

District Action Takeaways

December 2017 Board of Trustees and House of Delegates Meetings

The Georgia Dental Association distributes District Action Takeaways after each Board of Trustees meeting. Board Members and District Presidents are asked to distribute these notices and requests to members in their districts as appropriate.

License Renewal Notice: The Georgia Board of Dentistry has begun the online renewal process for active dental licenses expiring **December 31, 2017** including but not limited to dentist, hygienist and faculty licenses. To renew, consult the Board's website at <https://gadch.mylicense.com/eGov/>. For more information, please see the following announcement: https://gbd.georgia.gov/press-releases?news_release_type_tid=All

2018 GDA Membership Renewal: 2018 dues renewal is underway! Renew online at <http://www.gadental.org/member-services/join-renew> no later than January 31. Contact katherine@gadental.org with any questions.

GDA Bylaw Revisions: The BOT and HOD voted to adopt the Constitution and Bylaws Committee's proposed revisions to the GDA bylaws at their meeting on December 3. Additionally, there was a bylaw change to implement a dues discount for dentists serving in Georgia state funded public health clinics. The updated GDA Bylaws are available on the GDA website at www.gadental.org/bylaws (member log-in required).

GDA Policy Statements/Position Papers: The HOD approved annual revisions to the GDA Policy Statements/Position Papers in preparation for the 2018 legislative session. Final copies of the revised documents are available upon request – please contact scott@gadental.org.

New Georgia Prescriber Requirements (effective July 1, 2017): Starting **January 1, 2018**, every provider licensed in Georgia with a DEA number shall enroll with the electronic Prescription Drug Monitoring Program run by the Georgia Department of Public Health as soon as possible. Prescribers who obtain a DEA number after January 1, 2018 shall enroll within thirty (30) days of obtaining credentials. A prescriber who fails to register shall be held administratively accountable to the state regulatory board governing such prescriber for such violation(s). To register, please use the following link: <https://georgia.pmpaware.net/login>. For more information about the other requirements associated with this new law, please see the July/August edition of GDA Action or contact Scott Lofranco at scott@gadental.org.

New Hygienist Supervision Law: Starting **January 1, 2018**, Georgia licensed dentists will have the option of allowing the Georgia licensed dental hygienists they employ to perform specific hygiene duties under general supervision (i.e., without the supervising dentist being physically present in the building) in private dental offices and in certain safety net settings. For more details about the upcoming changes please see the article entitled, "What Every Practice Needs to Know about the New Hygienist Supervision Law," in the June 2017 edition of GDA Action or contact Scott Lofranco at scott@gadental.org.

Dental Health Day at the Capitol: Plan to join GDA for Dental Health Day at the Capitol on Monday, January 8, 2018. This event coincides with the opening day of the Legislative Session in Georgia, where GDA members personally distribute our dental kits to legislators and their staff at the state Capitol in Atlanta. Contact shelia@gadental.org for more information or to RSVP.

2018 LAW Days: Attending a LAW Day is an integral part of the GDA's Government Affairs strategy. GDA LAW Days provide our member dentists with an opportunity to get a first-hand glimpse of the legislative process and speak to their legislators about bills that affect their practices. The typical LAW Day starts

with breakfast at the Capitol at 8 AM, where attendees are briefed by the GDA's Government Affairs Team on the legislative issues for the week. After breakfast, attendees head over to the main chamber to meet with legislators on the ropes. LAW Days usually end before noon, so many attendees are able to return to their practices. See the upcoming events section below for dates.

GDA Practice Management Series: GDA is launching a new Practice Management Series, which includes six courses on the third Friday of each month from **January through June 2018** at the Commerce Club in Atlanta. Each course provides 2 CE credits and all courses are available to dentists and dental team members. Topics include marketing, compliance, legal issues, financial management, human resources and more. Complete the entire series to receive a GDA certificate in Practice Management as well as a discounted registration rate. Visit <http://www.gadental.org/education/practice-management-series> for more information or to register.

Ski and Learn: GDA has partnered with Emory University on their 38th Annual Ski and Learn Dental Seminar to be held **January 15-19, 2019** at Sonnenalp Resort of Vail. Topics covered include implant dentistry, orthodontics, periodontal disease and pain management. Up to 16 CE credits are available, and GDA members receive a \$100 discount on registration. Visit <http://www.gadental.org/education/ski-learn> for more information and to register at the GDA's discounted rate.

2018 Leadership GDA Program: Applications for the 2018 GDA Leadership Program are due **February 1, 2018**. Leadership GDA helps members grow into more knowledgeable and confident leaders within the dental community. Participants also gain a better understanding of GDA and how to become involved in leadership in organized dentistry. If members of your district are interested in leadership positions in GDA or your district, please encourage them to apply for the program. For more information contact Katherine Torbush at katherine@gadental.org.

Children's Dental Health Month: This month-long national health observance in February brings together thousands of dedicated dental professionals, healthcare providers, and educators to promote the benefits of good oral health to children, their caregivers, teachers and many others. This year's campaign slogan is "Brush your teeth with fluoride toothpaste and clean between your teeth for a healthy smile." Give Kids a Smile Day events will take place on **Friday, February 2, 2018** in conjunction with Children's Dental Health Month. Resources to help publicize the month, such as free posters and coloring sheets, are available on www.ada.org.

Dental Team Education Opportunities: In addition to expanded duties certification for dental assistants and dental team CE at the annual convention, in 2018 GDA will be rolling out CPR certification and radiation safety courses. The first CPR course will be held **February 9, 2018** from 9 a.m. – 2 p.m. at the GDA Office (see upcoming events section for details). There is also a course on HIPPA, OSHA and Infection Control Compliance scheduled for **Friday, April 20, 2018** from 11 a.m. – 2 p.m. at the Commerce Club in Atlanta. Contact carolyn@gadental.org for more information or to register

GDA Plus⁺ Supplies Program: IDBG and the GDA Plus⁺ Supplies program are growing with more than \$2 million in orders, but we need our members' support to take the program to the next level! Integrity Dental Buyers Group/GDA Plus⁺ Supplies member dental practices have access to more than 50,000 products from more than 300 dental brands and access to more than 60 direct manufacturers not available through dealers. Members who have switched to supplies purchasing through the GDA program are saving an average of 30% on dental supplies. Visit <http://www.gdaplus.com/gda-plus-supplies> for more information.

ADA “Your Teeth are Amazing” Campaign: Update your find-a-dentist profile to benefit from the new ADA campaign to bring more patients to your practice. The ADA is investing \$18 million over the next three years on this digital advertising campaign. Through the new ADA Find-a- Dentist tool, prospective patients will enjoy an easy experience with the ability to search for a dentist using new fields, including office hours and what dental benefits are accepted. To get the most from this campaign, take five minutes to update your Find-a-Dentist profile today at <http://www.ada.org/en/member-center/update-your-find-a-dentist-profile>. Completed profiles will automatically surface to the top of the search.

2018 GMOM: Georgia Mission of Mercy will be held in Augusta **August 9-11, 2018**. During this two-day event, 1,500 volunteers donate their time and talents to provide dental care to over 2,000 patients in need. GMOM serves as a highly visible way to raise awareness of the importance of good oral health and regular dental care for all Georgians while serving adults who cannot pay for dental services. To make a donation, visit the GDA website at <http://www.gadental.org/public-resources/gda-foundation>.

Volunteers Needed:

- **Adjunct Faculty Program**: The adjunct faculty program connects GDA Dentists with Dental College of GA students through volunteer clinic hours in the clinic at DCG or any approved charitable clinic in Georgia. The goal of this program is to not only help bridge the gap between GDA member dentists and dental students, but also to provide dental students with quality, evidence-based instruction and ethical guidelines and concepts of professionalism that will serve as the foundation for their careers. Additionally, volunteer hours in charitable clinics help to further Georgia’s Action for Dental Health Plan. Volunteer dentists must commit to teaching/volunteering at least one day per month over a minimum of a one-year period and complete the DCG adjunct faculty appointment process. For more information, contact Katherine Torbush at katherine@gadental.org.
- **DCG Lunch & Learns**: The GDA is seeking dentists to speak during lunch and learn events at the Dental College of Georgia in 2018. If you are interested in speaking at a lunch and learn, please email Katherine Torbush at katherine@gadental.org or fill out the [student engagement survey](#) online.
- **Donated Dental Services (DDS) program**: Volunteer dentists treat patients in their offices, utilizing their own equipment/staff. Several manufacturers donate materials and labs also participate in the program. Volunteers provide comprehensive treatment for 1-2 patients per year. Volunteer at <https://dentallifeline.org/our-volunteers/volunteer-now/>.

UPCOMING GDA EVENTS

- **Opening day of GA Legislature**
 - Monday, January 8, 2018
 - Plan to join GDA for Dental Health Day at the Capitol – contact shelia@gadental.org for more information or to RSVP
- **Ski and Learn in partnership with Emory University (up to 16 CE credits)**
 - January 15-19, 2019 at Sonnenalp Resort of Vail
 - \$100 discount for GDA members - contact carolyn@gadental.org to register at the GDA discounted rate
 - Details are available at: <http://med.emory.edu/CDE/documents/programs/2018/13526.pdf>
- **CPR Certification Course**
 - February 9, 2018 from 9 a.m. – 2 p.m. at the GDA Office
 - Designed for all members of the dental team who need to secure certification or renew CPR requirements for re-licensure. Upon successful completion of this training, participants will receive an American Heart Association (AHA) course completion card with a suggested retraining date of two years.
 - Visit: <http://www.gadental.org/member-services/events/2018/02/09/ce-gda/cpr-certification-and-renewal-course> for more information or to register
- **GDA 2018 LAW Days**
 - January 10, 2018 - Wednesday (Northern, Eastern, and Alliance)
 - January 24, 2018 - Wednesday (Central)
 - February 7, 2018- Wednesday (Northwestern)
 - February 22, 2018 – Thursday (Southeastern, and Georgia Dental Society)
 - March 7, 2018 – Wednesday (Southwestern, Western, Northern-Hall Co.)
 - March 14, 2018 – Wednesday (Other Specialty Groups and anyone else who wishes to attend)
- **GDA Practice Management Series (2 CE credits for each course)**
 - Friday, January 19 – A Tactical Plan for Business Growth
 - Friday, February 16 – Accounting 101: The Fundamentals and Tax Management
 - Friday, March 16 – Marketing: Make Your Presence Known
 - Friday, April 20 – HIPPA, OSHA and Infection Control Compliance
 - Friday, May 18 – Common Employment Problems in Dental Practices: Practical Guidance on Eliminating or Reducing Exposure
 - Friday, June 15 – Legal & Ethical Issues in Dental Practices
 - Courses are at the Commerce Club in Atlanta, GA from 11 a.m. - 2 p.m. with lunch provided.
 - \$150 dentist rate for individual courses or \$650 for entire series
 - \$75 for dental team members
 - Contact: carolyn@gadental.org for more information or to register
- **Save the Date – New Dentist Event/CE**
 - June 22, 2018 at SunTrust Park
 - More information will be available as details are confirmed
- **2018 GDA Convention and Expo**
 - July 12 -15, 2018 at Ritz Carlton Amelia Island
 - Registration/reservations will open in February
- **2018 Georgia Mission of Mercy (GMOM)**
 - August 9-11, 2018 in Augusta, GA
 - Visit: <http://www.gadental.org/public-resources/gda-foundation> for more information