The American Association of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons (AAOMS) will celebrate its centennial anniversary during its 100th Annual Meeting, Scientific Sessions and Exhibition, taking place Oct. 8-13 in Chicago. More than 4,000 oral and maxillofacial surgeons, faculty, residents and others are expected to gather in the city where the association was originally founded. In 1918, 29 doctors convened to hold the first meeting of the American Society of Exodontists, the organization that later became AAOMS.

The AAOMS Annual Meeting will feature approximately 170 educational programs at the Hilton Chicago and McCormick Place West. Sessions will expound on timely topics, such as the treatment of war injuries, advancements in cancer care and emerging technologies in maxillofacial nerve injuries.

Among other highlights of the centennial celebration are:

- A history museum will showcase artifacts related to the specialty — such as surgical mallets and cheek retractors — a historical timeline of association milestones and videos of interviews of past association presidents.
- A "100 Years of AAOMS" course will summarize the specialty’s history and discuss the evolution from exodontists to oral and maxillofacial surgeons.
- Former Secretary of State and Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, General Colin L. Powell, USA (Ret.), will deliver the meeting’s keynote address, “Leadership: Taking Charge,” on Oct. 10.
- A new educational program will feature nine tracks based on the OMS scope of practice: anesthesia, cosmetic and orthognathic surgery, dental implants, dentoalveolar, head and neck oncology, pediatrics and cleft, reconstruction, temporomandibular joint and trauma.

Registration is now open. More information is available at AAOMS.org/Chicago.