

August 30, 2013

Mr. James Tarrant Executive Director, American Association of Dental Boards 211 E. Chicago Ave., Suite 760 Chicago, IL 60611

Dear Mr. Tarrant,

On behalf of the American Student Dental Association's 20,000 members, thank you for the opportunity to comment on the recent draft of the "Guidelines on Standards of Conduct and Ethics for State Boards and Board Members."

ASDA applauds AADB's efforts to develop comprehensive guidelines that advocate for core principles such as ethical conduct, integrity and transparency. ASDA leaders take an oath to uphold the honor and integrity of the association and profession, and to always conduct themselves in a manner deserving of the respect of their fellow officers, members, colleagues, patients and community. We feel AADB's guidelines serve a corresponding purpose.

ASDA specifically values section IV of the guidelines: "Ethical Considerations for Boards." We agree that a state board should: conduct an orientation for new board members; provide ongoing updates for current members; maintain a policy and procedures manual; model appropriate behavior; provide information pertaining to licensing requirements; and provide information for licensees and other interested parties. Ensuring that state dental boards and their members are adhering to these stipulations is an essential component of promoting ethical conduct for generations of new dentists.

ASDA also supports the mandate for dental boards to provide information on licensing requirements. Many dental students are unaware or misinformed of the required processes related to obtaining a state dental license. ASDA is dedicated to educating dental students of these processes and would welcome a partnership with AADB to do so.

We are pleased to support the "Guidelines on Standards of Conduct and Ethics for State Boards and Board Members." They are a reflection of shared principles between ASDA and AADB. Thank you for including the dental student perspective during the review process. We welcome any questions or requests for further information.

Sincerely,

Jiwon Lee, Columbia '14 2013-14 ASDA President

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Nancy R. Honeycutt, CAE ASDA Executive Director

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