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The Objectives of the American College of Dentists

The American College of Dentists, in order to promote the highest ideals of the dental profession, advance the standards and efficiency, develop good human relations and understanding with our patients, and extend the benefits of dental health services to the greatest numbers, declare and adopt the following principles and ideals as ways and means for the attainment of these goals:

(a) To encourage qualified persons to consider a career in dentistry so that the public may be assured of the availability of dental health services now and in the future;

(b) To urge broad preparation for such a career at all educational levels;

(c) To encourage graduate studies and continuing educational efforts by dentists;

(d) To encourage, stimulate, and promote research;

(e) To urge the development and use of measures for the control and prevention of oral disorders;

(f) To improve the public understanding and appreciation of oral health service and its importance to the optimum health of the patient through sound public dental health education;

(g) To encourage the free exchange of ideas and experiences in the interest of better service to the patient;

(h) To cooperate with other groups for the advancement of interprofessional relationships in the interest of the public; and

(i) To urge upon the professional man the recognition of his responsibilities in the community as a citizen as well as a contributor in the field of health service;

(j) In order to give encouragement to individuals to further these objectives, and to recognize meritorious achievements and potentials for contributions in dental science, art, education, literature, human relations and all the other areas that contribute to the human welfare and the promotion of these objectives—to confer Fellowship in the College on such persons properly selected to receive such honor.

This is the Preamble in the Constitution and Bylaws of the American College of Dentists.