



What is The Dawson Academy Lab Association?

The Dawson Academy Lab Association (DALA) is a group of independent (from the Academy) labs that practice the Dawson Concept of Complete Dentistry® and work to facilitate the relationship between like-minded Dawson trained dentists and laboratory technicians.

Mission Statement

The Mission of the Dawson Academy Lab Association is to connect Dawson trained dentists with Dawson trained lab technicians so together they can provide excellent patient care and the highest quality dentistry based on The Concept of Complete Dentistry® as taught by The Dawson Academy.

Why is it Important to Dentists?

One of the greatest challenges facing dentists learning to practice the Dawson Concept of Complete Dentistry® is finding a lab to work with that employs technicians with the necessary knowledge and skills to support the Academy's functional occlusion principles. Through the DALA, Dawson trained dentists are able to find labs with technicians who have the knowledge and skills needed to support them as they strive to practice Complete Dentistry®.

By working with a DALA member, dentists are able to engage with a technician from the earliest stages of treatment planning, thereby reducing costly remakes and excessive placement time and thus experience an increase in profits through predictable treatment results.

Why is it Important to DALA Members?

The Dawson Academy is committed to promoting member labs that are technically proficient in all aspects of the functional occlusion principles taught by the Academy as well as emphasizing the role of the laboratory technician as an integral part of the dental specialist team. The vehicle for achieving these objectives is the Dawson Academy Lab Association. Members are provided with opportunities to network with colleagues and dentists within the Dawson community.

One of the greatest and most costly challenges facing dental labs today is obtaining complete, accurate records and lab scripts in order to produce high quality, predictable restorations. When labs are forced to guess about contours, edges, occlusions, etc., the resulting restorations often need to be redone, placing a financial strain on the lab as well as on the dentist-technician-lab relationship. Working with Dawson-trained dentists increases the likelihood of success for the lab and the dentist, as together they strive for a predictable, stable, long-lasting, esthetic result for the patient.

The **Dawson Credentialed Technician** designation provides easy identification within the dental community as someone who can provide exceptional outcomes for Complete Dentistry® cases and who has the ability to treatment plan and produce results according to the Dawson protocol.

The **Dawson Qualified Lab** designation indicates a lab with state of the art facilities, exceptional customer service, quality results and an environment supporting learning and growth of its employees.

Goals of the Association

- Connect dentists and technicians trained in the Dawson Concept of Complete Dentistry®.
- Promote the dental laboratory technician as a member of the specialist team and partner in the provision of Complete Dentistry®.
- Elevate and recognize the education of dental technicians in the areas of functional occlusion and esthetics.

Advisory Board

Dr. Glenn E. DuPont – Chair

Dr. Peter E. Dawson (Emeritus)

Anthony Calonico, CDT, Artistic Dental Studio

Scott Clark, DAL Signature Restorations

Scott Finlay, DDS

Joan Forrest, The Dawson Academy

Shannon Johnson, DMD

Lonnie Lee, Knight Dental Group

Walt Richardson, CDT, Bay View Dental Lab

Jim Robinson, CDT, Whip Mix Corporation

Jeff Stubblefield, DAL Signature Restorations

Pat Taylor, CDT, Ivoclar Vivadent, Inc.

Karl Wundermann, CDT, Dentistry International Florida

Harold Yates, Bay View Dental Lab

Responsibilities of the Advisory Board

- Oversee the evaluation process for Qualified Labs and Credentialed Technicians.
- Appoint and direct subcommittees as needed.
- Direct the creation and maintenance of the written examination for the Credentialed technician process.
- Recommend the content of the core curriculum for technicians.
- Annually evaluate the core curriculum for technicians and recommend changes as necessary.
- Select members of the evaluation team.
- Ensure the members of the evaluation team receive proper training and are calibrated.
- Nominate future members for the Advisory Board.
- Be an advocate for labs, lab technicians and the DALA.

Advisory Board Terms

The 12 members of the Advisory Board (exclusive of Peter Dawson and Joan Forrest) will serve three year terms. Every year, four new members will be appointed to replace the four members who have completed their term of service. Members may serve two consecutive terms upon invitation from the President of The Dawson Academy.

The initial terms of Advisory Board Service will end as follows:

Year End 2014: Karl Wundermann, Shannon Johnson, Jim Robinson, Walt Richardson

Year End 2015: Lonnie Lee, Pat Taylor, Scott Finlay, Scott Clark

Year End 2016: Harold Yates, Jeff Stubblefield, Anthony Calonico, Glenn DuPont

Tiers of Members

There are two categories of members in the DALA: individual laboratory technicians and commercial labs.

I. Individual Membership

MEMBER

Member designation is for those technicians who have completed a minimum of one course at The Dawson Academy.

SCHOLAR

Scholar designation is reserved for those technicians who have completed the laboratory technician core curriculum of The Dawson Academy. Currently the core curriculum for lab technicians is composed of three seminars and two hands-on courses.

Seminars: Functional Occlusion – From TMJ to Smile Design, Achieving Predictable Esthetic Results and Advanced Problem Solving.

Hands-On: Treatment Planning Functional Esthetic Excellence and Esthetic Foundations I.

DAWSON ACADEMY CREDENTIALLED TECHNICIAN

The Dawson Academy Credentialed Technician designation is awarded to those technicians who have achieved Scholar status (completed the core curriculum for dental technicians) and demonstrated competency as described below:

- Passed a written exam demonstrating a thorough understanding of the Concept of Complete Dentistry® principles, requirements and techniques.
- The Scholar would document and present to the Dawson Academy Examination Board, a successful case demonstrating the effective management of the functional matrix steps in delivery of restorations that is consistent with the standards of the Concept of Complete Dentistry®. The case must demonstrate the knowledge and skills required to produce a result consistent

with the standards set forth in the text “Functional Occlusion: From TMJ to Smile Design”. Case documentations should include the conforming protocol outlined by the Dawson Academy Photographic Checklist of pre-op and post-op images, including additional images of prototype management, laboratory matrices (custom incisal guide table and incisal edge matrix) as well as a chronology of the steps from the bench top involved in building the indirect restorations. To best evaluate the Scholar’s understanding of the aforementioned concepts and techniques, case selection should be comprehensive and involve, at least, the maxillary anterior six teeth.

- Obtained a written recommendation from 2 Dawson trained dentists who have achieved Scholar Status.
- Passed an oral review of the submitted case, conducted by the Dawson Academy Examination Board.

Maintenance of the Credential

True excellence requires continued education and deliberate practice to maintain a level of contemporary proficiency. In that regard, maintenance of an earned credential will require completion of two of the following, every three (3) years:

- Education requirement (i.e., attendance at an annual Dawson update program, audit of a previously attended class, or serving as a teaching faculty of TDA).
- Presentation of a case demonstrating the Dawson Protocol, with appropriate referencing, to be placed in publication by The Dawson Academy upon approval by the Clinical Director of The Dawson Academy.
- Letters of recommendation from 2 Dawson Scholar Dentists for whom the technician has completed work within the last calendar year.

II. Lab Membership

DAWSON ACADEMY QUALIFIED LAB

The Dawson Academy Qualified Lab designation identifies labs that meet the standards described below:

- State of the art facilities.
- Outstanding quality of products and service, as critiqued by their customers.
- Fosters an environment of learning and growth of their employees.
- Full time employment of a Dawson Credentialed Lab Technician in good standing.

ACHIEVEMENT OF THE QUALIFIED LAB DESIGNATION REQUIRES:

- Submission of photographs or video of the lab that include overall layout, equipment, working environment for technicians, receiving and shipping departments, model prep area, office/administrative area (if applicable), and any other areas necessary to provide an overall impression of the state of the facilities.
- Letters of recommendation from at least 2 Dawson dentists who have achieved scholar level and for whom work has been completed within the previous 3 months.
- Copy of services offered and price list.
- Copy of any printed promotional materials used within the previous calendar year.
- Submission of an employee census that includes (for each person): length of service with the lab, total length of service in the laboratory technology field, CE completed within the previous calendar year, certifications, accreditations, other achievements.
- A confidential employee survey focused on organizational culture administered by The Dawson Academy and completed by every employee. The results will go directly to TDA personnel and will be confidential. The laboratory ownership will receive a report summary, but no individual survey responses will be disclosed.
- A confidential customer satisfaction survey administered by The Dawson Academy, the results of which will be confidential. The laboratory will receive a summary report.

Maintenance of the Designation

The designation will remain in effect for three (3) years. In order to maintain the designation, the laboratory will:

- Provide two letters of recommendation from at least 2 Dawson dentists who have achieved scholar level and for whom work has been completed within the previous 3 months.
- Submit updated photos or videos of the lab.
- Supply a copy of any printed promotional materials used within the previous year.
- Submit an updated employee census, as described above.
- Participate in a confidential employee survey and customer satisfaction survey as described above.

Membership Benefits and Fees

Member

- Listing on the Lab Association section of The Dawson Academy website, Lab Association Section.
- Inclusion in the Lab Association Directory, which will be included in all Dawson Academy course manuals.
- Recognition at all Dawson Academy courses with special nametag ribbon.
- Dawson Academy Lapel Pin.*
- Invitation to annual Dawson Academy Alumni Retreat.
- 40% discount off listed tuition to audit any seminar class already attended (as space is available, first come first serve).

Fee: \$299 - year 1. Renewal at \$199 per year.

Scholar

- Upgraded listing on the Lab Association section of The Dawson Academy website to reflect Scholar status.
- Inclusion in the Lab Association Directory, which will be included in all Dawson Academy course manuals, with the upgraded designation of Scholar.
- Recognition at all Dawson Academy courses with special nametag ribbon.
- Dawson Academy Lapel Pin*.
- Invitation to annual Dawson Academy Alumni Retreat.
- 40% discount off listed tuition to audit any seminar class already attended (as space is available, first come first serve).
- Congratulatory letter from Drs. Peter Dawson and John Cranham recognizing the member's commitment to excellence and suitable for framing.
- Press release highlighting member's education at The Dawson Academy.

Fee: \$299 - year 1. Renewal at \$199 per year.

Dawson Academy Credentialed Technician

- Upgraded listing on The Dawson Academy Website, Lab Association section, to reflect Credentialed status.
- Inclusion in the Lab Association Directory, which will be included in all Dawson Academy course manuals, with the upgraded status of Dawson Academy Credentialed Technician.
- Recognition at all Dawson Academy courses with special nametag ribbon.
- Dawson Academy Lapel Pin*.
- Invitation to annual The Dawson Academy Alumni Retreat.
- 40% discount off listed tuition to audit any seminar class already attended (as space is available, first come first serve).
- Permission to use the The Dawson Academy Lab Association logo.
- Congratulatory letter from Drs. Peter Dawson and John Cranham recognizing the member's commitment to excellence.
- Press release highlighting member's education at The Dawson Academy.

- Special nametag ribbon for all TDA courses/functions-designating member as a Dawson Academy Credentialed Technician.
- Special recognition at the annual Dawson Academy Alumni Dinner and presentation of Dawson Academy Credentialed Technician award.
- Eligibility to serve on DALA Board.
- Opportunity to post a completed case featuring your work on The Dawson Academy website.

Fee†: \$299 - year 1. Renewal at \$199 per year.

†An additional fee will be required for taking the written examination and for submission of cases for evaluation.

Dawson Qualified Lab

- Listing on the Lab Association section of The Dawson Academy Website with link to the lab's website.
- Listing in the Lab Association Section of all Dawson Academy Course Manuals.
- Permission to use The Dawson Academy Lab Association logo on lab materials and communications.
- Special recognition at the Annual Alumni Association Dinner and presentation of award to display in the lab recognizing status as a DALA Qualified Lab.
- Press release highlighting status as DALA Qualified Lab.
- Congratulatory letter from Drs. Peter Dawson and John Cranham recognizing the lab's commitment to excellence.

Annual Fee: \$750

Notes:

- * The membership lapel pins are given at the time of initial membership or qualification. Replacement pins may be purchased, if necessary.

The Lab Section of The Dawson Academy website, and the Lab Association listing in course manuals will list members according to their tier of membership. The requirements for attaining those tiers will also be clearly delineated. The following disclaimer will appear with all listings:

The Dawson Academy cannot, nor does not, make any warranty or representation about the professional skills of those technicians or labs listed in this directory. Attendance at post-graduate continuing education should not be construed as a representation of measured expertise, competence, qualification or experience. The Dawson Academy disclaims any liability whatsoever for the errors or omissions of any technician, lab or member of a lab's staff. Participation in the Dawson Academy Lab Association is strictly voluntary. In no event shall The Dawson Academy be liable to any individual for any decision made or for action taken by those who rely on the information in this website for any reason.

Letter of Recommendation

FOR CREDENTIALLED LAB TECHNICIAN

Candidate Name: _____ Date: _____

Lab Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone – Day: _____ Phone – Evening: _____

Doctor's Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone – Day: _____ Phone – Evening: _____

How long have you worked with the candidate? _____

Date of last case completed with the candidate? _____

Describe the types of cases you have completed with the candidate: _____

Provide a short statement as to the reasons for recommending the candidate: _____

On a scale of 1 – 10 with 10 being the highest, please evaluate the following:

Function: _____ Esthetics: _____ Dentist-Technician Communication: _____

Knowledge of Dawson principles: _____ Treatment planning: _____

Letter of Recommendation FOR QUALIFIED DENTAL LAB

Lab Name: _____ Date: _____

Contact Name and Title: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone – Day: _____ Phone – Evening: _____

Doctor's Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone – Day: _____ Phone – Evening: _____

How long have you worked with this lab? _____

Date of last case completed with this lab? _____

Describe the types of cases this lab has completed for you: _____

Provide a short statement as to the reasons for recommending the lab: _____

On a scale of 1 – 10 (with 10 being the highest), please evaluate the following:

Quality of Work Produced: _____ On Time Performance: _____

Timely Communication with the Technician: _____

Ease of Doing Business With: _____ Overall Customer Service Experience: _____

Is the Lab adhering to manufacturer protocols in all departments? YES: _____ NO: _____ DON'T KNOW: _____

If 'NO' please explain: _____

Is the lab an effective partner in treatment planning? YES: _____ NO: _____

Are you able to choose which technician(s) will do your work? YES: _____ NO: _____

Have you ever physically visited the lab? YES: _____ NO: _____

If yes, please describe your impression of the lab: _____

Application

CREDENTIALLED LAB TECHNICIAN

Candidate Name: _____ Date: _____

Lab Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone – Day: _____ Phone – Evening: _____

How long have you worked at your current lab? _____

Please list any degrees, credentials, awards, or honors you have received, from whom it was received and the year in which it was received.

List all CE you have taken in the past 5 years. Include name of course, course provider, location taken, length of the course and CE credits received.

Please describe why you wish to pursue the Credentialed Technician Process with The Dawson Academy.

Lab Name: _____ Date: _____

Contact Name and Title: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone – Day: _____ Phone – Evening: _____

When was the lab founded? _____

How many full time technicians are employed? _____ Part time technicians? _____

Current number of active clients? _____

Do you have any offshore locations or providers? Explain: _____

Please describe all the services provided by the lab: _____

List all Dawson Courses attended by technicians in the lab and include the technicians' name and date attended.

Continue to back

Describe the current technologies the lab employs: _____

Provide a short history of the evolution of this lab. _____

Please add any additional comments you believe are important for the evaluators to know about the lab.
