

American Dental Association

General website address: www.ada.org

Email address for submitting general questions about the organization: standards@ada.org

Overview of Organization: The ADA began developing standards for dental materials at the request of the Federal government in 1928. The ADA currently sponsors two standards committees; one for dental products (ADA Standards Committee on Dental Products-SCDP) and one for dental informatics (ADA Standards Committee on Dental Informatics-SCDI). Whereas the dental products committee addresses standards for dental materials, instruments, equipment, and oral hygiene products; the dental informatics committee addresses items such as dental practice management systems, digital imaging systems, interoperability and electronic health records. The standards committee serves as the consensus body that approves all proposed standards, which are forwarded to ADA Councils for approval as ADA standards and to ANSI for approval as American National Standards. The Association is an "ANSI-Accredited Standards Developing Organization."

Information on becoming a member: Standards development occurs within the 84 working groups of the two standards committees. The working groups address specific topics and provide an opportunity for all interests to participate in the development of voluntary consensus standards. Working group membership is available at no cost to all interested parties. Enrollment information and forms are available on the standards committees' websites: www.ada.org/scdp (ADA SCDP); and www.ada.org/scdi (ADA SCDI).

Information on obtaining standards (if applicable): ADA standards and technical reports are available for download purchase from www.adacatalog.org.

Publicly available information that may be of interest: Please go to www.ada.org/scdp or www.ada.org/scdi.

Meeting/Educational Sessions information: <http://www.ada.org/news/news.aspx> and <http://www.ada.org/education.aspx>