

**University at Buffalo  
School of Dental Medicine  
Goals and Objectives**

**MISSION I. Educate Oral Health Care Professionals, Biomedical Scientists and Educators**

**Goal I.1 Prepare qualified students to become general dentists**

Objectives

- a. Attract a diverse pool of highly qualified applicants for admission.
- b. Reduce financial barriers to recruitment and retention.
- c. Ensure students gain knowledge, skills and values to begin general practice.
- d. Maintain academic performance standards and evaluation systems which assure competence of graduating students.

**Goal I.2 Foster and implement a curriculum which is competency-based and strongly founded in the behavioral, biological, clinical and physical sciences and promotes their integration.**

Objectives

- a. Evaluate the curriculum and implement changes.
- b. Integrate and expand problem-solving and critical thinking in curriculum.
- c. Emphasize interaction between basic, biomedical, clinical sciences and practice.

**Goal I.3 Ensure an environment and facilities which promotes teaching and learning.**

Objectives

- a. Provide a responsive educational environment characterized by open communication and positive interpersonal relationships.
- b. Provide sufficient, qualified and effective faculty and staff.
- c. Provide opportunities for faculty to increase teaching effectiveness.
- d. Provide modern educational and patient care facilities and equipment.
- e. Ensure adequate distribution of funds to meet our goals; review and manage this on a consistent basis.

**Goal I.4 Ensure clinical education includes a broad, quality student experience providing comprehensive patient care improving oral health.**

Objectives

- a. Provide quantity and breadth of clinical experience.
- b. Ensure quality of patient care and clinical competence with criteria based evaluations.
- c. Provide patients with comprehensive care which is timely and supervised and in compliance with pertinent standards.

**Goal I.5 Prepare clinically proficient specialists and biomedical scientists that are responsive to the needs of the community.**

Objectives

- a. Attract a diverse pool of highly qualified applicants for admission.

- b. Reduce financial barriers to recruitment and retention.
- c. Ensure students gain knowledge, skills and values.
- d. Maintain academic performance standards and evaluation systems which assure competence of graduating students.

**Goal I.6. Prepare individuals for serving in and developing leadership roles in the basic and oral health sciences and in dental education.**

Objectives

- a. Provide professional growth opportunities.
- b. Train dental educators.
- c. Develop new opportunities for alumni activity.

**Goal I.7 Serve health care professionals and alumni by providing lifelong learning experiences and forums for interaction with the school**

Objectives

- a. Provide continuing education programs of high quality and responsive to needs of alumni and practitioners.
- b. Develop school forums for alumni recognition and interaction.

**MISSION II. Discover Medical and Biological Knowledge and Maintain Leadership in Innovative Research and Scholarship Contributing to Prevention, Diagnosis and Treatment of Oral Disease.**

**Goal II.1. Provide opportunity for clinical and basic science research**

Objectives

- a. Increase student opportunities for research.
- b. Maintain MS and PhD program support.
- c. Strengthen research capabilities and resources.
- d. Provide faculty development in research.

**Goal II.2. Contribute to the body of medical and biological knowledge**

Objectives

- a. Engage faculty to conduct research.
- b. Obtain external funding for research and service.
- c. Continue faculty scholarly contributions.

**Goal II.3. Establish relationships in the community to expedite the transfer and implementation of basic and applied research knowledge.**

Objectives

- a. Develop research collaborations with industry and external institutions.
- b. Move new discoveries into commercialization.
- c. Sponsor research meetings.

**Goal II.4. Integrate dental school research endeavors with other university departments or units.**

Objectives

- a. Obtain external funding for collaborative projects.
- b. Increase publications of collaborative research.

### **MISSION III Deliver High Quality, Patient-Centered Oral Health Care**

#### **Goal III.1. Function as a primary, secondary and tertiary oral health care center**

##### Objectives

- a. Maintain our position as a major primary dental provider.
- b. Maintain our position as a provider of specialty care.
- c. Maintain our position as a referral center/tertiary care provider.

#### **Goal III.2. Provide patient-centered oral health care services.**

##### Objectives

- a. Ensure our patient care environment is responsive to the public.
- b. Patients are provided with timely comprehensive care.

#### **Goal III.3. Maintain a quality assurance program to ensure high quality care**

##### Objectives

- a. Assess school-wide indicators on a regular basis.
- b. Assess departmental indicators on a regular basis.

### **MISSION IV. Improve Oral and General Health of People of the State of New York**

#### **Goal IV.1. Support community dental health programs for underserved populations**

##### Objectives

- a. Expand community outreach programs.
- b. Expand student experience in the community.

#### **Goal IV.2 Provide oral health care services to people with special needs**

##### Objectives

- a. Expand our service to patients with special needs.

#### **Goal IV.3. Advocate for resources to promote oral health in the state.**

##### Objective

- a. Encourage faculty to participate in organizations to affect change in health care policy.
- b. Participate as a school in organizations to affect change in health care policy.

Revised and approved June 2009.