



American
Association of
Orthodontists®

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The American Association of Orthodontists Appoints Lynne Thomas Gordon as New Executive Director

ST. LOUIS, October 26, 2017 – The Board of Trustees of the American Association of Orthodontists (AAO) announces the appointment of Lynne Thomas Gordon, MBA, RHIA, CAE, FACHE, FAHIMA, as its executive director, effective January 8, 2018.

“Lynne was the clear choice as the next leader of our organization due to her experience, energy, commitment to vision and ability to connect with AAO members and staff,” said Brent E. Larson, DDS, MS, chair of the AAO search committee and the AAO president-elect. “We are delighted that her passion will be directed to benefit our members and the patients we serve.”

A fixture within the healthcare industry, Gordon brings more than 30 years of healthcare and association leadership experience to the AAO. Most recently, she was the CEO of the Chicago-based American Health Information Management Association, a position she had held since 2011. Gordon had previously served as the Associate Vice President of Operations and Director of Rush Children’s Hospital in Chicago, Administrator of Houston Medical Center in Warner Robins, Georgia, and COO of Children’s Hospital of Michigan in Detroit.

“I have great respect for the orthodontist professional and the work they do to create healthy, beautiful smiles. It is with immense pleasure and pride that I accept this role,” said Gordon. “It will be an honor to work with such a dedicated Board of Trustees as well as the AAO staff.”

Gordon has been nominated several times by *Modern Healthcare* as one of the “100 Most Influential People in Healthcare” and has provided numerous interviews and articles to publications such as *The New York Times*, *CNBC*, *The Wall Street Journal*, *Modern Healthcare*, *Bloomberg*, *The Washington Post*, *Politico*, *Health Leaders* and *The New Yorker*, among others. She holds an MBA and is a Certified Association Executive (CAE), board certified in healthcare management as an ACHE Fellow

(FACHE), a Registered Health Information Administrator (RHIA), and a Fellow of the American Health Information Management Association (FAHIMA).

Under Gordon's leadership, the AAO will continue to educate the public about the benefits of orthodontic treatment by AAO orthodontists; improve the health of the public by promoting quality orthodontic care and the importance of overall oral healthcare; advocate for the public interest; promote the highest standards of excellence in orthodontic education and practice; and support AAO members in the practice of orthodontics. The AAO will continue to provide support to orthodontic education programs and orthodontic research through its charitable arm, the AAO Foundation, incorporated as a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit corporation.

About 88 percent of U.S. orthodontists are members of the AAO. For more information about orthodontic care, or to locate members of the American Association of Orthodontists in the U.S., Canada or worldwide, visit www.aaoinfo.org.

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About the American Association of Orthodontists

Members of the American Association of Orthodontists (AAO) help children, teenagers and adults achieve healthy, beautiful smiles.

Orthodontists are uniquely qualified specialists who diagnose, prevent and treat dental and facial irregularities to correctly align teeth and jaws. To become orthodontic specialists, orthodontists first graduate from dental school, then successfully complete an additional two to three years of specialized education in orthodontics at an accredited orthodontic residency program. Only orthodontists qualify for AAO membership.

The AAO was founded in 1900, and is the world's oldest and largest dental specialty organization. It represents more than 19,000 orthodontist members throughout the United States, Canada and abroad. The AAO encourages and sponsors key research to enable its members to provide the highest quality of care to patients, and is committed to educating the public about the need for, and benefits of, orthodontic treatment.

For more information, and to find nearby AAO orthodontists, visit www.aaoinfo.org.

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