

University of Florida  
College of Dentistry  
**2015 ACCREDITATION**  
**Update**

April 28, 2015

To: UF College of Dentistry,

It will not come as a surprise to any of you that our CODA accreditation is one of the first priorities for our college and a “front burner” issue for me personally. And although it is not our only priority, it certainly ranks high among on the list of areas of special focus for us.

The development of our self-study document is now in “high gear.” True to its intent, the process of our self-study, including our open discussions, committee meetings, faculty retreats, has been very constructive and affirmed the quality of our programs and our many areas of institutional strength. The process also identified opportunities for enhancements that will further the college’s mission and vision. Currently, all ad-hoc committees are nearing the home stretch as the fourth version of the document is being finalized and edited. Many, many hands have touched this document, and I am so impressed by the collective wisdom, hard work and dedication of everyone involved. Our Self-study Steering Committee continues to oversee these efforts expertly and patiently – with the goal of having the main body of the document completed by May 8. More work lies ahead to assemble and double-check all appendices, and make further corrections in preparation of sending the final printed version to CODA before the end of July.

Once the self-study process is over, the college will move into final preparations for our site visit, scheduled for September 29 – October 1. In addition to the DMD program, most of the college’s advanced education programs are also involved in this accreditation cycle including endodontics, periodontics, prosthodontics, oral pathology, oral and maxillofacial radiology, orthodontics and pediatric dentistry. To help the actual site visit go as smoothly as possible, we are assembling a team to help with the many event management details – thanks in advance to those of you who will be sharing your talents to ensure a smooth event.

Thank you all for all of the tremendous work to date. I am very proud of how our self-study is shaping up and I have no doubt the excellent work being done day in and day out will be clearly evident to not only our CODA site visitors but our colleagues, alumni and friends.

With kind regards,

**Isabel**

Isabel Garcia, D.D.S., M.P.H.  
Dean, UF College of Dentistry



## How does CODA define accreditation status?

### *Accreditation status definitions for programs that are fully operational*

**Approval (without reporting requirements):** An accreditation classification granted to an education program indicating that the program achieves or exceeds the basic requirements for accreditation.

**Approval (with reporting requirements):** An accreditation classification granted to an educational program indicating that specific deficiencies or weaknesses exist in one or more areas of the program. Evidence of compliance with the cited standards must be demonstrated within 18 months if the program is between one and two years in length or two years if the program is at least two years in length. If the deficiencies are not corrected within the specified time period, accreditation will be withdrawn, unless the commission extends the period for achieving compliance for good cause. Circumstances under which an extension for good cause would be granted include, but are not limited to:

- sudden changes in institutional commitment
- natural disaster which affects affiliated agreements between institutions, faculty support or facilities.
- changes in institutional accreditation.
- interruption of an educational program due to unforeseen circumstances that take faculty, administrators or students away from the program.

For previous accreditation updates, please visit the college’s [accreditation webpages here](#).