

From: [Smith, Randy](#)
To: [Kearney, Rachel](#)
Cc: [Sutherland, Sue](#); [Smith, Randy](#); [Griffiths, Rob](#); [Reed, Katie](#); [Duffy, Lisa](#); [Hunt, Ryan](#); [Trotman, Carroll Ann](#)
Subject: Proposal to establish an Advance Standing International Dentist Track
Date: Thursday, November 20, 2025 1:14:31 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

Rachel:

The proposal from the College of Dentistry to establish an Advance Standing International Dentist Track to the DDS Program was approved by the Council on Academic Affairs at its meeting on November 19, 2025. Thank you for attending the meeting to respond to questions/comments.

No additional level of internal review/approval is necessary. This action will be included in the Council's next [Annual Activities Report](#) to the University Senate (July 2026).

The Office of the University Registrar will work you with any implementation issues.

Please keep a copy of this message for your file on the proposal and I will do the same for the file in the Office of Academic Affairs.

If you have any questions please contact the Chair of the Council, Professor Sue Sutherland (.43), or me.

I wish you success with this important program development.

Randy



W. Randy Smith, Ph.D.

Vice Provost for Academic Programs

Office of Academic Affairs

University Square South, 15 E. 15th Avenue, Columbus, OH 43201

614-292-5881 Office

smith.70@osu.edu

Assisted by:

Katie Reed

Executive Assistant

(614) 292-5672

From: [Kearney, Rachel](#)
To: [Smith, Randy](#)
Cc: [Reed, Katie](#); [Starr, Abby](#); [Trotman, Carroll Ann](#)
Subject: Proposal to Establish an Advance Standing International Dentist Track to the DDS Program
Date: Monday, October 20, 2025 2:22:53 PM
Attachments: [International Dentists Track Proposal.pdf](#)

Dear Vice Provost Smith,

The College of Dentistry is proposing to add an International Dentist track (IDT) to the predoctoral dental (DDS) program. Dentists who have graduated from dental programs outside the U.S. would be eligible to apply for this track. Students in this track would enter the predoctoral dental program with advanced standing and start in the spring semester of the second year of the four-year predoctoral dental program. Thus, students in the International Dentist track would complete the final 7 academic terms of the predoctoral dental program. The curriculum for the International Dentist track would be the same as for the predoctoral dental program with the addition of one course that would educate students with procedures and materials that they may not be familiar with from their international dental programs. The track would begin with an additional 4 students, but grow to include entering cohorts of 8 students, increasing the number of dentists graduating from Ohio State and entering the workforce each year.

The proposed changes include:

- Creating an International Dentist track that would start in spring semester of the second year of the predoctoral dental program.
- Add one dental course for students in this track, focused on dental procedures and materials used in the predoctoral dental program but that international dentists might not have experience with using.

With careful consideration and support from the College of Dentistry's DDS Curriculum Committee, Executive Committee, Division Chairs, and Dean Trotman, the International Dentists track will help the College align with the university's goal of workforce development.

Please see the attached College of Dentistry's "International Dentists Track Proposal" document to view the full proposed change and curriculum. This proposal was evaluated and approved by the College's DDS Curriculum Committee in April 2025.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Thank you,
Rachel



Rachel C. Kearney BSDH, PhD

Associate Professor
Associate Dean of Pre-Doctoral Education and Student Life

The Ohio State University

College of Dentistry
2030 U Postle Hall
305 W 12th Ave., Columbus, OH 43210
kearney.19@osu.edu

Pronouns: she/her/hers

To: Dr. W. Randy Smith,
Vice Provost of Academic Programs
Office of Academic Affairs

From: Rachel Kearney, BSDH, PhD
Associate Dean for Pre-Doctoral Education and Student Life
College of Dentistry

Date: October 20, 2025

RE: International Dentist Track in the Predoctoral Dental Program

Introduction: Proposal to Establish an Advance Standing International Dentist Track to the DDS Program

The Ohio State University College of Dentistry proposes the establishment of an International Dentist Track (IDT) within its Doctor of Dental Surgery (DDS) program to provide a pathway for internationally trained dentists to earn U.S. licensure. This 28-month advanced standing curriculum integrates IDT students into the existing DDS program beginning in the spring semester of the second year, allowing them to complete the final seven academic terms. The program will launch with a small cohort and scale up to admitting eight students annually. In addition, the IDT is expected to generate significant tuition revenue, support workforce development in Ohio communities, and strengthen the college's competitive position among peer institutions.

Background

The proposal to establish an International Dentist Track (IDT) within the predoctoral DDS program at The Ohio State University College of Dentistry is rooted in the institution's commitment to global engagement, educational excellence, and addressing workforce needs in oral health care.

The rationale for the IDT is multifaceted:

Global Engagement: The program will expand the college's international footprint by welcoming qualified dentists from around the world, enriching the educational environment with wide-ranging perspectives and experiences.

Educational Experience: By welcoming internationally trained dentists into the DDS program, the College of Dentistry will enhance the educational experience by broadening students' exposure to global perspectives and professional practices. This

integration supports the development of professional competencies that prepare students to serve a wide range of patient populations.

Workforce Development: The IDT offers a strategic solution to the shortage of dental professionals in Ohio and the U.S. By enabling internationally trained dentists to earn U.S. credentials, the program may increase the number of dentists serving underserved communities. By retaining international graduates in Ohio, the program may help address regional dentist shortages and improve access to care in underserved communities. Nationally, there are 7,054 dental health professions in shortage areas (DHPSA). Ohio has 162 of these shortage areas, including areas in Franklin County.^{1,2}

Institutional Reputation: The presence of international students and graduates will enhance the college's visibility and reputation globally, potentially attracting future students, faculty, and research collaborators.

International Dentist Track Development

Development of the proposal involved a comprehensive review of existing International Dentist Programs across the U.S., particularly within peer institutions and Big Ten universities—seven of which already offer similar tracks. The College consulted resources from the American Dental Education Association (ADEA), including data from the Centralized Application for Advanced Placement for International Dentists (CAAPID), which reported over 3,100 applicants in the 2023–2024 cycle.

Additional steps in the proposal's development included:

- Benchmarking tuition models, admissions criteria, and curriculum structures from other programs.
- Engaging with directors and academic leaders from established IDPs at institutions such as the University of Minnesota, University of North Carolina, and Rutgers University.
- Gathering feedback from internal stakeholders, including faculty and staff, to assess the potential impact and integration of international students into existing clinical and academic settings.
- Evaluating fiscal implications and identifying revenue opportunities through tuition, application, and interview fees.

This proposal reflects a strategic and well-researched initiative that positions the College of Dentistry to lead in international dental education and contribute meaningfully to the oral health workforce.

The development of the International Dentist Track (IDT) at The Ohio State University College of Dentistry is informed by a comprehensive review of similar programs across peer institutions nationally. Comparative analysis reveals that many U.S. dental schools

have already implemented International Dentist Programs (IDPs), underscoring the relevance and competitiveness of this initiative.

National Landscape

- 40 of 69 accredited dental schools in the U.S. and Puerto Rico currently offer IDPs.
- Among these, 10 of the Big Ten dental schools have established IDPs, positioning Ohio State to align with its peer institutions.

Applicant Demand

- According to the American Dental Education Association (ADEA) CAAPID data from the 2023–2024 cycle:
 - 3,143 applicants submitted a total of 25,645 applications to IDPs nationwide.
 - The top countries of dental degree origin include India, Pakistan, Venezuela, Cuba, and Egypt.
 - The top U.S. states where applicants currently reside are Florida, California, Texas, New York, and New Jersey.

Peer Engagement

- The College consulted with IDP directors and academic leaders at institutions such as:
 - University of Minnesota
 - University of North Carolina
 - Rutgers University
- These consultations provided insights into curriculum integration, student support, and program outcomes.

This comparative data supports the feasibility and strategic value of launching an IDT at Ohio State, ensuring the program is competitive, responsive to national trends, increasing the dental workforce and care available to Ohioans, and aligned with best practices in international dental education.

The implementation of the International Dentist Track (IDT) within the DDS program will involve a series of strategic actions and will have implications—both positive and challenging—for various stakeholders across the College of Dentistry and the broader university community.

Impact on Constituencies

- Faculty: Faculty members will be engaged in teaching and mentoring IDT students, particularly in the newly developed clinical competency course. This

may require adjustments in instructional approaches to accommodate varied educational backgrounds and clinical experiences.

- Students (Graduate and Undergraduate): DDS and dental hygiene students will benefit from exposure to global perspectives and practices, enhancing their understanding of global oral health. However, integration may require additional support to ensure cohesive clinical teams and equitable learning experiences.
- Staff: Administrative staff will manage increased application volume, interview logistics, and student support services. This may necessitate hiring additional personnel or reallocating existing resources.
- Alumni: Alumni may view the program as a positive step toward global engagement and workforce development. Opportunities for alumni involvement in mentoring or networking may arise.
- Accrediting Organizations: The program will be designed to meet all accreditation standards, with documentation and curricular adjustments submitted for review and approval to the Commission on Dental Accreditation (CODA).

Internal Programmatic Changes

- Introduction of one new course tailored to IDT students with didactic and pre-clinical laboratory experiences (Appendix B).
- Adjustment of clinical schedules and group assignments to integrate IDT students starting in the second year of the DDS program.
- Development of orientation and curricular programming and academic support tailored to the needs of internationally trained dentists.

Impact Beyond the College

- University-Wide Effects: The program may increase international visibility and contribute to broader university goals related to global engagement and professional education. Additionally, this program aligns the college with other dental colleges throughout the country.
- No Overlap in Scope: The proposal does not overlap in scope or substance with other academic units. However, collaboration with the Office of International Affairs and other support units (e.g., admissions, student services) will be essential for successful implementation.

Admission

Admission to the IDT Program will require the following materials to be submitted by candidates:

- Dental Degree Transcripts

- Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) minimum score of 90
- Passing score on the INDBE or Part 1 and 2 NBDE
- Letters of Recommendation
- Interview
- Bench skill test
- CV
- Written personal statement

Admission is selective and competitive and applications will be managed by the college admissions office in conjunction with the Grad and Professional Admissions office and the ADEA CAAPID application service. The program would enroll four students in the inaugural class in spring 2027 and eight students each subsequent year.

Curriculum

A comprehensive view of the curriculum for the IDT is outlined in Appendix A. The DDS degree is 178 hours. The IDT will accept 71 hours from the student's international dental program and require 107 hours to complete the DDS degree.

Assessment Plan

The assessment plan for the IDT track will remain similar to the DDS degree, with slight modifications to adjust for some differences in the two tracks. For example, students in the IDT will have already had to pass the INDBE exam upon entering the program, so that measure will not be used for students on this track.

References

1. Health Resources and Services Administration, US Department of Health and Human Services. Health Workforce Shortage Areas. September 28, 2025. Available at: <https://data.hrsa.gov/topics/health-workforce/shortage-areas/dashboard>.
2. Ohio Department of Health. Map of Dental HPSAs and Safety Net Dental Programs. August 2024. Available at: <https://odh.ohio.gov/know-our-programs/oral-health-program/media/dental-hpsa-sn-map>.

Appendix A

International Dentist Program Track in the DDS Program Course Plan

Semester 1- Spring

Course Number and Name	Cr Hr
DENT 6571 Pharmacology 1	4
DENT 6543 Oral Radiology	2
DENT 6489 Removable Partial Prosthodontics 1	2
DENT 6630 Diagnosis and Treatment Planning	2
DENT 6691 Intro to Clinical Dentistry 4	2
DENT 6564 Periodontology 1	3
DENT 6579 Local Anesthesia	1
DENT 6505 Oral Surgery 1	1
DENT 6547 IDT Clinical Dentistry Competency	2
Total Credit Hours	19

Semester 2- Summer

Course Number and Name	Cr Hr
DENT 6544 Internal Medicine	2
DENT 6645 Oral Pathology 1	2
DENT 6684 Removable Complete Prosthodontics 2	1
DENT 6638 Implant Dentistry 1	1.5
DENT 6631 Restorative & Prosthetic Dentistry Clinical Lecture 1	0.5
DENT 6567 Endodontics 1	1.5
DENT 6659 Orthodontics 2	1
DENT 6551 Pediatric Dentistry 2	0.5
DENT 7616 Clinical Primary Care 1	2
DENT 7746 Clinical Oral Radiology Introduction	0.5
Total Credit Hours	12.5

Semester 3- Autumn

Course Number and Name	Cr Hr
DENT 6648 Oral Pathology 2	3
DENT 6565 Periodontology 2	4
DENT 6625 Practice Management 1	1
DENT 6632 Restorative & Prosthetic Dentistry Clinical Lecture 2	1
DENT 6658 Clinical Orthodontics 1	0.5
DENT 6482 Removable Complete Prosthodontics 1	2
DENT 7617.01 Clinical Primary Care 2	4
DENT 7617.02 Clinical Primary Care 2	4
DENT 7746 Clinical Oral Radiology Introduction	0.5

Total Credit Hours 18

Semester 4 - Spring

Course Number and Name	Cr Hr
DENT 6612 Clinical Pharmacology 2	2
DENT 6643 Introduction to Orofacial Pain	1
DENT 6633 Restorative & Prosthetic Dentistry Clinical Lecture 3	1
DENT 6623 Geriatrics & Special Needs	2
DENT 6569 Endodontics 2	1
DENT 6626 Practice Management 2	1
DENT 7747 Clinical Oral Radiology Intermediate	0.5
DENT 7769 Clinical Endodontics 1	1
DENT 7701 Clinical Oral Surgery 1	4
DENT 7618.01 Clinical Primary Care Comps 3	4
DENT 7618.02 Clinical Primary Care Quality 3	4
Total Credit Hours	21.5

Semester 5- Summer

Course Number and Name	Cr Hr
DENT 6930 Laser Dentistry	1
DENT 6627 Practice Management 3	1
DENT 7676 Clinical Periodontology 1	1
DENT 7716.01 Clinical Primary Care Comps 4	3
DENT 7716.02 Clinical Primary Care Quality 4	3
DENT 7500 Community Dentistry 1	1.5
Total Credit Hours	10.5

Semester 6- Autumn

Course Number and Name	Cr Hr
DENT 6744 Oral Pathology 3	1
DENT 6629 Dental Materials	1
DENT 6704 Oral Surgery 2	1
DENT 7652 Clinical Pediatric Dentistry 1	1
DENT 7658 Clinical Orthodontics 2	1
DENT 7776 Clinical Periodontology Comps	1
DENT 7718.01 Clinical Primary Care Comps 5	3
DENT 7718.02 Clinical Primary Care Quality 5	4
DENT 7501 Community Dentistry 2	2
Total Credit Hours	15

Semester 7- Spring

Course Number and Name	Cr Hr
DENT 7708 Clinical Pediatric Dentistry 2	1
DENT 7769 Clinical Endodontics 2	1
DENT 7702 Clinical Oral Surgery 2	0.5
DENT 7719.01 Clinical Primary Care Comps 6	3
DENT 7719.02 Clinical Primary Care Quality 6	3
DENT 7502 Community Dentistry 3	2
Total Credit Hours	10.5

International Dentists Track Total Credit Hours: 107

Appendix B

DENT 6547 IDT Clinical Dentistry Competency. This course is being concurrently submitted as a new course in Dentistry.

SYLLABUS DENTISTRY 6547

Course Title: **IDT Clinical Dentistry Competency**

Term Spring

Postle Hall Room TBD

Credit hours- 2

Meets once a week on XXXX in Preclinical Laboratory

COURSE OVERVIEW

Course Director

Name: Dr. Gabriela Weiss, DDS, MS

Professor

Department of Restorative and Prosthetic Sciences

Office address: Postle Hall, Room 3001-G

Email address: weiss.178@osu.edu

Phone number: 614-247-8772

Office hours: TBD

Contact preferences: email

Emails will be responded during regular working hours,
unless marked urgent

Additional course faculty – contact information at the [College of Dentistry](#) website

TBD

Course description

This course prepares students in the IDT track to enter clinic. The course will review preclinical operative and fixed prosthetic materials and procedures and test competency in these procedures.

Credit hours and work expectations: This is a 2-credit hour course.

Prerequisite: Acceptance to the Advance Standing International Dentistry Track in the DDS Program.

Course learning outcomes

By the end of this course, students will be able to:

1. List materials and properties used in restorative and fixed procedures.
2. Demonstrate use of appropriate and safe techniques in tooth preparation and restoration.
3. Demonstrate competence in the following procedures
4. Amalgam restorations
5. Composite restorations
6. Crown preparations
7. Anterior fixed partial dentures
8. Posterior fixed partial dentures

DDS program competencies

This course addresses the following DDS Program Competencies:

1.21 Performing Intracoronal Restorations

1.22 Providing Single-Unit Fixed Restorations

1.27 Managing Tooth Replacement for Edentulous Patients

COURSE MATERIALS AND TECHNOLOGIES

Textbooks

REQUIRED

None, course materials will be made available on Carmen.

RECOMMENDED/OPTIONAL

- None

Other fees or requirements

- Electric Handpiece Fee. This fee will be charged with enrollment in this course.

Course technology

For help with your password, university email, Carmen, or any other technology issues, questions, or requests, contact the Ohio State IT Service Desk. Standard support hours are available at ocio.osu.edu/help/hours, and support for urgent issues is available 24/7.

- **Self-Service and Chat support:** ocio.osu.edu/help
- **Phone:** 614-688-4357(HELP)
- **Email:** servicedesk@osu.edu
- **TDD:** 614-688-8743

REQUIRED EQUIPMENT

- Computer: current Mac (OS X) or PC (Windows 7+) with high-speed internet connection
- Other: a mobile device (smartphone or tablet) or landline to use for BuckeyePass authentication

REQUIRED SOFTWARE

- [Microsoft Office 365](#): All Ohio State students are now eligible for free Microsoft Office 365 ProPlus through Microsoft's Student Advantage program. Full instructions for downloading and installation can be found [at go.osu.edu/office365help](#).

CARMEN ACCESS

You will need to use [BuckeyePass](#) multi-factor authentication to access your courses in Carmen. To ensure that you are able to connect to Carmen at all times, it is recommended that you take the following steps:

- Register multiple devices in case something happens to your primary device. Visit the [BuckeyePass - Adding a Device](#) help article for step-by-step instructions.
- Request passcodes to keep as a backup authentication option. When you see the Duo login screen on your computer, click **Enter a Passcode** and then click the **Text me new codes** button that appears. This will text you ten passcodes good for 365 days that can each be used once.
- Download the [Duo Mobile application](#) to all of your registered devices for the ability to generate one-time codes in the event that you lose cell, data, or Wi-Fi service.

If none of these options will meet the needs of your situation, you can contact the IT Service Desk at 614-688-4357 (HELP) and IT support staff will work out a solution with you.

GRADING AND FACULTY RESPONSE

How your grade is calculated

ASSIGNMENT CATEGORY	INFORMATION	PERCENTAGE
Participation	Weekly participation	10
Final Written Exam		20
Practical Exams		70

Total	100
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See course schedule below for due dates.

Late assignments

Late submissions will not be accepted. Please refer to Carmen for due dates.

Grading scale

Pass: 70% and above

- Meets all course requirements, demonstrating satisfactory or above levels of understanding and participation.

Fail: Below 70%

- Does not meet minimum course requirements, showing insufficient understanding or completion of required work.

Instructor feedback and response time

I am providing the following list to give you an idea of my intended availability throughout the course. (Remember that you can call **614-688-HELP** at any time if you have a technical problem.)

- **Grading and feedback:** For large weekly assignments, you can generally expect feedback within **7 days**.
- 9. **Email:** I will reply to emails within **24 hours on days when class is in session at the university**.

OTHER COURSE POLICIES

Attendance

The College of Dentistry's Student Attendance Operating Procedure indicates that students are expected to attend all scheduled course activities, on time and for the entire session.

Students must report all absences (both planned and unplanned) to the Office of Student Affairs. A Student Affairs staff member will notify the course director of the absence (including whether or not the absence is identified, by the policy, as excused or unexcused).

Students who are absent for an excused reason will be allowed to make-up graded components of the class missed due to the excused absence. It is the responsibility of the student to contact the course director as soon as possible to determine how the missed work should be made up. Please see the [Student Attendance Operating Procedure](#) found on the Dental Hub for details.

In this course, the consequences for missing a course session that impacts the final course grade for a reason that is “unexcused” according to college policy is:

- **Participation:** Students will receive 0 points for missed participation sessions
- **Exams:** Students will be required to make up any missed exam, but the highest grade they can receive on the exam is 70%.
- **Practical:** Students will be required to make up any missed practical, but the highest grade they can receive on the practical is 70%.

Final course grade of U

Students who do not pass this course MAY be eligible to participate in a remediation program. The remediation program will be determined by the course director as described below to meet the needs of each student. Final determination as to whether and how a student will be allowed to remediate this course will be made by the Academic Progress Committee considering the student’s academic history and in consultation with the course director.

Additional information

Students must also review the [Dental Program Course Syllabus Common Information](#) document posted on the course syllabi page of the college website for additional information (accommodations, mental health, academic integrity, etc.) that applies to all dental program courses.

COURSE SCHEDULE

Week	Dates	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines
1		Lecture: Operative Dentistry Procedures
2		Lecture: Fixed Prosthetic Procedures
3		Lab: Class II Amalgam Restorations
4		Lab: Class II Composite Restorations
5		Lab: Class IV Composite Restorations
6		Lab: CVC Crown Preparation
7		Lab: MCC Crown Preparation
8		Lab: ACC Crown Preparations
9		Lab: Anterior FPD
10		Lab: Posterior FPD
11		Practical Operative Exam
12		Practical Fixed Prosthetic Exam
13		No class - Grading
14		Make-up for Failed Procedures
15		Written Final Exam