

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

1st Session of the 57th Legislature (2019)

SENATE BILL NO.603

By: Montgomery

AS INTRODUCED

An Act relating to dentistry; amending 59 O.S. 2011, Section 328.21, as last amended by Section 7, Chapter 229, O.S.L. 2015 (59 O.S. Supp. 2018, Section 328.21), which relates to examination; broadening permitted examinations for licensure; 59 O.S. 2011, Section 328.22, as last amended by Section 4, Chapter 151, O.S.L. 2018 (59 O.S. Supp. 2018, Section 328.22), which relates to specialty license; deleting certain requirement for specialty license; and providing an effective date.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 59 O.S. 2011, Section 328.21, as last amended by Section 7, Chapter 229, O.S.L. 2015 (59 O.S. Supp. 2018, Section 328.21), is amended to read as follows:

Section 328.21. A. No person shall practice dentistry or dental hygiene without first applying for and obtaining a license from the Board of Dentistry.

B. Application shall be made to the Board in writing and shall be accompanied by the fee established by the rules of the Board, together with satisfactory proof that the applicant:

1. Is of good moral character;

1 2. Is twenty-one (21) years of age, or over, at the time of
2 making application to practice dentistry or eighteen (18) years of
3 age, or over, if the applicant is to practice dental hygiene;

4 3. Has passed a written theoretical examination and a clinical
5 examination approved by the Board; and

6 4. Has passed a written jurisprudence examination over the
7 rules and laws affecting dentistry in this state.

8 C. An application from a candidate who desires to secure a
9 license from the Board to practice dentistry or dental hygiene in
10 this state shall be accompanied by satisfactory proof that the
11 applicant :

12 1. Is a graduate of an accredited dental college, if the
13 applicant is to practice dentistry;

14 2. Is a graduate of an accredited dental hygiene program, if
15 the applicant is to practice dental hygiene;

16 3. Has passed all portions of the National Board Dental
17 Examination or the National Board Dental Hygiene Examination; and

18 4. Has passed the Western Regional Examination Board (WREB),
19 Central Regional Dental Testing Service (CRDTS) examination or
20 another regional exam as approved by the Board, as specified in
21 Section 328.15 of this title, which includes the following
22 components:

23 a. a prosthetic component,

24 b. a periodontal component,

1 c. an endodontic component, and

2 d. an anterior and posterior restorative component on a
3 live patient.

4 D. When the applicant and the accompanying proof are found
5 satisfactory, the Board shall notify the applicant to appear for the
6 jurisprudence examination at the time and place to be fixed by the
7 Board. A dental student or a dental hygiene student in their last
8 semester of a dental or dental hygiene program, having met all other
9 requirements, may make application and take the jurisprudence
10 examination with a letter from the dean of the dental school or
11 director of the hygiene program stating that the applicant is a
12 candidate for graduation within the next six (6) months.

13 E. The Board shall require every applicant for a license to
14 practice dentistry or dental hygiene to submit, for the files of the
15 Board, a copy of a dental degree or dental hygiene degree, an
16 official transcript, a recent photograph duly identified and
17 attested, and any other information as required by the Board.

18 F. Any applicant who fails to pass the jurisprudence
19 examination may apply for a second examination, in which case the
20 applicant shall pay a reexamination fee as established by the
21 statutes or rules of the State Dental Act.

22 G. Any applicant who fails to pass the clinical examination as
23 described in paragraph 4 of subsection C of this section may be
24 given credit for such subjects as the Board may allow, but such

1 credits shall be extended only to the succeeding examinations. If
2 the applicant fails to pass a second examination, before further re-
3 examination, the Board may require evidence of additional education,
4 as specified by the Board. After a third examination, the Board may
5 deny the applicant another examination.

6 H. A dentist or dental hygienist currently licensed in another
7 state having met the qualifications in paragraphs 1 through 3 of
8 subsections B and C of this section may apply for a license by
9 credentials upon meeting the following:

10 1. A dentist holding a general dentist license in good standing
11 and having practiced for at least five hundred (500) hours per year
12 for the previous five (5) years immediately prior to application and
13 having passed a regional examination substantially equivalent to the
14 requirements for this state may apply for licensure by credentials;

15 2. A dental hygienist holding a dental hygiene license in good
16 standing and having practiced for at least four hundred twenty (420)
17 hours per year for the previous two (2) years immediately prior to
18 application and having passed a regional examination substantially
19 equivalent to the requirements for Oklahoma may apply for licensure
20 by credentials. Applicants for reciprocity must include:

21 a. a letter of good standing from all states ever
22 licensed,
23
24
25

1 b. proof of five (5) years of continuous active practice
2 immediately prior to application for dentists and two
3 (2) years for hygienists, and

4 c. any other requirements as set forth by the rules; or

5 3. An applicant applying for a dental or dental hygiene license
6 by credentials shall only be required to pass the jurisprudence
7 portion of the examination requirements as set forth in paragraph 4
8 of subsection C of this section.

9 I. There shall be two types of advanced procedure available for
10 dental hygienists upon completion of a CODA approved program or
11 course that has been approved by the Board:

12 1. Administration of nitrous oxide; and

13 2. Administration of local anesthesia.

14 J. All licensees and permit holders shall display their current
15 permit or license in a visible place within the dental office or
16 treatment facility.

17 SECTION 2. AMENDATORY 59 O.S. 2011, Section 328.22, as
18 last amended by Section 4, Chapter 151, O.S.L. 2018 (59 O.S. Supp.
19 2018, Section 328.22), is amended to read as follows:

20 Section 328.22. A. 1. The Board of Dentistry may issue a
21 dental specialty license authorizing a dentist to represent himself
22 or herself to the public as a specialist, and to practice as a
23 specialist, in a dental specialty.

1 2. No dentist shall represent himself or herself to the public
2 as a specialist, nor practice as a specialist, unless the
3 individual:

- 4 a. has successfully completed an advanced dental
5 specialty educational program recognized by the Board
6 and accredited by the Commission on Dental
7 Accreditation, or a dental specialty recognized by the
8 Board, requiring a minimum number of hours of approved
9 education and training and/or recognition by a
10 nationally recognized dental specialty accreditation
11 board,
- 12 ~~b. has met the requirements for a general dental license~~
13 ~~set forth by Section 328.21 of this title,~~
- 14 ~~c.~~ has passed the jurisprudence examination covering the
15 State Dental Act, rules and state laws, and
- 16 ~~d.~~
- 17 c. has completed any additional requirements set forth in
18 state law or rules and has been issued a dental
19 specialty license by the Board.

20 3. Specialties recognized by the Board shall include:

- 21 a. dental public health,
- 22 b. endodontics,
- 23 c. oral and maxillofacial surgery,
- 24 d. oral and maxillofacial radiology,

- e. orthodontics and dentofacial orthopedics,
- f. pediatric dentistry,
- g. periodontics,
- h. prosthodontics, and
- i. oral pathology.

B. 1. At the time of application, if the dentist has ever been licensed in any other state, he or she shall provide a letter of good standing from such state before the Board may issue a specialty license.

2. In conducting an investigation of an applicant who has applied for a dental specialty license pursuant to this subsection, the Board shall require of the applicant disclosure of the same background information as is required of an applicant for a license to practice dentistry in this state.

C. Any person holding an Oklahoma specialty license that does not have an Oklahoma general dentistry license shall be limited to practicing that specialty for which they hold a license.

D. The Board may use the American Dental Association guidelines or the guidelines of another nationally recognized dental association or board for the purpose of defining a specialty practice area not otherwise defined herein.

SECTION 3. This act shall become effective November 1, 2019.

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