INCLUDE CHAPTER LOGO and SCHOOL LOGO

*[Below is a sample list of benefits associated with automatic enrollment for ASDA membership. Red indicates areas that you should personalize to reflect your school.]*

Automatic Enrollment of ASDA Dues

On behalf of the [Name of dental school] and the [Name of chapter] ASDA chapter, we are proposing that we institute automatic enrollment of ASDA and ADA student member dues for the following reasons:

* [If applicable to your chapter.] Dental students have requested this fee. A petition of the students was received and ASDA officers are poised to conduct a follow-up petition if requested.
* [Update, as needed, to reflect students in your school.] Many dental students are interested in joining ASDA and ADA as a student member, but have difficulty paying the $88 annual dues due to personal finance reasons when it comes to renewing each year. If made mandatory, the fee would be included in the financial aid budget and financial aid would cover this cost, meaning that students wouldn’t be responsible for renewing their membership each year.
* One of the benefits of membership is the opportunity to activate no-cost life and disability insurance through Great-West Insurance. This is valuable protection for any dental student and the cost of this insurance alone exceeds the membership fee.
* Another great benefit of membership, is supporting advocacy initiatives of importance to dental students such as licensure reform and student debt relief.
* ASDA is the largest association dedicated to dental students and has been an emphasis at all dental schools since the organization was founded in 1971.
* 86% of dental students in the U.S. and Puerto Rico are members of ASDA. ASDA represents the interests of all dental students. This is in contrast with other student organizations that focus on specialties or special interest groups. The strength of ASDA lies in our numbers. ASDA serves as the voice for dental student issues in organized dentistry. The larger our membership, the stronger our voice and concerns are heard when we are advocating, whether it be at the ADA House of Delegates, the state societies, or in Congress.
* ASDA officers vote in the ASDA House of Delegates on matters pertaining to dental education and dental practice. ASDA meetings also provide opportunities to learn about issues not taught in dental school, develop leadership skills to use throughout their career and network with hundreds of dental students from schools across the nation.
* ASDA is a student-run organization. Dental student members lead ASDA’s national Board of Trustees, its districts and chapters. Dental student members also comprise ASDA House of Delegates. ASDA is an extension of dental school by providing members the opportunity to develop meaningful leadership skills that will be an asset in their professional roles after dental school.
* ASDA provides students an introduction to organized dentistry. When joining ASDA, students also become a student member of the ADA. ASDA members participate in activities and events sponsored by local, state, regional and national dental organizations. [Update the following as needed.] Leaders of the X State Dental Association meet with the ASDA chapter.
* Most students will join the American Dental Association, their state association and local dental society following graduation. Participation in ASDA during dental school prepares them for leadership roles, involvement in governmental activities and skills to run a business.
* For the 2019-20 school year we had 46 of the 66 dental schools, including our main competitors, cover dues through a mandatory fee or funding from the school, state dental association or other organizations.

[Provide Chapter Leader Contact Information for Follow Up Questions]