

Christopher N. Weber, DDS, AAACD

AACD Member Since
2017

What position are you applying for?

American Board of Cosmetic Dentistry

Are you an Accredited Member?

Yes

Provide your condensed bio in one paragraph

Dr. Chris Weber lives and practices in Franklin, TN. He grew up in a dental family and attended the University of the Pacific, graduating in 2015. After meeting Dr. JA Reynolds and acquiring his practice, Chris joined the AACD and began his accreditation journey in 2018 under JA's mentorship. He received his accreditation in 2023. Chris and his wife, Katelyn, have 1 son and 2 dogs. They enjoy traveling and spending time doing outdoor activities with the family.

List current or previous volunteer leadership positions (committees/boards) you've held within the AACD

This is the first committee/board position that I have been asked to participate in and look forward to showing the AACD what I can offer.

Describe any leadership experience you've had within your community or other dental organizations

My background in leadership is mostly through sports and school. I am younger and have not had the opportunity yet to participate in leadership roles outside of owning my practice. I have been looking forward to starting a leadership journey in dentistry.

Have you served on boards in the past? If so, what have you learned from this experience?

I have not. This will be a great opportunity to offer my services.

Why are you applying for this position?

I strongly believe in what the AACD stands for. I think that AACD needs some youth in positions for the reason of carrying through visions for the long haul in the organization. Leadership and other roles in AACD is something that I would like to be a life long endeavor.

What is your vision for the future of the AACD?

AACD is doing an amazing job of upholding the gold standard of cosmetic dentistry. There has been a long push to have Cosmetic Dentistry be a recognized specialty. I will continue this pursuit, although it is not new. I would like to see more involvement in young dentists starting their career. This would be done through more mentorship, specifically towards transitions and getting careers started. As a young dentist, there are so many challenges that you are not even aware of their existence. To have a mentor that can help with not only cosmetic dentistry, but also business and career decisions, would be a giant bonus we can offer.

We are interested in learning about your leadership skills and organization style. Tell us what we could expect and how you work with others. Be specific.

I have an exceptionally even keeled personality. My feathers don't get ruffled. I respect that every person has their own opinions and visions. It is important to hear those opinions and to put yourself in others' shoes to understand why they believe what they do. I have a talent for understanding people and what they need. Then using that to put together a group and work cohesively on a common vision forward.

Serving the AACD requires people to take on projects and see them to completion, often

working with others to accomplish specific goals. Tell us about your accomplishments and approach to fulfilling obligations.

I am a completion-ist by nature. There are not unfinished projects in my life that don't at least have a path forward to completing them. I often overwork to make sure a task or project gets done.

The AACD offers our members a superb opportunity to form friendships which could be brought into conflict when policy decisions or approaches must be addressed. Tell us about how you might balance those friendships when policy or ethical issues create such a conflict.

I am a strong believer is right and wrong. Policies, business, ethics, all have very distinct rights and wrongs. I don't have a problem sticking to my moral compass in the face of relationships. If a relationship is jeopardized by a policy decision that I will make, then that is not truly a strong relationship. I respect that each person has the right to their own opinions.

What do you bring to this position that is unique or distinctive? How will you make a difference?

Youth and how that relates to getting started in AACD. I was the youngest member to achieve accreditation. This was not done alone. I worked hand in hand with Dr. JA Reynolds and we developed a relationship that helped accelerate a career in cosmetic dentistry that likely would have taken me another decade to achieve. I have insight and vision into how we made this happen. I would like to use this as a template to help other dentists kick start and accelerate their careers in cosmetic dentistry.

Please give us an idea of where you see your interests and expertise supporting the advancement of the AACD strategic plan and reflecting an alignment with the Academy's core purpose.

My specific interests lie in the pursuit of building a successful business/practice that allows the fostering of high end cosmetic dentistry. If we want AACD to be the "preferred pathway" for cosmetic dentistry, then we need to help foster and mentor the types of practices that have been created by our members. I have shared some ideas about this below in the question 22.

Ultimately, the purpose of serving the AACD is to support our membership. Tell us how you see yourself relating to the membership and forming a bridge between the Board and our members.

I believe that our Board members are some of the most involved and easily reachable members of our organization. They believe in AACD and want to see it thrive. They are the ones reaching out and putting in extra effort to see the membership grow. I acknowledge that this bridge already exists between the Board and our members, and my goal would be to continue this. Continue to be a part of AACD and the events that are put on. Talk with members and offer support/advise/mentorship.

What unique ideas do you have to build and grow our membership?

I have two ideas that I would like to explore and pursue.

-The first is a business mentorship. As corporate dentistry and DSOs sweeps through our industry, a lot of dentists are left confused on how to run a successful cosmetic oriented practice. AACD provides the most concentrated group of individuals who are running successful cosmetic practices. Oddly, we don't have any mentorship programs on this topic though. I would like to see this changed.

-Our organization has a giant group of dentists who are looking to sell/retire/transition their practice. I would like to start a program on successful transitions with the type of practices that we run. Dr. JA Reynolds and I had a wonderfully enjoyable private transition of our practice. We have talked about creating a template or coaching/course program to help educate our members on how to successfully and enjoyably transition their practice.

Please list any leadership courses or webinars taken. Leadership training is highly recommended.

None. I would love recommendations on courses to take and will jump on it!

What else should we know in order to consider you as an applicant for this position?

I am humbled and grateful for the opportunity to be considered for a Board position in AACD. This organization has helped me grow both personally and professionally. I want to give back to the organization by helping others along this same journey. Thank you for your consideration.