self-study outline, determining a minimum threshold of criteria which a provider must meet in order to achieve and maintain ADA CERP recognition, as well as parameters for providers to report on needed improvements demonstrating compliance when any criteria have not been met as follows, in which providers that fail to meet:

- 1-2 criteria will receive recognition but must submit a report of improvements demonstrating compliance with the criteria not met at the time of their next application.
- 3-5 criteria will receive recognition but must submit a progress report within a year demonstrating compliance with the criteria not met.
- 6 or more criteria will be denied recognition or placed on intent to withdraw.
- Standard 5.0 Patient Protection will be required to submit a progress report to demonstrate compliance within a year, or by a date specified by the Commission.

### **ADA CERP Provider Recognition Actions**

**CERP Complaints Committee Report:** Dr. Upadhyaya notified the Commission that the Complaints Committee received a complaint regarding a currently recognized provider. The provider has been notified of the complaint and asked to submit documentation of their compliance with ADA CERP Recognition Standards. The Committee is awaiting a response from the provider and will meet to make a recommendation to the Committee once such a response is received. A summary of the Commission's discussion is included in a confidential section of these minutes.

**CERP Eligibility Committee Report:** Dr. Patil stepped in for the Committee Chair, Dr. Petrie, to provide a report regarding the eligibility of a provider that submitted a Pre-Application for US and Canadian Providers. As a result of this discussion, the Commission found the provider ineligible. A summary of the Commission's discussion is included in a confidential section of these minutes.

**ADA CERP Fall 2025 Recommended Recognition Actions:** The Commission considered eight new applications for ADA CERP recognition, one new application postponed, one substantive change report, 52 applications for continued recognition, 7 progress reports, one EAP supplement, and one pre-application from an international provider.

**Action:** The Commission grants initial recognition to 7 providers of continuing dental education, and continued recognition to 48 providers; denies recognition to one new applicant; postpones action on one new application and two re-applications; and withdraws recognition from three providers for failure to meet program requirements. The Commission discontinues recognition of six providers at the request of those providers. Individual recognition actions are listed in Appendix 3, a confidential section of these minutes.

As a result of these actions, 486 CE providers will be ADA CERP recognized, effective November 1, 2025. This total includes 52 providers approved through Joint Accreditation.

**Results of Fall 2024 CERP Applicant Survey:** The Commission received an informational report prepared by staff summarizing survey results from providers submitting applications in Fall 2025, along with comparisons from previous application cycles (on the consent calendar).

**Joint Accreditation Update:** The Commission received an informational report from staff on ADA CERP participation in Joint Accreditation for Interprofessional Continuing Education. As of September 15, 2025, 52 of the 187 providers accredited by Joint Accreditation have elected CERP recognition through this process. The number of jointly accredited providers requesting ADA CERP recognition has increased year over year since 2020 when ADA CERP joined the program as an Associate Member. Jointly accredited providers now represent 10.6% of the total number of ADA CERP nationally recognized providers.

**CERP Participation and Approval Data:** The Commission received an informational report prepared by staff (on consent) tracking annual data on program participation, submission types and acceptance rates.

**CERP Providers Failing to Meet Program Requirements:** Ms. Cousins provided a report regarding four recognized providers who did not submit their Annual Report and Annual Fee for 2025 and were therefore slated to have their recognition withdrawn. As a result of this discussion, the Commission moved to withdraw recognition from these four providers. A summary of the Commission's discussion is included in a confidential section of these minutes.

## MISCELLANEOUS

**ADA 2025 House of Delegates Reports and Resolutions:** The Commission received an informational report prepared by staff regarding resolutions submitted to the 2025 House of Delegates. In particular, the Commission reviewed Resolution 405. Support for In-Person Continuing Education Requirements. The Resolution asked that the ADA support weighting in-person continuing education at 1.5 hours to 1 hour of virtual CE by state boards towards licensure. The Commission was informed that The ADA Board of Trustees has recommended that the House vote 'No' to the resolution, in the interest of supporting dental professionals' ability to pursue life-long learning in ways that best meet their needs

The Commission discussed various implications of the Resolution, including that CE credit calculations tend to be consistent across licensing boards, other healthcare CE credit systems, and CE accrediting/recognizing bodies, as well as the potential to reduce the actual time learners spend engaging in CE activities in order to meet their boards' minimum CE requirements.

The Commission also received information about the date and time of the Reference Committee C open hearing in case any Commissioners wished to attend.

**ADA Resolution 410H-2024 Update:** The Commission received an informational report on Res. 410H-2024, particularly the second resolving clause which states that "the Commission on Continuing Education Provider Recognition is urged to review the Extended Approval Process and consider options

to enable the ADA to extend recognition to the state dental associations or local component societies, in the same way state dental associations currently extend their recognition to the component dental associations.”

As a result of this resolution, CCEPR staff developed a survey to send to state dental association Executive Directors to assess their need for/interest in ADA CERP recognition, any resources providers want, what available resources they know about, state dental associations’ interest in seeking ADA CERP recognition through an amended Extended Approval Process (EAP), and the names of representatives who would be interested in joining a working group to amend the EAP. CCEPR staff released this survey to the target audience on July 29, 2025, with a due date of August 31, 2025. CCEPR staff shared the survey results with the Commission.

**New Business:** None.

**Adjournment:** 11:41 a.m., Friday, September 26, 2025