

# Resolution Template

1 **Resolution Number:** 203-2024

2

3 **Title:** Introduction of task force to reduce national conference fees

4

5 **Reference Committee Assignment:** Membership

6 **Sponsor(s):** Kenny Tran, Alternate Delegate, Midwestern Arizona,

7 Emily Tarr, First Delegate, Midwestern Arizona,

8 Natasha Boyce, Second Delegate, Midwestern Arizona,

9 Adam Yang, Alternate Delegate, Harvard,

10 Zaki Minas, Trustee District 10, ASDOH

11

12 **Financial Impact:**

13

14 **Board of Trustees Comments:** As fiduciaries of the organization, the Board recognizes the  
15 importance of keeping costs reasonable for its members. To reduce the financial burden on  
16 chapters and students, the Board modified the Standing Rules of the Board to ensure meetings  
17 are held in more affordable cities and venues as well as implemented a scholarship program to  
18 promote attendance.

19 Since COVID-19, several factors have impacted the rise in cost. Areas include:

- 20 - Overall inflation (site rise in rates)
- 21 - Supply chain issues that drive up prices
- 22 - Limited venue availability due to COVID-19 venue closures and rebooking of events cancelled  
23 during the pandemic.

24 We also recognize that these implications listed above may be impacting a chapter's ability to  
25 fundraise to attend national conferences. Therefore, the Board recommends a yes vote.

26

27 **Reference Committee Comments:** The Reference Committee recommends a yes vote and to  
28 be placed on the Consent Calendar.

29

30 **Background:** The cost of attending ASDA's national conferences, The National Leadership  
31 Conference (NLC), and Annual Session have steadily risen these past years. ASDA's NLC, for  
32 example, has climbed from \$505 in 2021 to \$599 in 2022 and \$630 in 2023. While these prices  
33 are partly due to economic factors and varying levels of sponsorships, steps should be taken to  
34 reduce the burden on students at the chapter level.

35

36 Measures that could be implemented to ensure that costs remain more stable and affordable  
37 for respective chapters to attend. These measures could include changing the location of  
38 ASDA's conferences to more cost-effective venues, seeking keynote speakers that are local to  
39 the location, and offering fundraising opportunities to support the event, such as selling ASDA  
40 merchandise. These efforts could help struggling chapters send more students to national  
41 events and thus reach dental students who previously could not attend. On behalf of the dental  
42 students, we request National ASDA to create a task force chartered with implementing ways to  
43 reduce costs for attendees and create more pathways for struggling chapters to reach national  
44 conferences. A body should be created to determine what cost-saving matters could be  
45 implemented and recommend these to the conference planning committees.

## Resolution Template

46  
47 Therefore, be it

48

49

### RESOLUTION

50

51 **Resolved**, that The American Student Dental Association will introduce a task force appointed  
52 by the 2024-25 Board of Trustees that will seek ways to reduce the cost of attendance for its  
53 members to national conferences, including The National Leadership Conference and Annual  
54 Session.

55

56 And be it further:

57

58 **Resolved**, that the task force present their findings at the 2025 House of Delegates.

59

60 **Action:** The Chair moves resolution 203-2024 with the recommendation of a yes vote and to be  
61 placed on the Consent Calendar.