



NAVY MEDICINE *FAST FACTS*

February 2025

NAVAL POSTGRADUATE DENTAL SCHOOL (NPDS)

The flagship for Navy dental education, strengthening military readiness and force generation through cutting edge, high-impact training programs.

- **Founded in 1923:** The Naval Postgraduate Dental School (NPDS), originally known as the Naval Dental School, was established on Feb. 3, 1923.
- **Operational Leader Development:** NPDS' core mission remains steadfast: to develop future leaders by training operationally oriented dental specialists to meet fleet requirements in support of warfighter and readiness missions through knowledge, skills, and abilities (KSAs) establishment and sustainment.
- **Force Generation:** NPDS serves as the primary force generating producer of postgraduate dental specialists for the fleet.



16 NPDS graduates in CY24 including seven residencies and one fellowship



NPDS Continuing Education Hours/Courses

15 live courses with **354** attendees earning a total of **422.5** hours of Continuing Dental Education (CDE).

16 number of distance learning courses with **325** participants earning a total of **6,850** hours of CDE.

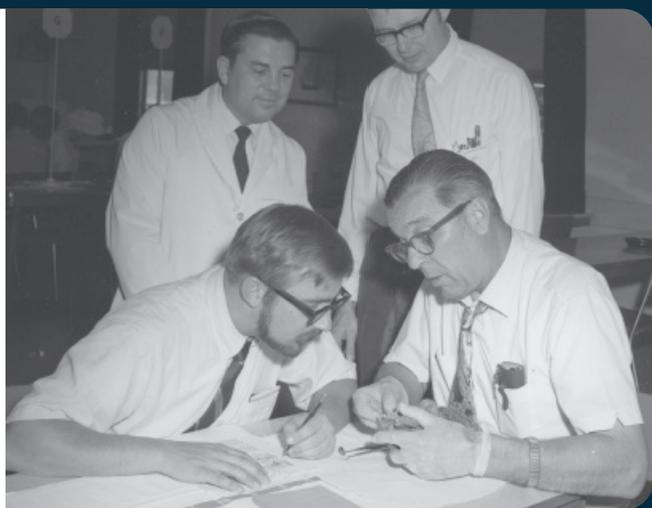
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NAVY MEDICINE TIMECAPSULE – NPDS THROUGH THE YEARS



- **1923-1932:** Naval Dental School (NDS) established as a department of Naval Medical School. Courses include medical department duties, bacteriology, dental prosthetics, clinical dentistry, dental radiology, minor oral surgery, general pathology, hematology, and metallurgy.
- **1932-1936:** NDS deactivated; staff absorbed into Naval Hospital Washington, D.C.
- **1936-1942:** NDS reactivated as part of the Naval Medical Center, Washington, D.C. Commanding officer is placed in charge of NDS.
- **1942:** NDS relocates to Bethesda and becomes part of the National Naval Medical Center (NNMC).

- **1942-1971:** Naval Dental School serves as a component command of NNMC.
- **1971:** NDS becomes Naval Graduate Dental School (NGDS).
- **1975:** NGDS redesignated the National Naval Dental Center (NNDC). A “director of educational services” is placed in charge of school.
- **1976:** NNDC becomes part of the Naval Regional Dental Center (NRDC).
- **1983:** Naval Dental School (NDS) reemerges as a component command of the Naval Dental Clinic (NDC), formerly NRDC.



- **1989:** NDC disestablished; NDS reorganized under NNDC.
- **2001:** NDS renamed the Naval Postgraduate Dental School (NPDS) emphasizing its mission to provide outstanding advanced education and training to dental officers.
- **2004:** Title of “director of educational services” changed to “dean.” NNDC is disestablished and NPDS realigned under NNMC.
- **2009:** NPDS realigned under the Navy Medicine Manpower, Personnel, Training and Education Command (NMMPT&E).
- **2012:** NPDS realigned under the Navy Medicine Professional Development Center (NMPDC).
- **2020:** NMPDC is renamed Naval Medical Leader and Professional Development Command (NMLPDC).