

Resolution No. [Resolution Number] [Type]  
Report: [Report] Date Submitted: 08/14/2025  
Submitted By: Dr. Spencer Bloom, delegate, Illinois  
Reference Committee: [Reference Committee for Worksheet]  
Total Net Financial Implication: [Total Net Financial Impl.] Net Dues Impact:   
Amount One-time: Amount On-going:   
ADA Strategic Forecast Outcome: Tripartite: Promote Tripartite stability, success, and future growth.

**FEASIBILITY STUDY OF A POSTGRADUATE YEAR ONE (PGY-1) LICENSURE PATHWAY**

**Background:**

As the landscape of dental education continues to evolve, with growing concerns about variability in clinical preparedness, the House of Delegates has a responsibility to explore modern, evidence-based alternatives to high-stakes, one-day licensure examinations. Many states already accept non-patient-based exams, and as of 2024, forty-nine states and the District of Columbia allow manikin-based clinical testing.

A nationally available postgraduate year one (PGY-1) pathway—similar to medical and pharmacy models—may provide a more structured, competency-based, and longitudinal method of assessing readiness for independent practice. Such a model could also support portability by aligning licensure expectations across states while preserving standards. A formal feasibility study by the Council on Dental Education and Licensure (CDEL) would provide the House of Delegates with the necessary insight to consider PGY-1 as an official pathway.

**Resolved,** that the American Dental Association (ADA) direct the Council on Dental Education and Licensure (CDEL) to study the feasibility of a nationally available postgraduate year one (PGY-1) licensure pathway, and to report back to the 2026 House of Delegates with findings and recommendations.