



SCDA

Special Care Dentistry Association

Student Chapter

START-UP KIT



Dear Student Representatives,

Thank you for your interest in starting a student club of the Special Care Dentistry Association (SCDA) at your university. On behalf of the SCDA National organization, we would like to express our excitement in welcoming you to a nationwide community promoting special care dentistry.

The interest of students like you is imperative, as this signifies future dental professionals who deeply care about maintaining a high level of competence in this field as well as providing quality dental care to this underserved population.

The national SCDA student chapter is a student-driven organization composed of dental, post-doctoral, dental hygiene, and dental assisting students. Members of the student chapter register the organization with your university and take the necessary steps to become SCDA student chapter members. SCDA student chapter members pay a reduced membership fee of \$10 per student annually and receive all the same benefits as regular SCDA members. While SCDA welcomes current professionals to become involved in our organization, we would like to highlight that it is student-initiated and student-run.

By joining SCDA, you are becoming part of a widespread network of individuals influencing the culture of our dental profession and the general public. As SCDA expands, the goal is to unite this community, share perspectives and experiences to further and improve the arena of special care dentistry.

As your enthusiasm for SCDA grows, it will become contagious and will spread at your school. We would like to underline that your student club should cater to the needs and interests of the students, faculty, staff, and administration at your school. In addition, we suggest the formation of open lines of communication between the student body and faculty, staff, and administration.

We applaud your efforts in building your local student chapter. As leaders in special care dentistry at your school, we encourage your participation at the national level of SCDA. This will create great opportunities for networking and building lifelong friendships.

Your recognition of the significance of special care dentistry is admirable! We look forward to welcoming you to the Special Care Dentistry Association.

Sincerely,

Andrew Chen and Lydia Hartung
2023-2024 SCDA National Student Liaisons



How to Get Started

Starting a SCDA student chapter is a very rewarding experience. To get started you will need to register the SCDA student chapter with your university, inform SCDA National and adhere to the SCDA annual activities.

Registering with your University:

Requirements for registering a club through your university will vary based on institution so please check with your Student Affairs department on the exact requirements. Here are a few items that will most likely be required:

- Primary contact for student club
- Faculty Advisor for student club
- Identified purpose of student club
- Constitution – many universities provide samples
- Petition showing interest/need for student chapter

Registering with SCDA National:

Becoming a recognized SCDA student chapter allows you to take full advantage of our resources, such as the use of SCDA logos and identity, speakers, activity ideas, SCDA events, and other membership benefits. To receive recognition, submit the following documents to the national SCDA Student Liaison.

1. SCDA Student Chapter critical board members (president, vice-president, secretary, and treasurer) and faculty advisor(s)
2. Confirmation of registration as a club at your university (a pdf document or a screenshot)

Continued recognition of your student chapter by SCDA National will be dependent on the following:

1. Payment of annual SCDA Student Chapter Membership dues (\$10/year)
 - a. Student Chapters have the discretion to collect local dues to pay this fee and plan chapter events
 - b. Members of the Student Chapter are responsible for their own SCDA Membership dues of \$10/year
 - c. You can make the payment on the National SCDA website (scdaonline.org→ join now→ create an email and register)
2. Submission of annual paperwork outlining activities of the SCDA Student Chapter and a current roster of members.
 - a. Suggested annual activities include:



- i. Conduct an awareness activity at your university promoting the importance of special care dentistry
 - ii. Submit a poster abstract for the SCDA Annual Meeting
 - iii. Organize a group of students to attend the SCDA Annual Meeting
 - iv. Contribute to the SCDA Student Chapter discussion forum
3. Confirmation of annual registration as a club at your university

SCDA Student Network Members/Faculty Advisors

School Name: _____

President: _____
(name) (email address)

Vice-President: _____
(name) (email address)

Treasurer: _____
(name) (email address)

Secretary: _____
(name) (email address)

Faculty Advisor: _____
(name) (email address)

Co-Faculty Advisor:
(optional) _____
(name) (email address)

(Please send an updated list to the SCDA annually or when advisors change.)