



Commission on Dental Accreditation

Via Email Transmission: mgeoghegan@egcc.edu

September 1, 2022

Mr. Michael Geoghegan
President
Eastern Gateway Community College
Pugliese Center 110 John Scott Highway
Steubenville, OH, 43952

RE: Eastern Gateway Community College, Steubenville, Ohio
Dental Assisting Program
Status: Approval without Reporting Requirements

Dear Mr. Geoghegan,

At its August 4, 2022 meeting, the Commission on Dental Accreditation (CODA) granted the dental assisting program the accreditation status of “approval without reporting requirements.” The definitions of accreditation classifications are linked below. Below is a summary of actions and additional information.

Dental Assisting (Program Change)

The Commission considered the May 2022 supplemental report describing a *proposed* program change for the dental assisting program. The Commission noted that the report describes a recent change in the institutional accreditation status from the Higher Learning Commission (HLC). The information indicates that the accreditation status after its most recent review is “accredited – on probation” and that Eastern Gateway Community College has until February 2023 to address the Higher Learning Commission’s concerns.

Following careful review of the information provided, the Commission adopted a resolution to continue the program’s accreditation status of “approval without reporting requirements.”

The Commission has **approved** the report of program change and **requests additional information** to ensure continued compliance with the Accreditation Standards. If the additional information submitted does not satisfy the Commission, the Commission reserves the right to request additional documentation or conduct a special focused site visit of the program.

Dental Assisting (Report of Noncompliance)

In a separate action, at its August 4, 2022 meeting, the Commission reviewed information regarding the dental assisting program annual accreditation fee. It was noted the program may not be in compliance with Standard 1-2 (Financial Support). The program’s initial annual fee check submitted on April 18, 2022 was recorded by the bank as having insufficient funds.

Following careful review of the information provided, the Commission determined the program has demonstrated compliance with Standard 1-2 and adopted a resolution to continue the program's accreditation status of "approval without reporting requirements." No additional information is requested at this time from the program. The information you have provided will be reviewed at the next regularly scheduled site visit to the program in **2026**.

Requested Information for February 9, 2023 Commission Meeting

The Commission requests the following supplemental information related to the report of program change: an update regarding the institutional accreditation status and impact, if any, on the dental assisting program.

The Commission requires one (1) electronic copy of a detailed report addressing the concerns noted in this letter be submitted by November 15, 2022 for consideration at the Dental Assisting Education Review Committee's January 12-13, 2023 meeting and the Commission's February 9, 2023 meeting.

At the link below, please find Guidelines for Reporting Program Changes to assist you in developing a focused, concise response. Please note that reports that fail to adhere to the stated guidelines may be returned to the program and may not be reviewed at the assigned time. The Commission's timelines for demonstration of full compliance will not be modified due to a delayed review resulting from improperly formatted reports.

Instructions to assist you in developing and submitting an electronic copy are linked below. The electronic copy must include a signed verification page and must conform to the Commission's electronic submission guidelines.

General Information

All institutions offering programs accredited by the Commission are expected to adhere to deadlines for requests for program information. If an institution fails to comply with the Commission's request, or a prescribed deadline, it will be assumed that the institution no longer wishes to participate in the accreditation program. In this event, the Commission will immediately notify the chief executive officer of the institution of its intent to withdraw the accreditation of the program(s) at its next scheduled meeting.

Institutions/Programs are expected to follow Commission policy and procedure on privacy and data security related to compliance with the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA). The Commission's statement on HIPAA, as well as the Privacy and Data Security Summary for Institutions/Programs (PDF), are found in the Policies/Guidelines section of the Commission's website at <https://coda.ada.org/en/policies-and-guidelines/hipaa>. Programs that fail to comply with CODA's policy will be assessed an administrative fee of \$4000.

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The Commission expects institutions to keep the Commission informed as soon as possible of anticipated changes in any approved educational program offered, particularly in the areas of administration, enrollment, faculty, facilities and curriculum. The Commission's policy and guidelines for reporting program changes are linked below. Guidelines for specific program changes, including reporting enrollment changes, adding sites where educational activity occurs, and developing a teach-out report are found on the Commission's website.

The Commission has authorized use of the following statement by institutions or programs that wish to announce their programmatic accreditation by the Commission. Programs that wish to advertise the specific programmatic accreditation status granted by the Commission may include that information as indicated in italics below (see text inside square brackets); that portion of the statement is optional but, if used, must be complete and current.

The program in dental assisting is accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation [*and has been granted the accreditation status of "approval without reporting requirements"*]. The Commission is a specialized accrediting body recognized by the United States Department of Education. The Commission on Dental Accreditation can be contacted at (312) 440-4653 or at 211 East Chicago Avenue, Chicago, IL 60611. The Commission's web address is: <https://coda.ada.org/en>.

The staff of the Commission on Dental Accreditation is available for consultation to all educational programs which fall within the Commission's accreditation purview. Educational institutions sponsoring dental education programs are encouraged to obtain such staff counsel and guidance by written or telephone request. Consultation is provided on request prior to, as well as subsequent to, the Commission's granting accreditation to specific programs. The Commission expects to be reimbursed if substantial costs are incurred.

If this office can be of any assistance to you or members of your staff, please contact my office at asherhernandezj@ada.org or 312-440-4660.

Sincerely,



Jamie Asher Hernandez, MS
Manager, Allied Dental Education
Commission on Dental Accreditation

JAH/ds

Web Links [Accreditation Status Definitions](#)
 [Guidelines for Reporting Program Changes](#)
 [Electronic Submission Guidelines](#)

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cc: Dr. Hamid Nawaz, interim dean, Health, Science and Public Services, Eastern Gateway Community College, hnawaz@egcc.edu
Ms. Tammy Graham, program director, Dental Assisting Program, Eastern Gateway Community College, tgraham@egcc.edu
Mr. Herman Bounds, Jr., director, Accreditation Division, U.S. Department of Education (via CODA website)
State Boards of Dentistry (via CODA website)
Institutional Accreditors (via CODA website)
Dr. Bruce E. Rotter, chair, CODA
Dr. Sherin Tooks, director, CODA