American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry
Vision Statement/Mission Statement

Revised
January 2003

**Vision statement**
The vision of the American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry is optimal health and care for infants, children, adolescents, and persons with special health care needs.

The Academy is the leader in representing the oral health interests of children. The pediatric dentist is a recognized primary oral health care provider and a resource for specialty referral.

**Mission statement**
The mission of the American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry is to advocate policies, guidelines, and programs that promote optimal oral health and oral health care for children.

The Academy serves and represents its membership in the areas of professional development and governmental and legislative activities. It is a liaison to other health care groups and the public.
American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry Core Values

Adopted
January 2003

AAPD values
1. Health and health care equity
   A. AAPD values oral health as an inseparable part of the overall health and welfare of the infant, child, and adolescent.
   B. AAPD values universal access to comprehensive dental care that meets each child's unique needs and promotes optimal oral health.
   C. AAPD values effectiveness and efficiency in providing oral health services to infants, children, and adolescents and supports efforts that improve access through effective and efficient delivery systems.
   D. AAPD values improvements in access to dental care that reduce or eliminate financial, logistic, and cultural barriers to care.
   E. AAPD values dental care for children that is safe, comprehensive, accessible, affordable, high quality, continuous, and respectful of individual children and their families.

2. An effective dental workforce
   A. AAPD values a dental workforce that can meet the needs of infants, children, and adolescents by being adequate in size, distribution, diversity, and competency.
   B. AAPD values the unique skills and knowledge that pediatric dentists bring to children’s oral health care.
   C. AAPD values the role of other dental specialists and general dentists in caring for children.
   D. AAPD values programs that improve the capacity of general dentists, hygienists, and assistants to improve children’s oral health by providing appropriate care and effectively referring to pediatric dentists when unable to meet the comprehensive needs of individual infants, children, and adolescents.
   E. The AAPD values the educators who mentor those who treat children, including pediatric dentists, general dentists, dental hygienists, and auxiliary personnel, by teaching the skills and promoting the professional behaviors that serve children’s interests.

3. Effective public programs
   A. AAPD values government’s role in assuring comprehensive dental care for vulnerable children and values the legal requirements of Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnostic, and Treatment (EPSDT), which ensure access for covered children that is equivalent to access for noncovered children in the same geographic area.
   B. AAPD values public health programs proven to prevent or minimize disease in infants, children, and adolescents.

4. Oral health promotion
   A. AAPD values health promotion and disease prevention, including effective anticipatory guidance beginning with comprehensive dental care in a dental home starting at age 1.
   B. AAPD values the critical role of the dental home in promoting optimal oral health for all children.
   C. AAPD values health promotion and disease prevention as integral components of perinatal care.

5. Child and adolescent welfare
   A. AAPD values health, health equity, and the quality of life that results from health attainment, including oral health attainment.
   B. AAPD values society’s recognition of oral disease as a significant health problem for infants, children, and adolescents that needs to be addressed in all pediatric health policies.
   C. AAPD values society’s recognition of oral diseases that affect children’s function, development, and quality of life as significant health problems.

6. Science, education, research, and evidence-based care
   A. AAPD values the scientific basis of its profession and the need to continue improving that base through research, experimentation, and the promotion of “evidence-based care”.
   B. AAPD values the critical role of clinical judgment to promote primary and comprehensive preventive and therapeutic oral health care for which evidence is incomplete or unavailable.
   C. AAPD values professional education programs and their faculties, community service, scientific contributions to pediatric dentistry, and the preparation of skilled practitioners.
   D. AAPD values the dissemination of valid information about children’s oral health to the professions and the public.

7. Children with special health care needs
   A. AAPD values the unique qualities of each person and the need to ensure maximal health attainment for all regardless of their developmental or other special health needs.
8. Collaborations
A. AAPD values the appropriate contributions of all who promote health/oral health and health care/dental care for infants, children, and adolescents, including health professionals in the public and private sectors, advocates, policy makers, grant makers, and researchers.
B. AAPD values dentists' unique roles and responsibilities in diagnosing oral conditions and in coordinating, managing, and directing the oral health care of infants, children, and adolescents.

9. Families and communities
A. AAPD values the roles of families and communities in promoting infant, child, and adolescent health and welfare and attaining maximal oral health.
B. AAPD values the diversity of children, their families, and their communities and respects the contribution of culture to the attainment of oral health and use of dental services.

10. Membership
A. AAPD values its members' involvement with the Academy, their commitment to children and youth, their professional endeavors, and their support of policies that improve the health and welfare of children and youth.
American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry
2003-06 Strategic Plan
Revised
May 2003

Goal 1: Optimal health for all children
Objective 1.1 An oral disease-free population
Strategy 1.1.1 Promote universal acceptance of anticipatory guidance and preventive dental care in a dental home beginning at age 1
Strategy 1.1.2 Support water fluoridation efforts and appropriate use of other topical and systemic fluoride vehicles
Strategy 1.1.3 Increase public awareness and education regarding pediatric oral health strategies
Strategy 1.1.4 Encourage research in oral disease prevention and “evidence-based care”
Strategy 1.1.5 Employ risk assessment and tailored interventions

Objective 1.2 Access to appropriate oral health care for all children
Strategy 1.2.1 Recognize and address barriers to access and quality care
Strategy 1.2.2 Assure adequate and appropriate financing in public sector programs
Strategy 1.2.3 Recognize and support appropriate provision of care by safety net providers
Strategy 1.2.4 Increase the availability of reimbursement for medically necessary adjunctive care (general anesthesia and conscious sedation)

Objective 1.3 Recognize and address barriers particular to special needs patients
Strategy 1.3.1 Recognize and address barriers to access
Strategy 1.3.2 Recognize and address barriers to access and quality care

Goal 2: Valued and worthwhile membership services
Objective 2.1 An informed membership
Strategy 2.1.1 Provide valuable continuing education
Strategy 2.1.2 Using Pediatric Dentistry Today and other appropriate venues, communicate Academy activities and programs on behalf of the membership
Strategy 2.1.3 Produce respected scientific publications
Strategy 2.1.4 Maximize utilization of information technology

Objective 2.2 A membership adept at adapting to changes in delivery of care and technological advances

Objective 2.3 Maximize membership dues value
Strategy 2.3.1 Support the personal issues of Academy members
Strategy 2.3.2 Provide office brochures and other valuable materials
Strategy 2.3.3 Monitor and evaluate membership benefits on a continuing basis

Objective 2.4 Ability to respond to emergent membership issues
Strategy 2.4.1 Identify and anticipate emergent membership issues
Strategy 2.4.2 Develop an interactive mechanism for responding to emergent membership issues

Objective 2.5 Effective representations on crucial pediatric dental issues
Strategy 2.5.1 Develop and maintain a network of trained spokespersons

Goal 3: Recognized authority in pediatric oral health
Objective 3.1 Optimal standards of care, including translation of science into clinical practice
Strategy 3.1.1 Develop optimal standards through the AAPD’s policies, guidelines, and other venues
Strategy 3.1.2 Promote optimal standards through the AAPD’s policies, guidelines, and other venues
Strategy 3.1.3 Maintain optimal standards through the AAPD’s policies, guidelines, and other venues
Strategy 3.1.4 Sponsor and support a strong and vital American Board of Pediatric Dentistry
Objective 3.2  Expert resource on children's oral health recognition
Strategy 3.2.1  Build and maintain coalitions with other health care organizations
Strategy 3.2.2  Anticipate and respond effectively to changes in the clinical and scientific environment
Strategy 3.2.3  Identify areas of clinical and scientific research important to pediatric oral health
Strategy 3.2.4  Communicate about pediatric oral health to the profession and public issues
Strategy 3.2.5  Encourage and support volunteer leadership by pediatric dentists in all organizations involved in oral health or child welfare

Objective 3.3  Effective advocate of public policy
Strategy 3.3.1  Coordinate all elements of advocacy resources, including the congressional liaison, child advocate, political action committee (PAC), Children's Dental Health Project (CDHP), volunteer advocates, and lobbyists
Strategy 3.3.2  Identify public policy issues, conduct policy research and development, and develop implementation strategies
Strategy 3.3.3  Develop an effective advocacy network

Objective 3.4  Strong representation of pediatric dentists
Strategy 3.4.1  Develop international membership
Strategy 3.4.2  Sustain recruitment and retention efforts, including programs and policies directed to the new pediatric dentist and dental faculty

Goal 4: Satisfy workforce issues
Objective 4.1  Enlarged and appropriately distributed pediatric dental workforce
Strategy 4.1.1  Encourage effective geographic distribution of pediatric dentists
Strategy 4.1.2  Expand pediatric dental residency and fellowship programs
Strategy 4.1.3  Innovate and support programs to assure a well-qualified applicant pool for pediatric dental training

Objective 4.2  Greater engagement of the general dentist and dental specialists in the treatment of children
Strategy 4.2.1  Improve predoctoral education and experience in pediatric dentistry
Strategy 4.2.2  Develop continuing education programs
Strategy 4.2.3  Utilize ASDC Affiliate membership category

Objective 4.3  Appropriate and optimized utilization of allied dental health professionals
Strategy 4.3.1  Develop continuing education programs
Strategy 4.3.2  Identify appropriate roles for allied dental health professionals, which include dental assistants, expanded function dental assistants (EFDA), and hygienists

Objective 4.4  Appropriate and effective utilization of non-dental health care providers
Strategy 4.4.1  Develop continuing education programs
Strategy 4.4.2  Identify appropriate roles for physicians and non-dental health care providers

Goal 5: Meet dental education needs
Objective 5.1  Academic faculties of excellent caliber and sufficient number
Strategy 5.1.1  Educate AAPD membership on academic crisis issues
Strategy 5.1.2  Foster a fundraising campaign for academic support
Strategy 5.1.3  Foster improved business practices in teaching clinics
Strategy 5.1.4  Foster academic career loan forgiveness programs
Strategy 5.1.5  Foster creative use of private clinics and practitioner mentors in residency programs
Strategy 5.1.6  Foster effective modeling, mentoring, and education for potential academicians
Strategy 5.1.7  Foster development of shared basic information distance learning modules
Strategy 5.1.8  Increase the transition of "master clinicians" into teaching, including full-time positions
Strategy 5.1.9  Foster dissemination of "best-practice" models

Objective 5.2  Physical plants of educational institutions adequate to support educational objectives
Strategy 5.2.1  Aid and support facility development programs
Strategy 5.2.2  Support legislation to secure capital funding for pediatric dentistry education facilities

Objective 5.3  Increased standardization of pre- and postdoctoral training experiences
Strategy 5.3.1  Implement consistent standards in pre- and postdoctoral programs

Objective 5.4  Appropriate accreditation standards for the pre- and postdoctoral level
Strategy 5.4.1  Support Academy initiatives on pre- and postdoctoral curriculum standardization

Goal 6: Efficient and effective organization
Objective 6.1  The structure of the Academy serves and represents its membership
Introduction

Objective 6.1 Increase communication between membership and leadership
Strategy 6.1.1 Increase communication between membership and leadership
Strategy 6.1.2 Review the mechanism of accountability of the headquarters office to leadership

Objective 6.2 Adequate funding for academy operations, programs, and initiatives
Strategy 6.2.1 Offset expenses by appropriately maximizing corporate and other outside support of Academy projects and endeavors
Strategy 6.2.2 Assure an appropriate dues structure and other sources of income

Objective 6.3 Efficient headquarters office operations
Strategy 6.3.1 Assure a technologically advanced communication to the membership
Strategy 6.3.2 Provide an appropriately sized and adequately equipped facility for business operations
Strategy 6.3.3 Support a qualified and well-motivated staff in appropriate numbers and responsibilities to accomplish Academy business operations

Objective 6.4 Effective volunteer leadership
Strategy 6.4.1 Assure appropriate leadership training
Strategy 6.4.2 Assure objective assessment of the volunteer leadership
Strategy 6.4.3 Assure a fair and equitable process to identify and select individuals at all volunteer leadership levels

Objective 6.5 Effective tripartite organizational structure
Strategy 6.5.1 Improve the role of district trustee in Academy operations
Strategy 6.5.2 Promote efforts to strengthen effectiveness and number of district organizations and state units
Strategy 6.5.3 Explore opportunities for increased membership participation in Academy decision making

Objective 6.6 Effective relationship between the Academy and its Foundation
Strategy 6.6.1 To be determined in concert with the Foundation