



Charting the Future: A Closer Look at the New Committee Structure

Priorities remain the same. Strategic improvements enhance operational efficiencies.

New committees are being created across both ASTDD and the ASTDD Foundation – a fresh chance to help shape the future of oral health as part of the new 2027–2030 strategic framework, ***Charting the Future: ASTDD's Purpose, Vision, and Roadmap for Impact.***

Committees are member- and Board-supported groups that provide strategic input, elevate member needs, and help ensure ASTDD's work stays aligned with its mission, values, and strategic goals.

Committee Interest Survey

As ASTDD charts the course for its next chapter, we invite you to help shape what comes next. A **Committee Interest Survey** is a first step in forming the new committees that will support the work of both ASTDD and the ASTDD Foundation by guiding priorities, strengthening engagement, and advancing the goals of the 2027–2030 strategic framework. Use the survey to indicate which committees interest you and where you would like to contribute your expertise, experience, and perspectives. Your responses will help build committees that reflect the breadth of talent, experience, and perspectives across the ASTDD community.



SAVE
– the –
DATES

June 17
Survey opens

July 31
Survey closes

Who Should Apply?


Association Committees: All ASTDD members are welcome to join. Eligible committee members must be a current member in good standing (dues paid).

Foundation Committees: All are welcome. These committees are *not exclusive to only ASTDD members.*

The Application Process

The steps below are designed to ensure both ASTDD and the ASTDD Foundation committees reflect the skills, experiences, and perspectives needed to advance ASTDD's mission and strategic goals.

- **June 17–July 31:** Committee Interest Surveys are submitted.
- **Early August:** ASTDD and Foundation boards review responses using a selection process and rubric designed to build balanced, diverse, and mission-aligned committees.
- **Late August:** Applicants are notified of committee appointments.
- **September:** New ASTDD and ASTDD Foundation committees officially begin their work.



Process Note for the Future: Once committees are established, each committee will have the opportunity to develop recommendations regarding member terms, leadership succession, recruitment practices, onboarding processes, and other operating procedures, consistent with ASTDD and ASTDD Foundation governance policies.

The Committees

ASTDD committees focus on the association and member experience, while **ASTDD Foundation committees** focus on fundraising, stewardship, and philanthropic impact. Review each committee's purpose statement to find the best fit. Together, they support a shared ecosystem.

ASTDD Committees

Member- and Board-supported, staff-facilitated | Meet three to four times per year

Education & Programming	Finance	Governance	Membership
Advances ASTDD's mission through educational programming, including the National Oral Health Conference, Lunch & Learns, and Spotlights.	Safeguards the organization's financial integrity through sound fiscal oversight and strategy.	Strengthens organizational effectiveness through governance, policy oversight, and strategic planning.	Promotes member growth, engagement, and retention to strengthen ASTDD as a member-driven association.
Who: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Committee Chair, ASTDD Board Member (TBD)• 1-2 Board members• 5-8 ASTDD members	Who: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Committee Chair, ASTDD Treasurer• ASTDD Board President and 1-2 Board members• 1-3 ASTDD members	Who: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Committee Chair, ASTDD Board Member (TBD)• 1-2 Board members• 5-8 ASTDD members	Who: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Committee Chair, ASTDD Board Member (TBD)• 1-2 Board members• 5-8 ASTDD members
Total = 7 - 11	Total = 4 - 7	Total = 7 - 11	Total = 7 - 11

ASTDD Foundation Committees

Advisories to the Board & President/CEO | Meet three to four times per year

Leadership & Programming	Finance	Governance	Fundraising
Guides Foundation programs that advance leadership development, innovation, and impact in public oral health.	Oversees the Foundation's financial health in partnership with the President/CEO for a sustainable organization.	Guides Board recruitment, governance, bylaws, and committee structure in alignment with ASTDD.	Leads fundraising, donor engagement, and stewardship to secure sustainable philanthropic support for the mission.
Who: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Committee Chair, Dr. Natalia Chalmers• 2 Board members• 2-3 guests/advisors	Who: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Committee Chair, Dr. Rachel Sizemore, ASTDD & ASTDD Fdn. Treasurer• Foundation Chair and 1 Board member• 2-3 guests/advisors	Who: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Committee Chair (TBD)• 2 Board members• 2-3 guests/advisors	Who: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Committee Chair, Mr. Kevin Thomas, ASTDD Fdn. Board Member• 2 Board members• 2-3 guests/advisors
Total = 5-6	Total = 5-6	Total = 5-6	Total = 5-6

Getting Involved: Frequently Asked Questions

Understanding the Transition

What happens to current ASTDD committees, and when do the new ones start?

As part of *Charting the Future*, ASTDD is restructuring its committees to prepare and align both organizations for the 2027–2030 strategic framework.

The current ASTDD committees will sunset by **August 31, 2026**, and the new **ASTDD and ASTDD Foundation committees will take effect September 1, 2026**.

Sunsetting the current committees is not a reflection of their worth – ASTDD deeply values those topic areas and the contributions of their consultants, committee chairs, members, and partners. This step simply realigns ASTDD’s committee structure with where the organizations are headed, and much of that important work will continue through the new committees, Communities of Practice (COPs), and workgroups.

What about ASTDD’s Executive, Awards, and Nominating committees?

These are **established under the bylaws and seated at the discretion of the officers** (for example, the awards committee is chaired by the president and nominating committee by the immediate past president). They follow their own bylaw-defined process and are not part of the new application process.

How are ASTDD and the Foundation different?

ASTDD is the trusted national voice and leader for state and territorial oral health programs (S/TOHPs). ASTDD leads membership, governance, programs, technical assistance, peer learning, policy and practice support, and national partnership work on behalf of those who support, promote, and advance S/TOHPs. The **ASTDD Foundation** is ASTDD’s 501(c)(3) philanthropic partner, helping secure and invest resources for work that supports ASTDD’s mission, strengthens members, and builds capacity.

Understanding Committees

What is a committee?

Committees are **ongoing, member and board-supported groups** that provide strategic input, surface member needs, and help ensure ASTDD’s work stays aligned with its mission, values, and strategic goals. They are **staff-facilitated** and help guide priorities, strengthen member engagement, and support good governance.

How many committees are there?

ASTDD and the ASTDD Foundation will each have **four standing committees**. ASTDD’s are open to **members**

only: Education & Programming, Finance, Governance, and Membership. **ASTDD Foundation committees** are **open for all** to apply to join: Leadership & Programming, Finance, Governance, and Fundraising.

How are members selected — will that change?

For this **first cycle**, the Boards will select committee members through an **application process** informed by the survey, building balanced, mission-aligned committees. **Going forward**, each committee will set its own term limits and define how it recruits, screens, welcomes, and onboards members.

Do I need to be on the board to serve?

No. Committees are intentionally member-led. Most seats are for members, with a committee chair and a small number of board members alongside them. ASTDD Foundation committees may also include guests and advisors. Committees are a great way to be involved with the organization and may serve as an introductory experience to other ASTDD leadership roles.

What’s the time commitment?

ASTDD committees meet **three to four times per year** and submit a brief written report to the Board after each meeting. ASTDD Foundation committees also meet **three to four times per year**. Meetings focus on strategic input rather than operations.

Why do board members chair committees?

Committees are designed to serve as a bridge between ASTDD and the ASTDD Foundation, their strategic priorities, and the members, partners, and communities they serve. Having board members serve as committee chairs helps ensure committee discussions, recommendations, and member perspectives are effectively communicated to organizational leadership and considered in organizational decision-making.

Board-members as committee chairs are not intended to direct or control the work of the committee. Rather, they help facilitate discussions, support communication between the committees and the boards, and keep the committees connected to the organization’s mission and priorities. Committee members should feel empowered to actively participate, helping shape both the work of the committee and the future direction of the organization.

Committees are intentionally designed to be member-driven. They provide opportunities for engagement, leadership development, and service while fostering a culture of listening, collaboration, and shared leadership – not hierarchy.

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Will committee members have a role in shaping how committees operate?

Yes. New committees are intended to be collaborative, inclusive, and member-driven. ASTDD and the ASTDD Foundation are committed to creating a culture where committee members are active participants, not passive observers. While ASTDD and the ASTDD Foundation provide the governance framework and overall direction, committee members will help shape the culture, expectations, leadership pathways, onboarding practices, and ways of working within their committees. They are encouraged to share ideas, identify opportunities for improvement, and help create a committee experience that is engaging, welcoming, and impactful.

This approach reflects ASTDD's commitment to shared leadership, meaningful engagement, continuous improvement, and ensuring that member voices help shape the future of the organization.

Ways to Get Involved

What is an ASTDD Community of Practice (CoP)?

Communities of Practice are **member-driven groups** for peer learning, practical exchange, problem-solving, and professional connection around shared topics or roles. Participation is **open to all ASTDD members, partners, and supporters**, and CoPs are not **limited in size**. Each CoP is **staff-facilitated** and supported by consultants and subject-matter experts. New CoPs are **approved by the Board based on staffing and organizational capacity**.

How is a committee different from a workgroup?

Committees are **ongoing** groups that provide strategic input and help guide priorities. Workgroups are **time-limited** – created to complete a specific task, product, recommendation, or project, and typically disband once the work is done. They may include members, staff, consultants, or partners, and may report to a relevant standing committee.

What is the difference between a committee and an advisory committee?

Committees are ongoing groups of Board and committee members established through ASTDD and ASTDD Foundation governance structures to support organizational priorities, strategic planning, and key organizational functions. **Advisory committees** are ongoing groups of subject-matter experts that provide guidance on specific priority areas. They help inform strategy, elevate expertise, and support decision-making but do not oversee operations or replace

the responsibilities of staff, the Board, or standing committees. This distinction is why the Best Practices Committee and Dental Public Health Policy Committee are proposed to transition to advisory committees. Their primary role is to provide specialized expertise and recommendations that help inform ASTDD's work and strategic direction.

Will ASTDD or the ASTDD Foundation create additional committees?

The committee structure will continue to evolve. Alongside new committees, ASTDD is building CoPs and time-limited workgroups during the 2027-2030 Strategic Framework, and the Governance Committee will periodically review whether workgroups, advisory committees, committees, and/or CoPs should be added, combined, or sunset based on member needs, capacity, and strategic priorities.

Why should I get involved?

Serving on a committee is one of the most direct ways to shape the future of ASTDD and the ASTDD Foundation. You'll help set priorities, learn alongside peers across states and territories, grow as a leader, and make sure member needs guide the work – and it's a meaningful first step toward other leadership roles in the organization.

Getting Started

The committee-interest survey is open **June 17 – July 31**. Scan the code and complete it to tell us which committee(s) you'd like to serve on. You can indicate more than one area of interest.



MORE INFO

For questions about ASTDD's strategic framework, readiness period, and other topics:

- [ASTDD FAQ](#)
- [ASTDD One-Pager](#)

For information about the relationship between ASTDD and the ASTDD Foundation:

- [ASTDD & the ASTDD Foundation](#)
- [The ASTDD Foundation](#)

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