
BCCOHP has been working to establish a modernized Quality Assurance Program (QAP) for all oral health professionals. One of the three main ways BCCOHP protects the public is by ensuring that all regulated oral health professionals are supported in the provision of safe oral health care through their careers. This work is carried out through our QAP.

The modernized QAP is designed to ensure that oral health professionals, across professions and practice contexts, are competent to provide safe oral health care. The program will support oral health professionals in meeting the clearly defined expectations set out in BCCOHP's Professional and Practice Standards.

Overview of BCCOHP's modernized Quality Assurance Program

January 2026

Transition to the modernized program

Beginning April 2026, the modernized QAP replaces four pre-existing programs from the legacy regulators. Having a single, modernized program will provide a consistent, standards-based approach for BC's six types of oral health professionals. The requirements of the pre-existing programs from the legacy regulators ended December 31, 2025, and the modernized QAP will go into effect April 2026, in alignment with the *Health Professions and Occupations Act (HPOA)* coming fully into force. [Learn more >>](#)

Background and development approach

The development of the modernized QAP was informed by [Guiding Principles](#) that reflect BCCOHP's regulatory values. The research phase of the project considered evidence which shaped the proposed program's underlying design.

[Learn more >>](#)

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Design of Component A

Component A of the modernized QAP comprises guided self-reflections and goal setting.

Component A: Guided self-reflections and goal setting

Purpose: Component A establishes the foundation of the QAP and assists oral health professionals in understanding their current professional performance and compliance with BCCOHP's Professional and Practice Standards, while providing initial supports to guide professional goal setting and action planning. This component promotes proactive reflection and shared responsibility for maintaining competence.

Frequency: Annual

Format: Online

Elements:

- Self-inventory (short and connected to practice-context, intended to identify relevant supports)
- Standards self-reflection (based on BCCOHP's *Professional Standards for the Oral Health Team*)
- Documentation of 2-3 professional goals
- Self-report of continuing professional development activities (not quantified by hours or credits; instead linked to learning needs and practice context (professional goals))
- Optional patient/peer experience survey

Design of Component B

Component B of the modernized QAP comprises standards-based education and knowledge application.

B: Standards-based education and knowledge application

Purpose:

Component B provides oral health professionals an opportunity to strengthen their ability to interpret and apply the BCCOHP standards which support the delivery of safe oral health care and aims to:

- Promote consistent understanding of BCCOHP’s standards across all oral health professions.
- Reinforce the link between BCCOHP’s standards and everyday practice.
- Provide a structured opportunity for oral health professionals to confirm their understanding of BCCOHP’s standards.

Frequency: Annual | **Format:** Online

Elements:

Scenario-based learning modules designed to help reinforce BCCOHP’s Professional and Practice Standards across practice settings. Modules* contain:

- Review of select principles for oral health care and practice standards
- Interspersed knowledge check activities

**BCCOHP anticipates that no more than three modules will be required each year.*

Design of Component C

Component C of the modernized QAP provides individualized support, as required.

C: Individualized Support (as needed)

Purpose: Serves as an individualized support-based follow-up within BCCOHP's QAP. While only a portion of oral health professionals will participate, it plays a vital role in maintaining the integrity of the program by ensuring that those who may benefit from additional support receive it through fair, standards-based, and right-touch processes.

Frequency: Each year, selected oral health professionals will be required to complete Component C.

Format: Online, telephone, or in-person (as indicated)

Selection process: Oral health professionals are identified to participate in Component C via an audit process designed to determine those who *may* benefit from individualized support. Initially this may include:

- Non-completion of Component A and/or B requirements.
- Random audit selection.

Elements:

This component is designed to provide an individualized, supportive process for those who may benefit from additional guidance to help them meet BCCOHP's Professional and Practice Standards. Elements include:

Self-assessment: this is a brief BCCOHP Professional and Practice Standards self-assessment

Tailored follow up: If further assistance is determined to be beneficial, an oral health professional may be assigned to a QA Assessor for the following:

- Review and discussion to receive tailored follow-up and support based on completion and engagement with Components A and B
- Co-development of professional goals and an action plan aligned with identified areas in practice
- Final recommendations from a QA Assessor

Transition Timeline

December 31, 2025: Pre-existing programs discontinued (oral health professionals notified in early December)

January 2026: Program design overview published.

March 2026: Oral health professionals receive information on:

- New QAP cycle assignment
- How to log in to the online QAP platform
- Where to begin Component A
- What to expect from your first learning modules in Component B

April 2026: Modernized QAP is in effect.

More information/resources

- BCCOHP [Quality Assurance webpage](#)
- BCCOHP modernized QAP [project webpage](#), [consultation update](#) and [FAQ](#)
- [Consultation findings summary report \(PDF\)](#)
- BCCOHP's [Professional Standards for the Oral Health Team](#)

Questions

Email qualityassurance@oralhealthbc.ca