



AAAI-D Recognition Standards

Frequently Asked Questions

Companion Guide to AAAI-D RS-1A:2026

American Academy of Artificial Intelligence in Dentistry

Human Intelligence First. Patients First.

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Recognition Standards Frequently Asked Questions

General

What is the AAAI-D Recognition Program?

The AAAI-D Recognition Program is a voluntary global recognition program that recognizes organizations demonstrating conformance with the AAAI-D Recognition Standards for Responsible Artificial Intelligence in Dentistry. The program promotes the safe, ethical, evidence-informed, and responsible adoption of artificial intelligence while emphasizing the Academy's guiding principle: Human Intelligence First. Patients First.

Why did AAAI-D create the Recognition Program?

Artificial intelligence is transforming dentistry, but responsible adoption requires more than implementing new technologies. Organizations need strong leadership, governance, workforce education, ethical oversight, and continuous evaluation.

The Recognition Program was created to recognize organizations that demonstrate excellence in these areas while maintaining human oversight, professional judgment, and patient-centered care.

Why does recognition matter?

Recognition provides organizations with an independent way to demonstrate their commitment to the responsible adoption of artificial intelligence. It signals to patients, professionals, educators, regulators, and industry partners that AI is being implemented with appropriate governance, human oversight, accountability, and a commitment to continuous improvement.

Who benefits from recognition?

The Recognition Program is designed for organizations of all sizes and stages of AI adoption, including private practices, group practices, Dental Service Organizations (DSOs), hospitals, government and military dental organizations, public health programs, dental schools, academic institutions, and other organizations involved in oral healthcare delivery, education, or research.

Who may apply?

The Recognition Program is open to eligible organizations worldwide, including:

- Private dental practices
- Group dental practices
- Multi-site practices
- Dental Service Organizations (DSOs)
- Hospitals and healthcare organizations
- Government, military, and public health dental organizations
- Dental schools and academic institutions
- Other organizations involved in oral healthcare delivery, education, or research

Is the program limited to organizations in the United States?

No.

Applications are welcomed from organizations worldwide. Applicants are expected to comply with all applicable laws, regulations, accreditation requirements, and professional standards within their own jurisdiction.

Is this an accreditation or certification program?

No.

The AAAI-D Recognition Program is a voluntary professional recognition program. Recognition signifies that an organization has demonstrated conformance with the AAAI-D Recognition Standards. It does not constitute accreditation, certification, licensure, governmental approval, or endorsement of any specific artificial intelligence system, software product, or vendor.

Recognition Levels

Why should I apply if I believe my organization is only at Level 1 or Level 2?

Organizations do not need to be using advanced AI technologies to participate.

Many organizations are at the beginning of their AI journey. Levels 1 (Aware) and 2 (Exploring) recognize organizations that are establishing leadership, governance, workforce education, and planning necessary for responsible AI adoption.

Beginning early demonstrates organizational commitment to responsible implementation rather than premature adoption. Recognition at these levels also provides a structured roadmap for future advancement.

Will Level 1 or Level 2 recognition be viewed negatively?

Absolutely not.

The Recognition Program recognizes organizations wherever they are on their AI journey. Building the right foundation is an important achievement.

Responsible AI adoption begins with awareness, education, planning, and governance—not simply purchasing technology.

Can I apply directly for Level 4 or Level 5?

Yes.

Organizations may apply directly for whichever recognition level they believe best reflects their current maturity. Applications are evaluated against the standards for the level requested.

Can we skip levels?

Yes.

Organizations are not required to progress sequentially through every level. Recognition is based upon demonstrated organizational maturity rather than time spent within the program.

What happens if my organization does not meet the level requested?

If the submitted evidence does not support the requested level but demonstrates conformance with a lower recognition level, AAAI-D may offer recognition at the highest level supported by the application. Organizations may accept or decline the recognition offered.

Is Level 5 expected for every organization?

No.

The appropriate recognition level depends upon the organization's mission, scope, resources, AI implementation, and strategic objectives.

The goal is to recognize demonstrated organizational maturity—not to encourage every organization to pursue the highest recognition level.

Application Process

When can organizations apply?

Pre-Applications Open: September 2026

Organizations may request the Recognition Application Packet and begin preparing documentation.

Applications Open: January 1, 2027

Formal recognition applications will be accepted beginning January 1, 2027.

How do I request an application packet?

Beginning in September 2026, organizations may request the Recognition Application Packet by emailing:

info@AAAI-D.org

Subject: Recognition Program

What documents are typically required?

Depending on the recognition level requested, organizations may be asked to submit documentation such as:

AI governance policies

Strategic plans

AI implementation plans

Organizational policies and procedures

Workforce education and training materials

Quality improvement initiatives

Performance measurement activities

Meeting minutes

Organizational reports

Sample workflows

Other documentation demonstrating conformance with the Recognition Standards

Documentation requirements vary according to the level requested and the scope of the application.

Will every applicant submit the same documentation?

No.

Documentation requirements vary depending upon organizational type, size, recognition level requested, and scope of implementation.

Must documents be submitted in English?

Yes.

At this time, application materials should be submitted in English. Documents originally prepared in another language should be accompanied by an English translation.

How long does the recognition process take?

Most recognition decisions are expected within approximately three to six months after a complete application has been received.

Processing times may vary depending upon application complexity and completeness.

Academic Institutions

Why should a dental school or academic institution apply?

Dental education plays a critical role in preparing the future workforce.

Recognition demonstrates an institution's commitment to integrating artificial intelligence into education, research, and clinical training while preserving critical thinking, professional judgment, ethical decision-making, and patient-centered care.

The Recognition Standards provide a practical framework for strengthening governance, faculty development, curriculum planning, and institutional AI readiness.

Recognition

What will recognized organizations receive?

Recognized organizations receive:

Official AAAI-D Recognition Seal

Certificate of Recognition

Recognition Report

Listing in the AAAI-D Directory of Recognized Organizations

Authorization to use the Recognition Seal in accordance with the AAAI-D Seal Use Policy

How long is recognition valid?

Recognition remains valid for the period specified in the recognition award.

Organizations are expected to maintain continued conformance with the Recognition Standards throughout the recognition period.

Why is reapplication required?

Artificial intelligence continues to evolve rapidly.

Periodic reapplication helps ensure that recognized organizations continue to demonstrate responsible governance, workforce preparedness, oversight, and continuous improvement as technologies, evidence, regulations, and professional expectations evolve.

The process encourages continuous organizational improvement rather than permanent recognition based upon a single point in time.

Can organizations apply for a higher recognition level later?

Yes.

Organizations are encouraged to pursue continuous improvement and may submit a future application for a higher recognition level whenever they believe they have achieved greater organizational maturity.

Recognition Seal

May we display the Recognition Seal on our website and marketing materials?

Yes.

Recognized organizations may use the official AAAI-D Recognition Seal throughout the recognition period in accordance with the AAAI-D Seal Use Policy.

May we modify the Recognition Seal?

No.

The Recognition Seal may not be altered, recolored, redesigned, translated, or modified in any manner. Organizations must use only the official artwork provided by AAAI-D.

May we continue using the Recognition Seal after recognition expires?

No.

Organizations must discontinue use of the Recognition Seal upon expiration, suspension, withdrawal, or voluntary relinquishment of recognition unless renewal has been approved.

International Organizations

Can international organizations apply?

Yes.

The Recognition Program welcomes applications from organizations worldwide.

Recognition Standards are intended to be globally applicable while respecting local laws, regulations, accreditation requirements, and professional standards.

Multiple Locations

Can multiple clinic locations apply under one application?

Yes.

Organizations operating multiple locations may submit either: a single enterprise application covering multiple locations, or separate applications for individual practices, clinics, schools, or facilities. Additional guidance will be included in the Recognition Application Packet.

What if only one department or clinic within our organization uses AI?

Organizations may request recognition for a specific organizational unit provided the scope is clearly defined within the application.

Recognition applies only to the approved scope identified in the recognition decision.

Confidentiality

Will our application remain confidential?

Yes.

Application materials are treated as confidential and are used solely for purposes of evaluating the recognition application, except as authorized by the applicant or otherwise required by law.

Recognition Decisions

Can organizations appeal a recognition decision?

Yes.

Organizations may request reconsideration if they believe relevant information was not fully considered or significant additional evidence becomes available.

Information regarding the reconsideration process will be provided in the Recognition Application Packet.

Can recognition be withdrawn?

Yes.

AAAI-D reserves the right to suspend or withdraw recognition if an organization no longer demonstrates conformance with the Recognition Standards, materially misrepresents its recognition status, or uses the Recognition Seal in a manner inconsistent with AAAI-D policies.

Artificial Intelligence Products

Does AAAI-D evaluate or endorse AI vendors or software products?

No.

The Recognition Program evaluates organizational leadership, governance, workforce education, implementation, oversight, and continuous improvement.

It does not evaluate, endorse, certify, approve, or rank individual AI vendors, software products, or technologies.

Does recognition guarantee patient outcomes?

No.

Recognition reflects demonstrated conformance with the AAAI-D Recognition Standards. It should not be interpreted as a guarantee of clinical outcomes, patient satisfaction, financial performance, or the effectiveness of any particular AI technology.

Fees

Is there an application fee?

Yes.

Application fees help support the administration and independent review of the Recognition Program. The current fee schedule is published on the AAAI-D website and included in the Recognition Application Packet.

Are application fees refundable?

Application fees are generally non-refundable once the formal review process has begun.

Contact Information

I still have questions. Who should I contact?

Beginning in September 2026, organizations may request additional information or the Recognition Application Packet by emailing:

info@AAAI-D.org

Subject: Recognition Program

What makes the AAAI-D Recognition Program different?

The AAAI-D Recognition Program is built on a simple principle: artificial intelligence should enhance—not replace—human intelligence, and every application of AI should ultimately serve the best interests of patients. Rather than recognizing organizations solely for adopting new technologies, the program recognizes leadership, governance, ethical oversight, workforce preparedness, and continuous improvement in the responsible adoption of artificial intelligence. Guided by the philosophy Human Intelligence First. Patients First., the Recognition Program provides organizations with a practical roadmap for responsible AI adoption while promoting trust, accountability, and excellence across the global dental profession.

Responsible AI adoption is not defined by how much AI an organization uses. It is defined by how responsibly it is governed.