



Lifelong Learning & Service Recognition Guidelines

Why Achieve Recognition?

Lifelong Learning & Service Recognition (LLSR) is a program of formal recognition for AGD Masters in the areas of continuing education, dental-related community service and service to organized dentistry. It is not a credential and in no way may be represented to the public as such. Lifelong Learning & Service Recognition (LLSR) was created to recognize the achievements of those AGD Masters who clearly recognize the professional obligation to remain current in their profession and to create an example so that each member of the dental profession never loses sight of this obligation. Achieving the LLSR from the Academy of General Dentistry tells colleagues and patients of your continued commitment to lifelong learning and quality patient care.

A Charge to all Masters

Masters of the Academy of General Dentistry embody the Academy's principles and ideals. They accept an obligation to continually prove themselves worthy of that designation throughout their professional lives. Becoming a Master in the AGD means that there are certain obligations that go along with the honor.

Masters are expected to:

- 1) Continue their commitment to lifelong learning
- 2) Be a mentor to associates and new dentists
- 3) Improve the quality of continuing education
- 4) Be a voice of the General Dentist.

LLSR Requirements

- 1) Mastership in the AGD with AGD membership in good standing
- 2) Completion of 500 hours of FAGD/MAGD-approved continuing education credit. Hours must have been earned since the date of Mastership was received or since a previous LLSR was received
- 3) Continuing education credits must be earned in least eight of fourteen designated subject areas, although there are no minimums or maximums by discipline
- 4) At least 150 continuing education hours must be earned in participation course attendance
- 5) A maximum of 100 credits for teaching will be allowed
- 6) A maximum of 100 credits for publication will be allowed
- 7) Completion of 100 hours of AGD-approved dental-related community/volunteer service and/or service to organized dentistry. Hours must have been performed since the date of Mastership was received or since a previous LLSR was received.

Community and Volunteer Service:

- One community service point is equal to one hour of volunteer community service. The Dental Education Council will determine which additional categories of service not described in these guidelines may be eligible. Volunteer work for a for-profit organization, such as a dental manufacturer, is not eligible.
- To document community service a representative of the organization for which the community/volunteer work was done must document in writing the type and term of service. A letter from the organization, specifying the volunteer work, number of hours volunteered and the dates of service is preferred. A form, which must be signed by an official from that organization, is available from the AGD to be used in lieu of a letter.
- No financial remuneration or "in-kind" remuneration may be received for service/volunteer work. Reimbursement of expenses such as airfare, transportation, meals, etc., is allowed.

Categories of community and volunteer service may include, but are not limited to:

- Providing pro bono dental services through a not-for-profit organization
- Mentoring a student, emerging dentist or struggling colleague, through a recognized dental organization
- Service in a volunteer dental clinic
- Service overseas on a dental mission
- Volunteer service in a community program, such as a health fair
- Providing presentation on dental-related topics to schools, civic, church or other community groups or other health professionals

- Providing oral cancer screenings at a local church, synagogue, school, health fair, nursing home, retirement community, etc.
- Providing dental screenings to athletes through the Special Olympics/Special Smiles
- Volunteer work at a local or national dental meeting, such as working at the organization's booth
- Serving as an unpaid team dentist for a school, college, professional sports team or youth athletic association
- Instituting a mouth guard program for a school, college, professional sports team or youth athletic association
- Providing dental education programs at elementary or secondary schools
- Volunteering as a Boy/Girl Scout merit badge leader for dental health

Service to Organized Dentistry:

- Holding a local, state/provincial or national appointment or an elected office in a dental organization is considered service to organized dentistry. Points are awarded for each month of service, up to 12 points per year per national or local organization.
- A maximum of 12 points may be earned annually for serving in a national position in a dental organization. Service time of less than one year will be prorated by month. Holding multiple positions at the national level in the same organization is acceptable only up to the 12-point limit each year.
- A maximum of 12 points may be earned annually for serving in state/provincial, constituent or component positions in a dental organization. Service time of less than one year will be prorated by month. Holding multiple positions in the same local organization is acceptable only up to the 12-point limit each year.
- To document service to organized dentistry, a letter from the organization that specifies the position, number of months/years in the position and the dates of service is preferred. A form, which must be signed by an officer of the organization, is available from the AGD to be used in lieu of a letter.

Application Procedure and Deadline

Applications must be postmarked no later than March 31 to be considered for the class immediately following the application deadline. **The AGD is not responsible for lost or delayed mail.** The appropriate fee, which includes a non-refundable processing fee, must accompany the LLSR application. **All LLSR requirements must be completed as of the March 31 application deadline date. Only the Dental Education Council may determine the acceptability of MAGD award applications.** Applications received by March 31 are reviewed by the Council at its spring meeting. Applicants are notified by letter of the Council's decision.

Direct inquiries regarding the LLSR to:
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