About the Michigan Dental Association

Founded in 1856, the Michigan Dental Association (MDA) is one of the most-respected professional associations in the country. It serves more than 5,500 member dentists with a wide variety of dental practice, insurance, and advocacy programs.

Your Professional Future
The MDA, American Dental Association and local component societies work together to preserve the profession of dentistry and to protect the oral health of the public. Through grassroots organizing, lobbying activities and public relations programs, organized dentistry is working hard to safeguard your professional future.

Student Membership
The MDA extends free membership to all dental students to help aspiring professionals navigate into their professional careers. Membership rounds out your education by providing you with professional networking and career-advancing opportunities, financial programs, and information on issues affecting dentistry today. Graduate student membership is available at nominal dues. The MDA also strongly encourages your participation in the American Student Dental Association (ASDA).

Information Central
The MDA is information central for MDA members and their staffs about everything happening in dental practice today. Call toll-free 800-589-2632 or 517-372-9070 for fast, accurate answers. Or check out the MDA’s Web site at www.smilemichigan.com/pro. You can also find the MDA on Facebook (facebook.com/michigandentalassociation) and YouTube (youtube.com/michdentists). The MDA also offers publications such as the monthly MDA Journal, as well as continuing education courses throughout Michigan.


The MDA is your resource from your first year in dental school to graduation — and throughout your practice years. We’re encouraging you to take a moment to review this brochure about how the MDA can help you at this stage of your career.

To get the most out of your MDA membership, consider joining the American Student Dental Association (ASDA). Contact your school’s ASDA officers for details on how you can help advance the mission of student dentists.

Read on to learn more about your free MDA membership and corresponding benefits and services.

Questions?
We’re here to help! Contact the MDA at 800-589-2632 or via e-mail at jlord@michigandental.org.

On the front: Nashwa Aziz, dental student at the University of Detroit Mercy, Class of 2010.
Benefits for D1–D4 Students

On-Campus Programming
The MDA hosts many on-campus events for dental students. Program topics range from financial survival after school to learning how to find an associate position and updates on hot-button legislative issues. These programs are held throughout the year. Watch your e-mail and the MDA’s Facebook pages for details.

MDA Journal, YouTube Channel and Facebook Pages
All dental students receive a complimentary subscription to the monthly Journal of the Michigan Dental Association, (rated as the most popular benefit by dental students) as well as full access to the MDAs website, www.smilemichigan.com/pro. Students also receive the monthly MDA e-mail newsletter, the Journal eNews.

The MDA has increased its efforts to stay connected with you when it is convenient for you by launching a YouTube Channel (youtube.com/michdentists) and a Facebook fan page (facebook.com/michigandentalassociation).

Networking Opportunities
The MDA is made up of 26 component societies throughout Michigan that develop their own networking events. If you would like to attend one of the component meetings, simply call the MDA’s director of membership and student affairs, Josh Lord, at 800-589-2632, ext. 415. This opportunity gives you great exposure to successful individuals in dentistry, with the chance to develop mentor relationships.

If you are interested in getting involved in other ways, the MDA is ready to help you.

Annual Session
As a student member, you have access to educational programs at the MDA’s Annual Session. This includes several free courses and nearly 40 registered clinics. The 2012 Annual Session will be held in Lansing, April 18-21, 2012, and the 2013 Annual Session will be held in Novi, April 17-20, 2013. There is no registration charge for Michigan Dental Association members and student members. Nonmembers must pay a registration charge to attend.

Committee Representation
A student from each dental school can sit on every MDA committee, giving aspiring professionals a voice in organized dentistry. If you are interested in participating on a committee, let both the Dean’s office and your school’s American Student Dental Association (ASDA) officers know of your interest.

Insurance Programs and Endorsed Products
The MDA, through its MDA Insurance subsidiary, offers undergraduate students several competitive insurance programs that could save you money. Auto, homeowners, and rental insurance are just some of the programs available to you.

MDA Services endorses a number of products and services and offers them to members at reduced rates. These items include practice financing, exam gloves, office supplies, account collection, credit card processing, credit cards, plus much more.

For information on endorsed insurance, products and services, call 800-860-2272, or visit the MDA website at www.smilemichigan.com/pro and enter the MDA Insurance or MDA Services sections.

Benefits for D3 and D4 Students

Scholarships
The Michigan Dental Association Foundation awards scholarships annually to dental students. For more information and an application, visit the MDA website at www.smilemichigan.com/pro and enter the Michigan Dental Foundation section or contact the MDAs Lori Kleinfelt at 800-589-2632, ext. 406.

SUCCESS Seminar
The American Dental Association, through the MDA, the University of Detroit Mercy and the University of Michigan dental schools, offers a free seminar every other year for third- and fourth-year dental students.

The seminar will be held again in 2012.

Benefits for D4 Students

Connections to Other States
If you know you’ll be practicing in another state and need help networking, call the MDA for information on who to contact in that area. You can then begin fostering relationships and find out about meetings you may wish to attend to network with your future colleagues.

MDA Journal Classifieds
If you’re planning on staying in Michigan after graduation, you can access a listing of practice opportunities and list your qualifications when seeking a job through this service via membership in the MDA. Fourth-year students may participate for a total of six months in this program at no charge.

For more information, call Jackie Hammond at 800-589-2632, ext. 419, or visit the MDA’s website at www.smilemichigan.com/pro.

Demographic Information
Do you want to know how many dentists are practicing in certain Michigan cities? Would you like a list of Michigan dentists within your defined parameters? Call Joanne Floyd at 800-589-2632, ext. 451, to get the information you need at no charge.

Student Board Exam Liability Coverage
Dental students receive complimentary liability insurance coverage for their board exams. This coverage is sponsored by CNA Insurance. CNA is the MDA-endorsed professional liability carrier and is administered through MDA Insurance.

NERB Refreshments
The MDA sponsors refreshments at the University of Michigan during the NERB exam. We provide the food so you can concentrate on the exam!

Student Composite Portraits
D4s receive a complimentary composite portrait of their graduating class in the spring of their graduating year. This lasting memento is sponsored by MDA Insurance.

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