

## **AO Statement About AGD Accreditation**

Alpha Omega (AO) International Dental Fraternity maintains status as an approved AGD/PACE program course provider. We do not maintain approval as an ADA/CERP program provider, due to the required expense and time involved maintaining such status and the lack of additional value above and beyond being approved as an AGD/PACE provider.

Providing AGD/PACE credits allows AGD members to utilize CE hours toward Fellowship and Mastership status in the AGD. Also, some state boards will only accept courses for licensure maintenance if the course is sponsored by an AGD/PACE or ADA/CERP provider. Our participation in the AGD/PACE program fulfills that requirement.

Maintenance as an AGD/PACE provider is very time consuming. The Academy of General Dentistry requires that the program be well organized, following strict guidelines outlined by the AGD in their PACE program guidelines. You may review these guidelines on the [agd.org](http://agd.org) website.

Your chapter has three choices when it comes to offering CE credit for courses that it presents:

1. The chapter can maintain its own AGD/PACE course provider status and have its own provider number. This would involve the following:
  - a. Appointment of a Continuing Education committee with a committee chairperson
  - b. Regular quarterly committee meetings to approve that upcoming courses are scientifically valid and that the speaker is qualified to present the course. Also, the committee must review course evaluation sheets from past courses to pinpoint deficiencies as well as outstanding comments. The committee is also responsible for maintenance of a needs assessment program, identifying topics that participants would like to learn more about. Detailed meeting minutes must be prepared and submitted periodically to the AGD for review.
  - c. Maintenance of all CE meeting documentation for 7 years.
  - d. Periodic review of the PACE program to update changes in the program.

- e. Complete a detailed application process that requires approximately 30-40 hours of work to complete.
- f. Maintain all organizational materials; i.e., job descriptions, goal and objectives, flow charts, etc.
- g. Organize and send requested documentation to the AGD annually to assure compliance with program directives.
- h. Pay required application and maintenance fees to the AGD.
- i. Preparing all forms needed to properly administer each course.

2. The chapter can fall under the umbrella of the International Fraternity, utilizing their provider number and transferring all the administrative responsibilities described above to Alpha Omega International Fraternity's CE committee. In order to do this, chapters are required to strictly follow the procedures described in the AGD Continuing Education Policies and Procedures:

<https://www.agd.org/docs/default-source/pace/pace-guidelines-aug2017.pdf?sfvrsn=4>.

3. The chapter has the option of not providing AGD credits for their courses. Several chapters have chosen this option because they do not want to devote the time required to put together an involved meeting announcement and assuring completion of several required forms, or they don't have the manpower needed.

Specific questions about the AGD and how to use the accreditation number for chapter continuing education must be addressed to Michael Stern, Chair, Continuing Education Committee at [info@ao.org](mailto:info@ao.org).