

NYSDA Wins in 2025

Advocating for You, Advancing the Profession



QUICK GLANCE: 2025 NYSDA WINS

- **VCC Bill — signed into law:** dentists choose how they get paid.
- **Workers' Comp dental fee increase** (first since 2009).
- **SUNY Reconnect** includes dental hygiene with free tuition for adult learners.
- **Collaborative Dental Hygiene Practice Bill — signed into law:** expanding access to care.
- NYSDA continues to advocate daily for **fair reimbursements, workforce growth, and improved patient access.**

We've Got Your Back.

Each year, NYSDA works tirelessly at the Capitol to protect your profession, improve patient access to care, and strengthen the dental workforce. Through persistent advocacy and collaboration, we secured several key victories during the 2025 legislative session — all designed to make practicing dentistry in New York fairer, stronger, and more sustainable. Below are some of the wins your membership made possible this year.



VIRTUAL CREDIT CARD (VCC) BILL — SIGNED INTO LAW

Dentists can now choose how they get paid. NYSDA fought to end the practice of insurers forcing dentists into costly virtual credit card payments just to be reimbursed. This new law ensures fairness, flexibility, and transparency in reimbursement.



WORKERS' COMPENSATION FEE INCREASE

For the first time since 2009, the New York State Workers' Compensation Board has officially adopted a new Dental Fee Schedule, effective as of November 13, 2025. This long-awaited update represents a significant victory for fairness and modernized reimbursement across New York State. NYSDA has long championed the need for this revision.





SUNY RECONNECT — EXPANDING EDUCATION ACCESS

NYSDA successfully advocated for dental hygiene to be included in the SUNY Reconnect initiative, offering free tuition for adults aged 25–55 pursuing an associate degree in dental hygiene. Launching Fall 2025 at six SUNY community colleges, this major budget-backed initiative strengthens New York's dental workforce through accessible education.



COLLABORATIVE DENTAL HYGIENE BILL — SIGNED INTO LAW

This legislation allows dental hygienists to collaborate with dentists outside traditional hospital settings, expanding access to care in underserved communities, all under the control of an actively involved dentist. It's a win for patients, public health, and the profession. This bill reflects what organized dentistry can achieve when we work together.

2026 Advocacy Priorities

NYSDA will continue advancing the following legislative priorities in 2026, all of which remain active from the 2025–2026 legislative session:

Passed in 2025:

- Regulation of discounts for non-covered dental services (passed Assembly, 2025)
- Creation of a Dental Loss Ratio for insurers (passed Assembly, 2025)
- Authority for dentists to administer HPV vaccination (passed Senate, 2025)
- Authority for dentists to administer multiple vaccinations (passed Senate, 2025)
- Support for dentist loan repayment and practice support payments (passed Senate, 2025)

Introduced in 2025:

- Amendments to the residency requirement for dental licensure
- Regulation of provider network leasing by insurance plans (introduced in Assembly and Senate, 2025)
- Authorization for the assignment of claims reimbursement (introduced Assembly, 2025)

Building on these successes, NYSDA aims to achieve further progress on all of these priorities in 2026. Additionally, NYSDA supports the American Dental Association's initiatives to expand federal options for student loan forgiveness, as well as retention and extension of federal tax credits for dental practices operating as small businesses.



Learn more at nysdental.org/advocacy

