



March 20, 2020

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
Speaker
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Kevin McCarthy
Minority Leader
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Madam Speaker and Minority Leader McCarthy:

The American Student Dental Association (ASDA) applauds Congress's efforts to combat the many challenges faced during the COVID-19 crisis.

To mitigate the spread of COVID-19, dental schools have closed and graduation and clinical licensure examinations have been postponed, aimed at protecting the health and safety of candidates, patients, schools, staff and the overall population.

We are concerned that fourth year dental students will have to begin payments on loans without the ability to become a licensed dentist, due to the postponement of these licensure exams. Current dental students also face the accumulation of interest on their student loans while they are unable to attend classes due to school closures.

As you consider enacting legislative proposals to address COVID-19 issues, we want to share our recommendations on what provisions might assist dental students. Those recommendations include:

- Deferring interest on federal student loans for dental students while in dental school, or a residency.
- Deferring all monthly payments on federal student loans for all health care professionals, including dentists, without penalty.

We appreciate your consideration in these matters. If you have any questions, please have your staff contact Stephanie Follett at stephanie@asdanet.org or 312 440 2490.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Sydney Shapiro".

Sydney Shapiro
President
American Student Dental Association

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Nancy R. Honeycutt #".

Nancy R. Honeycutt, CAE
Executive Director
American Student Dental Association



March 20, 2020

The Honorable Mitch McConnell
Majority Leader
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Charles Schumer
Minority Leader
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Majority Leader McConnell and Minority Leader Schumer:

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President
American Student Dental Association

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Nancy R. Honeycutt, CAE
Executive Director
American Student Dental Association