



Commission on Dental Accreditation

Via Email Transmission: smanning@westernu.edu

February 24, 2022

Dr. Sylvia Manning
Interim President
Western University of Health Sciences
309 E. Second Street
Pomona, CA 91766

RE: Western University of Health Sciences, Pomona, California
Predoctoral Dental Education Program
Status: Approval with Reporting Requirements

Dear Interim President Manning,

At its February 10, 2022 meeting, the Commission on Dental Accreditation (CODA) granted the predoctoral dental education program the accreditation status of “approval with reporting requirements.” Below is a summary of actions and additional information.

Predoctoral Dental Education (Site Visit Report)

The Commission considered the site visit report on the predoctoral dental education program. The Commission also considered the institution’s response to the site visit report.

Following careful review of the information provided, the Commission adopted a resolution to grant the program the accreditation status of “approval with reporting requirements.” The definitions of accreditation classifications are linked below.

Based on a review of the response, the Commission determined that the following recommendation contained in the site visit report remains unmet: **#1**. The Commission specified that continued accreditation of the program will be dependent upon the remaining recommendation being met and the program achieving full compliance **no later than February 2024**. When Accreditation Standards are revised during the period in which the program is submitting progress reports, the program will be responsible for demonstrating compliance with the new standards.

As you are aware, virtual site visits will require an on-site visit, as dictated by the Commission. The on-site visit to the educational program will occur within a reasonable amount of time following the conduct of a virtual site visit unless cause exists to conduct the visit earlier, subject to CODA’s site visit schedule and ongoing health, safety, and/or travel concerns and/or restrictions. Additional information related to this site visit will be forwarded to you at a later date.

Requested Information for August 4, 2022 Commission Meeting

The “Summary of Recommendations and Required Documentation” found at the end of this letter includes the stated recommendation and required documentation to submit with the progress report to demonstrate compliance.

For the predoctoral dental education program, the Commission requires one (1) electronic copy of a detailed report addressing the concerns noted in this letter be **submitted by May 15, 2022** for consideration at the Predoctoral Dental Education Review Committee’s June 30-July 1, 2022 meeting and the Commission’s August 4, 2022 meeting.

At the link below, please find Guidelines for Preparation of Reports and Documentation Guidelines for Selected Recommendations to assist you in developing a focused, concise response to the Commission’s recommendations. Please note that reports that fail to adhere to the stated guidelines may be returned to the program and may not be reviewed at the assigned time. The Commission’s timelines for demonstration of full compliance will not be modified due to a delayed review resulting from improperly formatted reports.

Instructions to assist you in developing and submitting an electronic copy are linked below. The electronic copy must include a signed verification page and must conform to the Commission’s electronic submission guidelines.

Predoctoral Dental Education (Sites Where Educational Activity Occurs)

In a separate action, at its February 10, 2022 meeting, the Commission on Dental Accreditation (CODA) considered the June 2021 and November 2021 reports describing the proposed addition of sites where educational activity occurs for the predoctoral dental education program. The Commission noted that the report described the addition of the four (4) major educational activity sites at: (1) El Monte City School District, WesternU Jeff Seymour Family Center (JSFC) Clinic, 10900 Mulhall Street, El Monte, California; (2) Pomona Unified School District (PUSD), locations at WesternU Village Clinic, 1460 E. Hold Avenue, Pomona, California, and WesternU Palomares Clinic, 2211 N. Orange Grove Avenue, Pomona, California; and (3) San Gabriel Valley Foundation for Dental Health (SGVFDH), 14101 E. Nelson Avenue, La Puente, California, where students will gain experiences by providing comprehensive care to patients.

Following careful review of the information provided, the Commission adopted a resolution to **approve the report of the addition of the sites where educational activity occurs** and continue the program’s accreditation status of “approval with reporting requirements.” No additional information is requested from the program at this time, nor is a special focused site visit warranted. This change will be reviewed at the next regularly scheduled site visit to the program in 2028.

General Information

The findings of the Commission on Dental Accreditation are noted in the attached Commission approved site visit report. Oral comments made by site visit team members

during the course of the site visit are not to be construed as official site visit findings unless documented within the site visit report and may not be publicized. Further, publication of site visit team members' names and/or contact information is prohibited.

One copy of this report has also been sent to the chief administrative officer and program director copied on this letter. The Commission requests that a copy of this report be forwarded to the chairpersons and appropriate faculty.

All institutions offering programs accredited by the Commission are expected to adhere to deadlines for requests for program information. If an institution fails to comply with the Commission's request, or a prescribed deadline, it will be assumed that the institution no longer wishes to participate in the accreditation program. In this event, the Commission will immediately notify the chief executive officer of the institution of its intent to withdraw the accreditation of the program(s) at its next scheduled meeting.

Institutions/Programs are expected to follow Commission policy and procedure on privacy and data security related to compliance with the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA). The Commission's statement on HIPAA, as well as the Privacy and Data Security Summary for Institutions/Programs (PDF), are found in the Policies/Guidelines section of the Commission's website at <https://codasda.org/en/policies-and-guidelines/hipaa>. Programs that fail to comply with CODA's policy will be assessed an administrative fee of \$4000.

It should be noted that Commission policy allows for the program to appear before the Predoctoral Dental Education Review Committee to supplement the written information contained in your progress report. A written request for a special appearance must be submitted to Dr. Sherin Tooks, director, Commission on Dental Accreditation, thirty (30) days prior to the June 30-July 1, 2022 meeting of the Predoctoral Dental Education Review Committee.

If the special appearance request is approved, a representative of the institution will be permitted to appear before the Predoctoral Dental Education Review Committee to present the additional information. The special appearance will occur at a specified date and time prior to the committee's consideration of the program's accreditation classification. If additional written materials will be presented, one (1) electronic copy should be submitted by the institution to this office at least one (1) week prior to the meeting, absent documented extraordinary circumstances.

The Commission expects institutions to keep the Commission informed as soon as possible of anticipated changes in any approved educational program offered, particularly in the areas of administration, enrollment, faculty, facilities and curriculum. The Commission's policy and guidelines for reporting program changes are linked below. Guidelines for specific program changes, including reporting enrollment changes, adding sites where educational activity occurs, and developing a teach-out report are found on the Commission's website.

The Commission has authorized use of the following statement by institutions or programs that wish to announce their programmatic accreditation by the Commission. Programs that wish to advertise the specific programmatic accreditation status granted by the Commission may include that information as indicated in italics below (see text inside square brackets); that portion of the statement is optional but, if used, must be complete and current.

The program in dental education is accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation [*and has been granted the accreditation status of “approval with reporting requirements”*]. The Commission is a specialized accrediting body recognized by the United States Department of Education. The Commission on Dental Accreditation can be contacted at (312) 440-4653 or at 211 East Chicago Avenue, Chicago, IL 60611. The Commission’s web address is: <https://coda.ada.org/en>.

The staff of the Commission on Dental Accreditation is available for consultation to all educational programs which fall within the Commission's accreditation purview. Educational institutions sponsoring dental education programs are encouraged to obtain such staff counsel and guidance by written or telephone request. Consultation is provided on request prior to, as well as subsequent to, the Commission's granting accreditation to specific programs. The Commission expects to be reimbursed if substantial costs are incurred.

The Commission wishes to thank you and the faculty and staff for their cooperation during the site visit. If this office can be of any assistance to you or members of your staff, please contact me at 312-440-2940 or by email, at tookss@ada.org.

Sincerely,



Sherin Tooks, Ed.D., M.S.
Director
Commission on Dental Accreditation

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Web Links: [Accreditation Status Definitions](#)
[Guidelines for Preparation of Reports and Documentation](#) [Guidelines for Selected Recommendations](#)
[Electronic Submission Guidelines](#)
[Guidelines for Reporting Program Changes](#)

Attachment: Formal Site Visit Report

Dr. Sylvia Manning

February 24, 2022

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cc: Dr. Steven Friedrichsen, dean, College of Dental Medicine, Western University
of Health Sciences, sfriedrichsen@westernu.edu
Dr. Elizabeth Andrews, interim assistant dean, Academic Affairs, College of
Dental Medicine, Western University of Health Sciences,
eandrews@westernu.edu
Mr. Herman Bounds, Jr., director, Accreditation Division, U.S. Department of
Education (via CODA website)
State Boards of Dentistry (via CODA website)
Institutional Accreditors (via CODA website)
Dr. Bruce E. Rotter, chair, CODA

**Summary of Recommendations and Required Documentation
Western University of Health Sciences
Pomona, California
Predoctoral Dental Education Program**

Please review the following paragraphs that include the stated recommendations and required documentation to submit with the progress report to demonstrate compliance.

Recommendation #1: It is recommended that the dental school ensure the availability of adequate patient experiences that afford all students the opportunity to achieve its stated competencies within a reasonable time. (Dental Standard 2-9)

The Commission reviewed the program's report on implementation of experiences in implant restoration therapy, noting a student progress dashboard had been implemented with quarterly evaluation of distribution of patients through the dashboard. The program has also increased screenings and is looking into grants to support student patient care procedures in implant restoration therapy. The program has established minimum thresholds, incorporated a laboratory-based implant provisional experience, created portfolios and simulated clinical experiences, and enhanced simulation clinical examinations in implant restoration therapy. However, the report did not demonstrate that all students have had patient experiences in implant restoration therapy.

To demonstrate compliance with Recommendation #1 the Commission requests: documentation to verify increased procedures in implant restoration therapy such that all students in the Class of 2022 have had patient experiences in implant restoration therapy in accordance with Dental Standard 2-9. Provide information on the number of procedures by student (Student 1, 2, 3, etc.) at the program's main clinical site and all sites where educational activity occurs, where patient experiences are obtained in implant restoration therapy, with data tables presented separately for the program's main clinical facility and educational activity sites. When presenting information, please identify students as Student 1, Student 2, Student 3, etc. Do not include Protected Health Information (PHI) or Personally Identifiable Information (PII) in the submission.