



Frequently Asked Questions

Answers to questions about how the ASTDD Foundation, Inc. strengthens leaders and improves oral health.

What is the ASTDD Foundation?

The Foundation is a philanthropic arm established to advance the mission of the Association of State and Territorial Dental Directors (ASTDD). It exists to strengthen and sustain ASTDD's work in supporting state and territorial oral health programs.

Why was the Foundation created?

ASTDD has long relied significantly on federal funding to carry out its mission. Establishing the Foundation is a proactive step to:

- Diversify funding streams
- Build long-term financial sustainability
- Increase organizational resilience
- Provide flexibility to respond to emerging needs
- Invest in leadership and innovation

The Foundation helps ensure that ASTDD's impact continues and grows in a changing oral public health environment.

Does the Foundation operate programs separate from ASTDD?

In the future, the Foundation may sponsor or administer grant-funded initiatives (e.g., scholarships, pilot projects, or special funds), but it does not operate programs that are independent of ASTDD's mission. All Foundation-supported activities are designed to advance ASTDD's strategic priorities and core work, and all funding will align with ASTDD's mission and strategic direction.

Why is this important now?

Public and oral health funding landscapes are evolving. Establishing a philanthropic arm positions ASTDD to build financial resilience proactively, rather than in response to future funding disruptions.

How does this benefit state and territorial oral health programs?

Ultimately, the Foundation helps protect and enhance the support systems that states and territories rely on. By strengthening ASTDD's financial sustainability and flexibility, the Foundation ensures that technical assistance remains strong, leadership development continues, and innovation will be supported.

What does the Foundation logo represent?

The ASTDD Foundation visual identity represents leadership in motion. The forward-leaning star symbolizes guidance, aspiration, and national impact, while its upward momentum reflects progress and growth. The blue conveys trust, stability, and expertise; the green signals vitality and sustainability.

What is the Foundation's message?

The Foundation's tagline is: "Strengthening Leaders. Improving Oral Health." This reflects its commitment to investing in leadership, innovation, and sustainability to ensure that ASTDD, and the communities it serves, will thrive into the future.



Join us in building stronger programs, partnerships, and outcomes.

Contact us to learn more

