

1 **Resolution Number:** RC200-2026

2
3 **Title:** Amendment to Current Statements of Position or Policy F-1 Tuition Increase Control

4
5 **Reference Committee Assignment:** Education

6
7 **Sponsor(s):** 2025-26 Council on Advocacy

8
9 **Financial Impact:** None

10
11 **Board of Trustees Comments:** The Board acknowledges and appreciates the Council on
12 Advocacy's efforts to address hidden fees in dental school tuition. The Board recognizes the
13 necessity of transparency and the annual review of all costs associated with attendance to
14 ensure informed decision-making by students. Therefore, the Board recommends a yes vote.

15
16 **Board Vote:** Unanimous

17
18 **Summary of Board Vote:** Nothing to report as the vote was unanimous.

19
20 **Reference Committee Comments:** The Reference Committee appreciates the delegate's
21 testimony and agrees with the recommendations and therefore recommends the following RC
22 substitute.

23
24 **Reference Committee Vote:** Unanimous

25
26 **Summary of Reference Committee Vote:** Nothing to report as the vote was unanimous.

27
28 **Background:** For dental students to appropriately budget for their education program, all costs
29 must be clearly communicated to current and prospective dental students; therefore, be it

30
31 **RESOLUTION**

32
33 **Resolved,** that the Current Statements of Position or Policy F-1 Tuition Increase Control be
34 amended as follows:

35
36 The American Student Dental Association encourages the administrations of all U.S. CODA-
37 accredited dental schools to develop, ~~and~~ utilize, **and distribute** an estimated costs increase
38 statement for incoming and existing students. In the event that an unresolved dispute over
39 tuition arises involving a dental school and its students, the association will request the school
40 to substantiate the tuition increase.

41
42 **All U.S. CODA-accredited dental schools should annually review and update its estimated cost**
43 **of attendance to ensure it accurately reflects actual cost of attendance in a timely manner to**
44 **optimize students' ability to secure appropriate funding. This figure should include cost of**
45 **living expenses, all mandatory clinical equipment, and required program fees.**

46

47 **Action:** The Chair moves RC200-2026 in lieu of 200-2026 with a recommendation of a yes vote.

48

49 **House Action:** Adopted.

1 **Resolution Number:** RC201-2026

2

3 **Title:** Amendment to Current Statements of Position or Policy F-2 Financial Aid Repayment

4

5 **Reference Committee Assignment:** Education

6

7 **Sponsor(s):** 2025-26 Council on Advocacy

8

9 **Financial Impact:** None

10

11 **Board of Trustees Comments:** The Board recommends a yes vote.

12

13 **Board Vote:** Unanimous

14

15 **Summary of Board Vote:** Nothing to report as the vote was unanimous.

16

17 **Reference Committee Comments:** The reference committee appreciates the testimony
18 provided during the RC hearings regarding student's access to knowledge regarding interest
19 rates. Based on this testimony, the RC recommends the following substitute. The reference
20 committee appreciates the delegate's testimony and agrees with the recommendations and
21 therefore recommends the RC substitute.

22

23 **Reference Committee Vote:** Unanimous

24

25 **Summary of Reference Committee Vote:** Nothing to report as the vote was unanimous.

26

27 **Background:** The Council on Advocacy recognizes that dental school graduates have a
28 reputation for responsible and timely student loan repayment. To encourage continued
29 responsible repayment, dental students should have education on their repayment options.

30

31 This education is critical given scheduled changes to federal student loan repayment plans in
32 July 2026. The government should also prioritize payment continuity as borrowers change to
33 different repayment plans; therefore, be it

34

35

RESOLUTION

36

37 **Resolved,** that the Current Statements of Position or Policy F-2 Financial Aid Repayment be
38 amended as follows:

39

40 F-2 Financial Aid Repayment **Literacy**

41

42 ~~The American Student Dental Association advocates that all current and former dental students~~
43 ~~repay their educational loans in a responsible and timely fashion. It urges the administrative~~
44 ~~officers of dental schools to intensify their efforts to collect outstanding and overdue loans in~~
45 ~~order to meet standards that may be imposed as criteria to receive new loans. The association~~
46 ~~urges dental schools to provide sufficient~~ **timely, comprehensive, and accessible** financial aid

47 counseling to dental students **that can be tailored to individual needs to make an informed**
48 **decision.**, ~~including counseling on alternative loan repayment programs and debt consolidation.~~

49

50 **The association urges student loan service providers and federal and state governments to**
51 **minimize disruptions to processing student loan payments and forgiveness for qualifying**
52 **borrowers. ASDA believes borrowers should have access to accurate information about loans,**
53 **including repayment options and interest rates, to make an informed decision.**

54

55 **Action:** The Chair moves RC201-2026 in lieu of 201-2026 with a recommendation of a yes vote.

56

57 **House Action:** Adopted.

1 **Resolution Number:** 202-2026
2
3 **Title:** Rescission of Current Statements of Position or Policy F-3 Health Education Assistance
4 Programs

5
6 **Reference Committee Assignment:** Education
7

8 **Sponsor(s):** 2025-26 Council on Advocacy
9

10 **Financial Impact:** None
11

12 **Board of Trustees Comments:** The Board recommends a yes vote.
13

14 **Board Vote:** Unanimous
15

16 **Summary of Board Vote:** Nothing to report as the vote was unanimous.
17

18 **Reference Committee Comments:** The reference committee recommends a yes vote.
19

20 **Reference Committee Vote:** Unanimous
21

22 **Summary of Reference Committee Vote:** Nothing to report as the vote was unanimous.
23

24 **Background:** The council recommends that ASDA's policy on health education assistance
25 programs be rescinded as the programs no longer exist for dental students; therefore, be it
26

27 **RESOLUTION**

28
29 **Resolved,** that the Current Statements of Position or Policy F-3 Health Education Assistance
30 Programs be rescinded:
31

32 ~~The American Student Dental Association endorses continued federal support for new and~~
33 ~~existing health education assistance programs, and the reinstatement or renewal of~~
34 ~~discontinued programs.~~
35

36 **Action:** The Chair moves 202-2026 with a recommendation of a yes vote and to be placed on
37 the consent calendar.
38

39 **House Action:** Adopted.

1 **Resolution Number:** 203-2026

2

3 **Title:** Access to Student Loans

4

5 **Reference Committee Assignment:** Education

6

7 **Sponsor(s):** 2025-26 Council on Advocacy, Audrey Fashimpaur, Iowa

8

9 **Financial Impact:** None

10

11 **Board of Trustees Comments:** The Board recommends a yes vote.

12

13 **Board Vote:** Unanimous

14

15 **Summary of Board Vote:** Nothing to report as the vote was unanimous.

16

17 **Reference Committee Comments:** The reference committee recommends a yes vote.

18

19 **Reference Committee Vote:** Unanimous

20

21 **Summary of Reference Committee Vote:** Nothing to report as the vote was unanimous.

22

23 **Background:** The Council on Advocacy recommends a new policy focused on the importance of
24 accessible student loans. The average dental student graduates with over \$312,000 in student
25 loan debt. With the elimination of the Grad PLUS program, dental students' federal borrowing
26 is limited to \$200,000 total.

27

28 Borrowing caps may limit dental student enrollment and contribute to the growing number of
29 healthcare professional shortage areas (HPSAs). It is imperative that dental students continue
30 to have access to affordable student loans that do not penalize students who pursue residency;
31 therefore, be it

32

33 **RESOLUTION**

34

35 **Resolved,** that ASDA adopt the following policy on Access to Student Loans:

36

37 The American Student Dental Association recognizes the importance of access to affordable
38 student loans to finance dental education. ASDA believes dental students should be able to
39 borrow up to the cost of attending dental school, including cost of living expenses, and opposes
40 imposing borrowing caps on federal and private student loans.

41

42 ASDA advocates for subsidized student loans where interest begins accruing six months after
43 graduation. Payments and interest on student loans should be deferred for the duration of an
44 accredited dental residency program.

45

46 **Action:** The Chair moves 203-2026 with a recommendation of a yes vote and to be placed on
47 the consent calendar.
48
49 **House Action:** Adopted.

1 **Resolution Number:** 204-2026

2

3 **Title:** Amendment to Current Statements of Position or Policy B-17 Sustainability in Curricula

4

5 **Reference Committee Assignment:** Education

6

7 **Sponsor(s):** 2025-26 Council on Advocacy

8

9 **Financial Impact:** None

10

11 **Board of Trustees Comments:** The Board recommends a yes vote.

12

13 **Board Vote:** Unanimous

14

15 **Summary of Board Vote:** Nothing to report as the vote was unanimous.

16

17 **Reference Committee Comments:** The reference committee appreciates the time and effort
18 spent by the Council on Advocacy to address sustainability in curricula and natural disasters and
19 recommends a yes vote.

20

21 **Reference Committee Vote:** Unanimous

22

23 **Summary of Reference Committee Vote:** Nothing to report as the vote was unanimous.

24

25 **Background:** The Council on Advocacy acknowledges the growing threats of climate change and
26 determined that ASDA's policies should encourage dental schools to teach students how
27 climate change will affect the profession. The council's research indicated that climate change
28 may affect dentistry in these ways and more:

29

30

31

32

- Heat stress can lead to dry mouth and increased risk of tooth sensitivity;
- Air pollution has a significant correlation with periodontitis; and
- Water-borne pathogens can cause dental caries and other oral health diseases.

33

Therefore, be it

34

35

RESOLUTION

36

37 **Resolved,** that ASDA adopt policy B-17 Sustainability in Curricula as follows:

38

39 ASDA encourages dental schools to incorporate programs and curricula that educate students
40 on the impacts of climate change on oral health and the dental workforce **as appropriate,**
41 **including but not limited to:**

42

43

44

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46

- **The effects of heat stress on patient care, workforce productivity, antibiotics, and medication longevity.**
- **The connection between air pollution and oral and systemic diseases.**
- **The effects of water-borne illnesses on community oral health.**

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ASDA encourages dental schools to incorporate programs and curricula that develop and implement sustainability-focused education and research including, but not limited to:

- Education on the procurement of environmentally responsible and ethically sourced dental supplies.
- Minimally invasive dentistry practices that reduce material usage and environmental impact.
- Development of frameworks for sustainable water management in dental practices, including water-efficient equipment and processes.
- Education on the environmental impact of dental materials, with strategies to minimize their footprint, reduce pollution, and implement best practices for waste reduction and environmentally responsible disposal.
- Integration of environmentally-responsible technologies to support sustainable practices.

Action: Referred to appropriate council to study the financial implication and implementation of the bullets included in the resolution and report back to the 2027 House of Delegates.

House Action: Adopted.

1 **Resolution Number:** 205-2026

2
3 **Title:** Amendment to Current Statements of Position or Policy B-17 Sustainability in Curricula

4
5 **Reference Committee Assignment:** Education

6
7 **Sponsor(s):** Beshoy Lawindy, Tufts University School of Dental Medicine

8
9 **Financial Impact:** None

10
11 **Board Comments:** The Board recommends a yes vote.

12
13 **Board Vote:** Unanimous

14
15 **Summary of Board Vote:** Nothing to report as the vote was unanimous.

16
17 **Reference Committee Comments:** Based on the testimony heard, we believe additional
18 research is necessary to fully address the modification of our existing policy on
19 sustainability in curricula and proposed policy on disaster relief. Therefore, we recommend
20 referral to the 2026-27 Council on Advocacy to investigate the appropriate education for
21 all students and report back at the 2027 House of Delegates.

22
23 **Reference Committee Vote:** Unanimous

24
25 **Summary of Reference Committee Vote:** Nothing to report as the vote was unanimous.

26
27 **Background:**

28 Climate-related events and natural disasters—including extreme heat, wildfires, floods,
29 hurricanes, winter storms, and power outages—are occurring with increasing frequency and
30 severity across the United States. These events disrupt access to oral health care, interrupt
31 clinical education, and pose safety risks to patients, students, faculty, and staff.

32 Dental professionals play an important role in maintaining continuity of care during emergencies
33 and supporting broader public health response efforts. However, dental education currently
34 lacks standardized training in disaster preparedness, emergency response, and climate resilience
35 within clinical settings. As climate-related and public health emergencies increasingly affect
36 health systems nationwide, it is critical that dental graduates are equipped with the skills
37 necessary to adapt clinical operations, protect patient care, and collaborate with
38 interdisciplinary public health systems.

39 ASDA supports modern, forward-looking dental education that prepares students to respond
40 effectively to evolving public health challenges; therefore be it

41
42 **RESOLUTION**

43

44 **Resolved**, that ASDA's Current Statements of Position or Policy B-17 Sustainability in Curricula
45 be amended as follows:

46
47 ASDA encourages dental schools to incorporate programs and curricula that educate students
48 on the impacts of climate change on oral health and the dental workforce.

49
50 ASDA encourages dental schools to incorporate programs and curricula that develop and
51 implement sustainability-focused education and research including, but not limited to:

- 52
- 53 • Education on the procurement of environmentally responsible and ethically sources
54 dental supplies.
 - 55 • Minimally invasive dentistry practices that reduce material usage and environmental
56 impact.
 - 57 • Development of frameworks for sustainable water management in dental practices,
58 including water-efficient equipment and processes.
 - 59 • Education on the environmental impact of dental materials, with strategies to minimize
60 their footprint, reduce pollution, and implement best practices for waste reduction and
61 environmentally responsible disposal.
 - 62 • Integration of environmentally-responsible technologies to support sustainable
63 practices.

64
65 **Action:** Moved as amended.

66
67 **House Action:** Adopted as amended.

1 **Resolution Number:** 300-2026

2

3 **Title:** University of Pikeville Tanner College of Dental Medicine

4

5 **Reference Committee Assignment:** Membership & Governance

6

7 **Sponsor(s):** 2025-26 Executive Committee

8

9 **Financial Impact:** None

10

11 **Board of Trustees Comments:** The Board recommends a yes vote.

12

13 **Board Vote:** Unanimous

14

15 **Summary of Board Vote:** Nothing to report as the vote was unanimous.

16

17 **Reference Committee Comments:** The reference committee recommends a yes vote.

18

19 **Reference Committee Vote:** Unanimous

20

21 **Summary of Reference Committee Vote:** Nothing to report as the vote was unanimous.

22

23 **Background:** Per the Standing Rules of the House of Delegates, new ASDA chapters must be
24 approved by the House of Delegates. University of Pikeville Tanner College of Dental Medicine
25 has received initial accreditation from the Commission on Dental Accreditation (CODA) to open
26 in 2026. Approving the creation of a chapter at this new program will allow national ASDA to
27 put resources towards supporting the formation of an ASDA chapter during the 2026-27 school
28 year; therefore, be it

29

30

RESOLUTION

31

32 **Resolved,** that University of Pikeville Tanner College of Dental Medicine be recognized as an
33 ASDA chapter pending completion of the requirements as stated in the Standing Rules of the
34 House of Delegates and confirmation by the Board of Trustees.

35

36 **Action:** The Chair moves 300-2026 with a recommendation of a yes vote and to be placed on
37 the consent calendar.

38

39 **House Action:** Adopted.

1 **Resolution Number:** 301-2026

2

3 **Title:** Addressing Food Insecurity Among Dental Students

4

5 **Reference Committee Assignment:** Membership & Governance

6

7 **Sponsor(s):** Loryn Young, Council on Membership Chair

8

9 **Financial Impact:** None

10

11 **Board of Trustees Comments:** The Board appreciates the author submitting this resolution and
12 supports efforts to work with stakeholders to address this issue. ASDA is actively working to
13 establish partnerships that support the intent of this resolution that address food insecurity for
14 dental students. We encourage the Council on Membership to continue its work establishing
15 and identifying programs that will alleviate the burden for dental students. Therefore, the
16 board recommends a yes vote.

17

18 **Board Vote:** Unanimous

19

20 **Summary of Board Vote:** Nothing to report as the vote was unanimous.

21

22 **Reference Committee Comments:** The reference committee recommends a yes vote.

23

24 **Reference Committee Vote:** The vote was unanimous.

25

26 **Summary of Reference Committee Vote:** Nothing to report as the vote was unanimous.

27

28 **Background:** At the 2025 House of Delegates, resolution 305-2025 Support for Dental Students
29 Experiencing Poverty was passed. In this resolution, the Council on Membership and the Board
30 of Trustees were charged with investigating potential member benefits with food and grocery
31 companies. The council and board also recommended providing a resource for dental students
32 to start and/or maintain a food pantry at their dental school. This new resource was published
33 in January and ASDA is continuing to work on establishing partnerships with Amazon Fresh and
34 Uber Eats.

35

36 Because food insecurity is a growing concern among dental students, the Council on
37 Membership is also recommending the following policy as part of their work in this area;
38 therefore, be it

39

40

RESOLUTION

41

42 **Resolved,** that ASDA recognizes that food insecurity is a growing concern among dental
43 students and encourages members and ASDA chapters to work with local constituents and
44 other stakeholders to institute local programs to address this issue.

45

46 **Action:** The Chair moves 301-2026 with a recommendation of a yes vote and to be placed on
47 the consent calendar.
48
49 **House Action:** Adopted.

1 **Resolution Number:** 400-2026

2

3 **Title:** Amendment to Current Statements of Position or Policy B-11 Oral Health Literacy

4

5 **Reference Committee Assignment:** Professional Issues

6

7 **Sponsor(s):** 2025-26 Governance Committee

8

9 **Financial Impact:** None

10

11 **Board of Trustees Comments:** The Board recommends a yes vote.

12

13 **Board Vote:** Unanimous

14

15 **Summary of Board Vote:** Nothing to report as the vote was unanimous.

16

17 **Reference Committee Comments:** The reference committee recommends a yes vote.

18

19 **Reference Committee Vote:** Unanimous

20

21 **Summary of Reference Committee Vote:** Nothing to report as the vote was unanimous.

22

23 **Background:** The 2025-26 Governance Committee believed there was a need to define oral
24 health literacy within the policy; therefore, be it

25

26

RESOLUTION

27

28 **Resolved,** that B-11 Oral Health Literacy be amended as follows:

29

30 The American Student Dental Association supports efforts to improve oral health literacy and
31 encourages incorporating the term “oral health literacy” into CODA accreditation standards,
32 particularly in the standards related to prevention and public health. **ASDA defines oral health
33 literacy as the degree to which individuals have the capacity to obtain, process and
34 understand basic health information and services needed to make appropriate oral health
35 decisions. It also recognizes that by improving health literacy, patients are better stewards of
36 their own health.**

37 ASDA encourages a multi-disciplinary approach to student education about oral health literacy
38 and usage of communication techniques that are appropriate based on patient level of oral
39 health literacy.

40

41 **Action:** The Chair moves 400-2026 with a recommendation of a yes vote and to be placed on
42 the consent calendar.

43

44 **House Action:** Adopted.

1 **Resolution Number:** 401-2026

2

3 **Title:** Disaster Relief

4

5 **Reference Committee Assignment:** Professional Issues

6

7 **Sponsor(s):** 2025-26 Council on Advocacy

8

9 **Financial Impact:** None

10

11 **Board of Trustees Comments:** The Board recommends a yes vote.

12

13 **Board Vote:** Unanimous

14

15 **Summary of Board Vote:** Nothing to report as the vote was unanimous.

16

17 **Reference Committee Comments:** Testimony shared in the Education Reference Committee
18 indicates that the policy may need to extend broader to encompass disaster preparedness and
19 response efforts. The reference committee recommends the 2026-27 Council on Advocacy
20 study this further and report back to the 2027 House of Delegates.

21

22 **Reference Committee Vote:** Unanimous

23

24 **Summary of Reference Committee Vote:** Nothing to report as the vote was unanimous.

25

26 **Background:** The Council on Advocacy was tasked by the 2025 House of Delegates with
27 investigating policies related to extreme weather events and displacement caused by climate
28 change and as they affect access to oral health care.

29

30 The Center for Research on the Epidemiology of Disasters reported that 93.1 million people
31 were affected by natural disasters in 2023. Practicing proper dental hygiene can be challenging
32 in the wake of natural and man-made emergencies. Dentists' ability to operate, the destruction
33 of transportation infrastructure, and water contamination all pose threats to public oral health;
34 therefore, be it

35

36

RESOLUTION

37

38 **Resolved,** that ASDA adopt a policy on **Man-Made or Natural** Disaster Relief as follows:

39

40 ASDA encourages governmental and private sector support for oral health resources and
41 services in natural and human disaster planning and relief efforts.

42

43 ASDA urges these entities to dedicate resources towards alleviating the short- and long-term
44 burdens of displacement that disrupt public oral health systems and routines.

45

46 ASDA encourages dental institutions to have clear protocols in training for students when
47 providing dental care in cases when natural and/or man-made emergencies occur, including but
48 not limited to:

- 49 • Training in emergency clinic operations, continuity of patient care, and ethical decision-
50 making during disasters.
- 51 • Education on the role of dentists within interdisciplinary public health and emergency
52 response systems.

53

54 **Action:** Referred to the Council on Professional Issues to study this resolution further to
55 determine how all of the items included in the resolution can be appropriately addressed in our
56 policies and report back at the 2027 House of Delegates.

57

58 **House Action:** Adopted.

1 **Resolution Number:** 402-2026

2

3 **Title:** Adoption of Interim Policy: Amendment to Current Statements of Position or Policy I-1
4 Fluoridation

5

6 **Reference Committee Assignment:** Professional Issues

7

8 **Sponsor(s):** 2025-26 Board of Trustees

9

10 **Financial Impact:** None

11

12 **Board of Trustees Comments:** The Board recommends a yes vote.

13

14 **Board Vote:** Unanimous

15

16 **Summary of Board Vote:** Nothing to report as the vote was unanimous.

17

18 **Reference Committee Comments:** The reference committee recommends a yes vote.

19

20 **Reference Committee Vote:** Unanimous

21

22 **Summary of Reference Committee Vote:** Nothing to report as the vote was unanimous.

23

24 **Background:** The Board of Trustees recognizing the shift in the Trump administration's stance
25 on fluoride wanted to proactively ensure the association's stance on fluoride reflected
26 evidence- based recommendations. Therefore the Board adopted the following resolution at its
27 April 2025 meeting and asks the House of delegates to officially adopt it as ASDA policy;
28 therefore, be it

29

30

RESOLUTION

31

32 **Resolved,** that the Current Statements of Position or Policy I-1 Fluoridation be amended as
33 follows:

34

35 ~~The American Student Dental Association encourages the fluoridation of community water~~
36 ~~supplies at optimal levels as determined by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.~~
37 ~~ASDA supports the use of fluoridated products as recommended by the Centers for Disease~~
38 ~~Control and Prevention.~~

39

40 **ASDA supports fluoride, a naturally occurring mineral, as an evidence-based local and**
41 **systemic therapy in the prevention of tooth decay. This can include community water**
42 **fluoridation, topical fluoride, and other fluoride products.**

43 **ASDA urges dental professionals and dental societies to continue sharing scientific**
44 **information regarding the safety and efficacy of fluoridating community water supplies with**
45 **policymakers and the public.**

46 **ASDA supports and advocates for ongoing research on the safety and effectiveness of**
47 **fluoridation.**

48

49 **Action:** The Chair moves 402-2026 with a recommendation of a yes vote and to be placed on
50 the consent calendar.

51

52 **House Action:** Adopted.