

Q & A About the UConn School of Dental Medicine's Policy on Interactions with Industry for SDM Events

1. **Can I still invite an industry representative to my office?** Yes, you may invite an industry representative to visit you personally in your office.
2. **Can I invite a representative to give a talk to residents or to faculty?** Yes, but with certain limitations. Ideally a committee like the ADGE Committee should review your annual plans for such invitations before they occur and advise on how many or what type of presentation should occur. The primary concern should be that the presentation is educational and evidence-based and devoid of marketing of a particular product as much as possible. Until the ADGE Committee becomes active in this annual review for divisions and programs, the Division Chair or Program Director should act as a prudent monitor of these invitations for industry representative presentations.
3. **Can an industry representative provide food or samples at their presentation?** No. Samples should not be directly distributed to residents and faculty. The representative may discuss a formal donation of samples to the clinics with the Sr. Associate Dean for Education and Patient Care. In terms of food, the answer is no. Representative are not permitted to provide food directly to residents or faculty.
4. **Is there any other way for an industry representative to support food or beverages at an internal function?** Yes. A UConn Foundation fund called the *Industry Fund for Dental Resident Education* has been established. Industries can contribute funds to this account and can ask that funds be directed to a specific department, division or program, but the donor cannot specify how the funds are to be specifically used. You may direct potential donors to the Sr. Associate Dean for Education and Patient Care.
5. **How does this fund work?** Before you can use any money in the Fund, a donor from industry must contribute to it. Again, the donor cannot dictate the specific use of dollars donated other than for the general purposes of dental resident education. Funds may be requested by faculty to support a specific educational activity. Requests for food and beverage are limited to \$10 per attendee. Because funds may be limited and are to be shared across departments, programs and divisions, directors are encouraged to carefully plan their activities prior to the start of the academic year; last minute requests are discouraged.
6. **If food and beverage is purchased from this Fund, can we mention the sponsor directly?** Yes, but only in a general manner. The language must include a statement that the activity was supported by the Fund and which Industry sponsors have donated to the Fund in the prior 12 months. For example, "This activity is supported by the *UConn Foundation Industry Fund for Dental Resident Education*, which is supported in part by Henry Schein and Stryker." Any publicity (e.g. emails, flyers, written acknowledgements at the events) must comply with this language.
7. **Who will monitor compliance with the new policies?** For resident education, the ADGE Committee will begin to do this soon; it will be asked to conduct an annual review of industry presentations using reports submitted by each program and it may also be asked to approve a general plan for the next or upcoming year. On a school basis, the Committee for SDM Industry Interactions will continually address compliance-related questions.
8. **Can our department, division or program use funds donated to the Industry Fund to support external dinners, luncheons or social events for residents or faculty?** Only to a very limited degree. Appropriate events might be awards dinners or graduation dinners. In all such cases, industry representatives are not to be present. During the event, support from the Fund can again be mentioned along with partial support from a particular sponsor or representative but that should be the extent of industry reference or involvement. Dinners, lunches or other external events for the purpose of marketing of a product are not permissible under this new policy. When the focus is primarily educational, the event should be scheduled internally under the prevailing school policies.
9. **What are the procedures for holding an industry-related event?** All School events that interact with industry must: A) Be pre-approved using the School's approval request form which must be submitted at least 4 weeks prior to the event and B) Complete the Post-Event report which provides the opportunity to both evaluate the event and report on compliance with guidelines. This form should be submitted within 4 weeks of the event. Forms should be submitted to Ms. Jennifer Lindquist via email at jlindquist@uchc.edu, by inter-office mail to mail code 3905 or in person to suite AG030. All forms can be found on the [UConn School of Dental Medicine Governance and Administration](#) website. Failure to obtain appropriate approval or to submit application and report forms may result in denial of approval of any and all future requests.