

Iowa Dental Board Meeting June 14, 2024

Lindsey Meyer, DDS, MAGD

IAGD Legislative Chair

I attended the Iowa Dental Board meeting on June 14, 2024. Here is a summary of the meeting.

The meeting was attended by a special guest, Leader of the HeadStart program in the Drake University District. She had comments on her program. ADA guidance recommends first dental visits around age 1. She has had trouble securing exams for participants in her program, as some doctors are still turning away clients younger than 3. She encouraged dentists to follow current ADA guidelines and see children at year 1. She also has some trouble with access to care for Medicaid patients. The federal government requires her to report the compliance with dental exams and both the variance in age at first visit and Medicaid access have made it hard for her to reach her benchmarks. High compliance gives her the opportunity for increased funding. In addition, she encourages dentists to stock the HeadStart form that is required for HeadStart exams. It is similar to the screening for required for kindergarten.

Committees reported on their work.

The executive director discussed having 100+ applicants for the vacancy that is open in July for investigative assistant.

There were no reports for continuing education or dental hygiene.

The anesthesia committee reported approving 2 permits.

The board discussed re-electing officers for committees.

The discussion continued regarding the project of regulatory review. The deadline for finishing the project is approaching.