

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2 2nd Session of the 58th Legislature (2022)

3 SENATE BILL 1432

By: Haste

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5  
6 AS INTRODUCED

7 An Act relating to the practice of dentistry;  
8 amending 59 O.S. 2021, Section 328.15, which relates  
9 to powers of the Board of Dentistry; modifying  
10 certain power; amending 59 O.S. 2021, Section 328.19,  
11 which relates to acts constituting practice of  
12 dentistry; creating exception; amending 59 O.S. 2021,  
13 Section 328.21, which relates to application for  
14 license; modifying examination requirements;  
15 requiring licensee or permit holder to provide and  
16 update certain contact information; stipulating  
17 certain notification procedures for Board; amending  
18 59 O.S. 2021, Section 328.23a, which relates to  
19 special volunteer licenses; broadening qualifications  
20 for special volunteer license; amending 59 O.S. 2021,  
21 Section 328.29a, which relates to dental assistants;  
22 modifying certain notification procedure; amending 59  
23 O.S. 2021, Section 328.32, which relates to grounds  
24 for penalties; modifying and adding certain grounds  
for penalties; amending 59 O.S. 2021, Section 328.41,  
which relates to renewal certificate; modifying and  
removing certain dates; modifying certain  
notification procedure; amending 59 O.S. 2021,  
Section 328.53, which relates to professional  
malpractice liability insurance; broadening certain  
exception; stating conditions of exception; and  
providing an effective date.

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

23 SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 59 O.S. 2021, Section 328.15, is  
24 amended to read as follows:

1 Section 328.15. A. Pursuant to and in compliance with Article  
2 I of the Administrative Procedures Act, the Board of Dentistry shall  
3 have the power to formulate, adopt, and promulgate rules as may be  
4 necessary to regulate the practice of dentistry in this state and to  
5 implement and enforce the provisions of the State Dental Act.

6 B. The Board is authorized and empowered to:

7 1. Examine and test the qualifications of applicants for a  
8 license or permit to be issued by the Board;

9 2. Affiliate by contract or cooperative agreement with another  
10 state or combination of states for the purpose of conducting  
11 simultaneous regional examinations of applicants for a license to  
12 practice dentistry, dental hygiene, or a dental specialty;

13 3. Maintain a list of the name, current mailing address and  
14 ~~principal office~~ official address of all persons who hold a license  
15 or permit issued by the Board;

16 4. Account for all receipts and expenditures of the monies of  
17 the Board, including annually preparing and publishing a statement  
18 of receipts and expenditures of the Board for each fiscal year;

19 5. Within limits prescribed in the State Dental Act, set all  
20 fees and administrative penalties to be imposed and collected by the  
21 Board;

22 6. Employ an Executive Director, legal counsel and other  
23 advisors to the Board, including advisory committees;

1           7. Investigate and issue investigative and other subpoenas,  
2 pursuant to Article II of the Administrative Procedures Act;

3           8. Initiate individual proceedings and issue orders imposing  
4 administrative penalties, pursuant to Article II of the  
5 Administrative Procedures Act, against any dentist, dental  
6 hygienist, dental assistant, oral maxillofacial surgery assistant,  
7 dental laboratory technician, or holder of a permit to operate a  
8 dental laboratory who has violated the State Dental Act or the rules  
9 of the Board;

10          9. Conduct, in a uniform and reasonable manner, inspections of  
11 dental offices and dental laboratories and ~~their~~ business records of  
12 dental offices and dental laboratories;

13          10. Establish guidelines for courses of study necessary for  
14 dental assistants, oral maxillofacial surgery assistants and, when  
15 appropriate, issue permits authorizing dental assistants to perform  
16 expanded duties;

17          11. Establish continuing education requirements for dentists,  
18 dental hygienists, dental assistants and oral maxillofacial surgery  
19 assistants who hold permits issued by the Board;

20          12. Recognize the parameters and standards of care established  
21 and approved by the American Dental Association;

22          13. Formulate, adopt, and promulgate rules, pursuant to Article  
23 I of the Administrative Procedures Act, as may be necessary to  
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1 implement and enforce the provisions of the Oklahoma Dental  
2 Mediation Act;

3 14. Seek and receive advice and assistance of the Office of the  
4 Attorney General of this state;

5 15. Promote the dental health and the education of dental  
6 health of the people of this state;

7 16. Inform, educate, and advise all persons who hold a license  
8 or permit issued by the Board, or who are otherwise regulated by the  
9 Board, regarding the State Dental Act and the rules of the Board;

10 17. Affiliate with the American Association of Dental Boards as  
11 an active member, pay regular dues, and send members of the Board as  
12 delegates to its meetings;

13 18. Enter into contracts;

14 19. Acquire by purchase, lease, gift, solicitation of gift or  
15 by any other manner, hold, encumber, and dispose of personal  
16 property as is needed, maintain, use and operate or contract for the  
17 maintenance, use and operation of or lease of any and all property  
18 of any kind, real, personal or mixed or any interest therein unless  
19 otherwise provided by the State Dental Act; provided, all contracts  
20 for real property shall be subject to the provisions of Section 63  
21 of Title 74 of the Oklahoma Statutes;

22 20. Receive or accept the surrender of a license, permit, or  
23 certificate granted to any person by the Board as provided in  
24 Section 328.44b of this title; and

1           21. Take all other actions necessary to implement and enforce  
2 the State Dental Act.

3           SECTION 2.           AMENDATORY           59 O.S. 2021, Section 328.19, is  
4 amended to read as follows:

5           Section 328.19. A. The following acts by any person shall be  
6 regarded as practicing dentistry within the meaning of the State  
7 Dental Act:

8           1. Representing oneself to the public as being a dentist or as  
9 one authorized to practice dentistry;

10          2. Representing oneself to the public as being able to diagnose  
11 or examine clinical material or contract for the treating thereof;

12          3. Representing oneself as treating or professing to treat by  
13 professional instructions or by advertised use of professional  
14 equipment or products;

15          4. Representing oneself to the public as treating any of the  
16 diseases or disorders or lesions of the oral cavity, teeth, gums,  
17 maxillary bones, and associate structures;

18          5. Removing human teeth;

19          6. Repairing or filling cavities in human teeth;

20          7. Correcting or attempting to correct malposed teeth;

21          8. Administering anesthetics, general or local;

22          9. Treating deformities of the jaws and adjacent structures;

23          10. Using x-ray and interpreting dental x-ray film;

1           11. Offering, undertaking or assisting, by any means or  
2 methods, to remove stains, discolorations, or concretions from the  
3 teeth; provided, that this paragraph shall not preclude or prohibit  
4 the sale of any teeth whitening kit designed for self-administration  
5 as approved by the United States Food and Drug Administration;

6           12. Operating or prescribing for any disease, pain, injury,  
7 deficiency, deformity, or any physical condition connected with the  
8 human mouth;

9           13. Taking impressions of the teeth and jaws;

10           14. Furnishing, supplying, constructing, reproducing, or  
11 repairing, or offering to furnish, supply, construct, reproduce, or  
12 repair, prosthetic dentures, sometimes known as plates, bridges, or  
13 other substitutes for natural teeth for the user or prospective user  
14 thereof;

15           15. Adjusting or attempting to adjust any prosthetic denture,  
16 bridge, appliance, or any other structure to be worn in the human  
17 mouth;

18           16. Diagnosing, making, and adjusting appliances to artificial  
19 casts of malposed teeth for treatment of the malposed teeth in the  
20 human mouth, without instructions;

21           17. Writing a laboratory prescription to a dental laboratory or  
22 dental laboratory technician for the construction, reproduction or  
23 repair of any appliance or structure to be worn in the human mouth;

1 18. Owning, maintaining, or operating an office or offices by  
2 holding a financial interest in same for the practice of dentistry;  
3 or

4 19. Any other procedure otherwise defined in the State Dental  
5 Act requiring a valid license or permit to perform while the person  
6 does not hold such valid license or permit issued by the Board.

7 B. The fact that a person uses any dental degree, or  
8 designation, or any card, device, directory, poster, sign or other  
9 media representing oneself to be a dentist shall be prima facie  
10 evidence that the person is engaged in the practice of dentistry;  
11 provided that nothing in this section shall be so construed as to  
12 prevent the following:

13 1. Physicians or surgeons, who are licensed under the laws of  
14 this state, from administering any kind of treatment coming within  
15 the province of medicine or surgery;

16 2. The practice of dentistry in the discharge of ~~their~~ the  
17 person's official duties by dentists in the United States Army, the  
18 United States Navy, the United States Air Force, the United States  
19 Marine Corps, the United States Coast Guard, the United States  
20 Public Health Service, or the United States Veterans Administration;

21 3. Dental schools or colleges, as now conducted and approved,  
22 or as may be approved, and the practice of dentistry by students in  
23 dental schools, colleges or hospitals, approved by the Board, when  
24

1 acting under the direction and supervision of licensed dentists or  
2 dentists holding properly issued permits acting as instructors;

3 4. Acts of a dental clinician or other participant at a dental  
4 educational meeting or at an accredited dental college, when no fee  
5 is charged to or paid by a patient;

6 5. The practice of dental hygiene, as defined herein, by a  
7 person granted a license by the Board;

8 6. The performing of acts by a dental assistant or oral  
9 maxillofacial surgery assistant who performs the acts under the  
10 direct supervision or direct visual supervision of a dentist and in  
11 accordance with the provisions of the State Dental Act and the rules  
12 promulgated by the Board; or

13 7. The fabrication of dental appliances pursuant to a  
14 laboratory prescription of a dentist, by a dental laboratory  
15 technician in a dental laboratory using inert materials and  
16 mechanical devices for the fabrication of any restoration, appliance  
17 or thing to be worn in the human mouth.

18 SECTION 3. AMENDATORY 59 O.S. 2021, Section 328.21, is  
19 amended to read as follows:

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

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

4 1. Is of good moral character;

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

8 3. Has passed a written theoretical examination and a clinical  
9 examination approved by the Board; and

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

12 C. An application from a candidate who desires to secure a  
13 license from the Board to practice dentistry or dental hygiene in  
14 this state shall be accompanied by satisfactory proof that the  
15 applicant:

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

18 2. Is a graduate of an accredited dental hygiene program, if  
19 the applicant is to practice dental hygiene; and

20 3. Has passed all portions of the National Board Dental  
21 Examination or the National Board Dental Hygiene Examination.

22 D. Pursuant to Section 328.15 of this title, the Board may  
23 affiliate as a member state, and accept regional exams from the  
24 Commission on Dental Competency Assessments (CDCA) or the Western

1 Regional Examining Board (WREB), ~~or the Central Regional Dental~~  
2 ~~Testing Service (CRDTS)~~ if the following requirements are included:

3 1. For dental licensing the following components:

- 4 a. a fixed prosthetic component of the preparation of an
- 5 anterior all porcelain crown and the preparation of a
- 6 three-unit posterior bridge,
- 7 b. a periodontal component on a live patient or manikin,
- 8 c. an endodontic component,
- 9 d. an anterior class III and posterior class II
- 10 restorative component on a live patient or manikin,
- 11 e. a diagnosis and treatment planning section as approved
- 12 by the Board, as specified in Section 328.15 of this
- 13 title, and
- 14 f. the Board may determine equivalencies based on
- 15 components of other exams for the purpose of
- 16 credentialing; or

17 2. For dental hygienists licensing the following components:

- 18 a. clinical patient treatments with an evaluation of
- 19 specific clinical skills, and
- 20 b. evaluation of the candidate's compliance with
- 21 professional standards during the treatment as
- 22 approved by the Board in Section 328.15 of this title
- 23 and shall include:
- 24 (1) extra/intra oral assessment,
- 25

- 1 (2) periodontal probing, and  
2 (3) scaling/subgingival calculus removal and  
3 supragingival deposit removal.

4 E. 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~~ the  
8 student's last semester of a dental or dental hygiene program,  
9 having met all other requirements, may make application and take the  
10 jurisprudence examination with a letter from the dean of the dental  
11 school or director of the hygiene program stating that the applicant  
12 is a candidate for graduation within the next six (6) months.

13 F. 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 G. 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 H. A dentist or dental hygienist currently licensed in another  
23 state having met the qualifications in paragraphs 1 through 3 of  
24

1 subsections B and C of this section may apply for a license by  
2 credentials upon meeting the following:

3 1. A dentist holding a general dentist license in good standing  
4 and having practiced for at least five hundred (500) hours within  
5 the previous five (5) years immediately prior to application and  
6 having passed a regional examination substantially equivalent to the  
7 requirements for this state may apply for licensure by credentials;

8 2. A dental hygienist holding a dental hygiene license in good  
9 standing and having practiced for at least four hundred twenty (420)  
10 hours within the previous five (5) years immediately prior to  
11 application and having passed a regional examination substantially  
12 equivalent to the requirements for ~~Oklahoma~~ this state may apply for  
13 licensure by credentials. Applicants for credentialing must  
14 include:

- 15 a. a letter of good standing from all states in which the  
16 applicant has ever been licensed, and
- 17 b. any other requirements as set forth by the rules;

18 3. An applicant applying for a dental or dental hygiene license  
19 by credentials shall only be required to pass the jurisprudence  
20 portion of the examination requirements as set forth in paragraph 4  
21 of subsection B of this section; or

22 4. A dental hygienist applying for credentialing for advanced  
23 procedures by providing proof of passage of the advanced procedure  
24 in a CDCA, WREB or CRDTS exam.

1 I. There shall be two types of advanced procedure available for  
2 dental hygienists upon completion of a Commission on Dental  
3 Accreditation (CODA) approved program or course that has been  
4 approved by the Board:

- 5 1. Administration of nitrous oxide; and
- 6 2. Administration of local anesthesia.

7 J. All licensees and permit holders shall display ~~their~~ the  
8 current permit or license in a visible place within the dental  
9 office or treatment facility.

10 K. The Board shall have the authority to temporarily change  
11 requirements of an examination due to availability or changes in the  
12 examination format, not to exceed one (1) year.

13 L. During a year in which governmental officials have declared  
14 a health pandemic, a state or federal disaster, or other natural or  
15 man-made disaster, the Board shall have the authority through a  
16 resolution to change or make allowances in requirements of all  
17 candidates for licensure and issue temporary licenses for extended  
18 periods of time or as needed until the event passes. The resolution  
19 shall have a beginning and an end date and shall automatically  
20 expire no less than thirty (30) days after the end of the disaster  
21 is declared by governmental officials.

22 M. Every licensee or permit holder shall have an official  
23 address and email address listed with the Board. Every licensee or  
24 permit holder shall update the address within thirty (30) calendar

1 days of moving. Official notification of any action of the Board  
2 adverse to a licensee or permit holder including but not limited to  
3 notification of license or permit cancellation due to nonrenewal,  
4 notice of a formal complaint, or a decision of the hearing panel or  
5 board, shall be served to the licensee or permit holder by  
6 registered mail at the official address, in person, to the  
7 licensee's or permit holder's attorney, by agreement of the  
8 individual, by a process server, or by an Investigator of the Board  
9 pursuant to Section 2004 of Title 12 of the Oklahoma Statutes.

10 SECTION 4. AMENDATORY 59 O.S. 2021, Section 328.23a, is  
11 amended to read as follows:

12 Section 328.23a. A. There is established a special volunteer  
13 license for dentists and a special volunteer license for dental  
14 hygienists who are retired from active practice or out-of-state  
15 licensees in active practice who are in the Oklahoma Medical Reserve  
16 Corps or assisting with emergency management, emergency operations  
17 or hazard mitigation in response to any emergency, man-made disaster  
18 or natural disaster, or participating in public health initiatives,  
19 disaster drills and community service events that are endorsed by a  
20 city or county health department or the State Department of Health  
21 and wish to donate their expertise for the dental care and treatment  
22 of indigent and needy persons of the state. A special volunteer  
23 license may also be issued for any live patient training approved by  
24 the Board. The special volunteer license shall be:

1 1. Issued by the Board of Dentistry to eligible persons;

2 2. Issued without the payment of an application fee, license  
3 fee or renewal fee;

4 3. Issued or renewed without any continuing education  
5 requirements for a period less than one (1) calendar year; and

6 4. Issued for one (1) calendar year or part thereof.

7 B. A dentist or dental hygienist must meet the following  
8 requirements to be eligible for a special volunteer license:

9 1. Completion of a special volunteer dental or dental hygiene  
10 license application including documentation of the dentist's dental  
11 or dental hygiene school graduation and practice history;

12 2. Documentation that the dentist or dental hygienist has been  
13 previously issued a full and unrestricted license to practice  
14 dentistry or dental hygiene in this state or in another state of the  
15 United States and that he or she has never been the subject of any  
16 reportable medical or dental disciplinary action in any  
17 jurisdiction. If the dentist or dental hygienist is licensed in  
18 more than one state and any license of the licensee is suspended,  
19 revoked, or subject to any agency order limiting or restricting  
20 practice privileges, or has been voluntarily terminated under threat  
21 of sanction, the dentist or dental hygienist shall be ineligible to  
22 receive a special volunteer license;

23 3. Acknowledgement and documentation that the dentist's or  
24 dental hygienist's practice under the special volunteer license will

1 be exclusively and totally devoted to providing dental care to needy  
2 and indigent persons in this state;

3 4. Acknowledgement and documentation that the dentist or dental  
4 hygienist will not receive or have the expectation to receive any  
5 payment or compensation, either direct or indirect, for any dental  
6 services rendered under the special volunteer license; and

7 5. A listing of all locations and dates that the person will be  
8 completing volunteer work under the special volunteer license.

9 C. The Board of Dentistry shall have jurisdiction over  
10 dentists, dental hygienists, dental assistants and dental  
11 technicians who volunteer their professional services in the state.  
12 Dental assistants and dental technicians shall work under the direct  
13 supervision of a dentist.

14 D. Dental assistants may be issued a volunteer permit at the  
15 request of an entity that provides dental services to the needy.  
16 Volunteers in a volunteer initiative who are not dentists or dental  
17 hygienists shall be named and provided on a list to the Board by the  
18 entity hosting the volunteer initiative with any other requirements  
19 as set forth by the Board. The Board shall provide written  
20 documentation to the host entity designating all persons who may  
21 participate in the volunteer initiative including authorization of  
22 the timetable requested by the host entity for granting licensure  
23 exemption. Any person working under a volunteer dental assistant  
24 permit shall not receive payment or compensation for any services

1 rendered under the volunteer dental assistant permit. Volunteer  
2 dental assistant permits shall be limited to specific dates and  
3 locations of services to be provided.

4 E. All persons providing care shall do so under the provisions  
5 specified in Section 328.1 et seq. of this title or rules  
6 promulgated by the Board. Only those functions authorized by law or  
7 administrative rule shall be performed by the named person approved  
8 by the Board.

9 F. Volunteers shall not use sedation or general anesthesia  
10 during volunteer procedures.

11 G. Volunteers shall use a form to be provided by the Board for  
12 any patient with clear instructions for any and all follow-up care.

13 H. At any time, the Board shall revoke a volunteer license  
14 based on documentation of failure to participate according to state  
15 laws or administrative rules.

16 I. A special volunteer license shall be restricted to services  
17 provided at the locations listed on the application or for a  
18 specific not-for-profit treatment provider group as approved by the  
19 Board.

20 SECTION 5. AMENDATORY 59 O.S. 2021, Section 328.29a, is  
21 amended to read as follows:

22 Section 328.29a. A. The following acts or occurrences by a  
23 dental assistant or oral maxillofacial surgery assistant shall  
24 constitute grounds for which the penalties specified in Section  
25

1 328.44a of this title may be imposed by the Board of Dentistry or be  
2 the basis for denying a new applicant any license or permit issued  
3 by the Board:

4 1. Any of the causes now existing in the laws of ~~the State of~~  
5 ~~Oklahoma~~ this state;

6 2. A violation of the provisions of the State Dental Act; or

7 3. A violation of the rules of the Board promulgated pursuant  
8 to the State Dental Act.

9 B. The Board shall also have the power to act upon a petition  
10 by a dental assistant or oral maxillofacial surgery assistant for  
11 reinstatement to good standing. The Board shall keep a record of  
12 the evidence and proceedings in all matters involving the revocation  
13 or suspension of a permit, censure or probation of a dental  
14 assistant or oral maxillofacial surgery assistant. The Board shall  
15 make findings of fact and a decision thereon. ~~The Board shall~~  
16 ~~immediately forward a certified copy of the decision to the dental~~  
17 ~~assistant or oral maxillofacial surgery assistant involved by~~  
18 ~~registered mail to the last known official address as recorded by~~  
19 ~~the Board~~ Notification of the licensee or permit holder shall occur  
20 pursuant to 328.21 of this title.

21 C. The decision shall be final unless the dental assistant or  
22 oral maxillofacial surgery assistant appeals the decision as  
23 provided by the State Dental Act.

1 D. The Board shall have power to revoke or suspend the permit,  
2 censure, or place on probation a dental assistant or oral  
3 maxillofacial surgery assistant for a violation of one or more of  
4 the following:

5 1. Pleading guilty or nolo contendere to, or being convicted  
6 of, a felony crime that substantially relates to the occupation of a  
7 dental assistant or oral maxillofacial surgery assistant and poses a  
8 reasonable threat to public safety, or a violation of federal or  
9 state controlled dangerous substances laws;

10 2. Presenting to the Board a false application or documentation  
11 for a permit;

12 3. Being, by reason of persistent inebriety or addiction to  
13 drugs, incompetent to continue to function as a dental assistant or  
14 oral maxillofacial surgery assistant;

15 4. Functioning outside the direct or direct visual supervision  
16 of a dentist;

17 5. Performing any function prohibited by Chapter 15 of the  
18 Oklahoma Administrative Code or any violation that would be a  
19 violation for a dentist or hygienist under Section 328.32 or 328.33  
20 of this title, or any other duty not assignable to a dental  
21 assistant; or

22 6. Failure to secure an annual registration as specified in  
23 Section 328.41 of this title.

1 E. The Board's review panel, as set forth in Section 328.43a of  
2 this title, upon concurrence with the president of the Board, may  
3 determine that an emergency exists to temporarily suspend the permit  
4 of a dental assistant or oral maxillofacial surgery assistant if the  
5 panel finds that public health, safety or welfare imperatively  
6 requires emergency action. The panel may conduct a hearing pursuant  
7 to Section 314 of Title 75 of the Oklahoma Statutes for the  
8 temporary suspension.

9 F. As used in this section:

10 1. "Substantially relates" means the nature of criminal conduct  
11 for which the person was convicted has a direct bearing on the  
12 fitness or ability to perform one or more of the duties or  
13 responsibilities necessarily related to the occupation; and

14 2. "Poses a reasonable threat" means the nature of criminal  
15 conduct for which the person was convicted involved an act or threat  
16 of harm against another and has a bearing on the fitness or ability  
17 to serve the public or work with others in the occupation.

18 SECTION 6. AMENDATORY 59 O.S. 2021, Section 328.32, is  
19 amended to read as follows:

20 Section 328.32. A. The following acts or occurrences by a  
21 dentist shall constitute grounds for which the penalties specified  
22 in Section 328.44a of this title may be imposed by order of the  
23 Board of Dentistry or be the basis for denying a new applicant any  
24 license or permit issued by the Board:

1 1. Pleading guilty or nolo contendere to, or being convicted  
2 of, a felony, a misdemeanor involving moral turpitude, any crime in  
3 which an individual would be required to be a registered sex  
4 offender under ~~Oklahoma~~ state law, any violent crime, Medicaid  
5 fraud, insurance fraud, identity theft, embezzlement or a violation  
6 of federal or state controlled dangerous substances laws;

7 2. Presenting to the Board a false diploma, license, or  
8 certificate, or one obtained by fraud or illegal means, or providing  
9 other false information on an application or renewal;

10 3. Being, by reason of persistent inebriety or addiction to  
11 drugs, incompetent to continue the practice of dentistry;

12 4. Publishing a false, fraudulent, or misleading advertisement  
13 or statement;

14 5. Authorizing or aiding an unlicensed person to practice  
15 dentistry, to practice dental hygiene or to perform a function for  
16 which a permit from the Board is required;

17 6. Authorizing or aiding a dental hygienist to perform any  
18 procedure prohibited by the State Dental Act or the rules of the  
19 Board;

20 7. Authorizing or aiding a dental assistant or oral  
21 maxillofacial surgery assistant to perform any procedure prohibited  
22 by the State Dental Act or the rules of the Board;

23 8. Failing to pay fees as required by the State Dental Act or  
24 the rules of the Board;

1 9. Failing to complete continuing education requirements;

2 10. Representing himself or herself to the public as a  
3 specialist in a dental specialty without holding a dental specialty  
4 license therefor;

5 11. Representing himself or herself to the public as a  
6 specialist whose practice is limited to a dental specialty, when  
7 such representation is false, fraudulent, or misleading;

8 12. Endangering the health of patients by reason of having a  
9 highly communicable disease and continuing to practice dentistry  
10 without taking appropriate safeguards;

11 13. Practicing dentistry in an unsafe or unsanitary manner or  
12 place including but not limited to repeated failures to follow  
13 Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) or Occupational  
14 Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) guidelines;

15 14. Being shown to be mentally unsound;

16 15. Being shown to be grossly immoral and that such condition  
17 represents a threat to patient care or treatment;

18 16. Being incompetent to practice dentistry while delivering  
19 care to a patient;

20 17. Committing gross negligence in the practice of dentistry;

21 18. Committing repeated acts of negligence in the practice of  
22 dentistry;

1 19. Offering to effect or effecting a division of fees, or  
2 agreeing to split or divide a fee for dental services with any  
3 person, in exchange for the person bringing or referring a patient;

4 20. Being involuntarily committed to an institution for  
5 treatment for substance abuse, until recovery or remission;

6 21. Using or attempting to use the services of a dental  
7 laboratory or dental laboratory technician without issuing a  
8 laboratory prescription, except as provided in subsection C of  
9 Section 328.36 of this title;

10 22. Aiding, abetting, or encouraging a dental hygienist  
11 employed by the dentist to make use of an oral prophylaxis list, or  
12 the calling by telephone or by use of letters transmitted through  
13 the mail to solicit patronage from patients formerly served in the  
14 office of any dentist formerly employing such hygienist;

15 23. Having more than the equivalent of three full-time dental  
16 hygienists for each dentist actively practicing in the same dental  
17 office;

18 24. Allowing a person not holding a permit or license issued by  
19 the Board to assist in the treatment of a patient without having a  
20 license or permit issued by the Board;

21 25. Knowingly patronizing or using the services of a dental  
22 laboratory or dental laboratory technician who has not complied with  
23 the provisions of the State Dental Act and the rules of the Board;

1 26. Authorizing or aiding a dental hygienist, dental assistant,  
2 oral maxillofacial surgery assistant, dental laboratory technician,  
3 or holder of a permit to operate a dental laboratory to violate any  
4 provision of the State Dental Act or the rules of the Board;

5 27. Willfully disclosing information protected by the Health  
6 Information Portability and Accountability Act, P.L. 104-191;

7 28. Writing a false, unnecessary, or excessive prescription for  
8 any drug or narcotic which is a controlled dangerous substance under  
9 either federal or state law, or prescribing, dispensing or  
10 administering opioid drugs in excess of the maximum limits  
11 authorized in Section 2-309I of Title 63 of the Oklahoma Statutes;

12 29. Prescribing or administering any drug or treatment without  
13 having established a valid dentist-patient relationship;

14 30. Using or administering nitrous oxide gas in a dental office  
15 in an inappropriate or unauthorized manner;

16 31. Engaging in nonconsensual physical contact with a patient  
17 which is sexual in nature, or engaging in a verbal communication  
18 which is intended to be sexually demeaning to a patient;

19 32. Practicing dentistry without displaying, at the dentist's  
20 primary place of practice, the license issued to the dentist by the  
21 Board to practice dentistry and the current renewal certificate;

22 33. Being dishonest in a material way with a patient or during  
23 the practice of dentistry;

1 34. Failing to retain all patient records for at least seven  
2 (7) years from the date of the last treatment as provided by Section  
3 328.31b of this title, except that the failure to retain records  
4 shall not be a violation of the State Dental Act if the dentist  
5 shows that the records were lost, destroyed, or removed by another,  
6 without the consent of the dentist;

7 35. Failing to retain the dentist's copy of any laboratory  
8 prescription for at least seven (7) years, except that the failure  
9 to retain records shall not be a violation of the State Dental Act  
10 if the dentist shows that the records were lost, destroyed, or  
11 removed by another, without the consent of the dentist;

12 36. Allowing any corporation, organization, group, person, or  
13 other legal entity, except another dentist or a professional entity  
14 that is in compliance with the registration requirements of  
15 subsection B of Section 328.31 of this title, to direct, control, or  
16 interfere with the dentist's clinical judgment. Clinical judgment  
17 shall include, but not be limited to, such matters as selection of a  
18 course of treatment, control of patient records, policies and  
19 decisions relating to pricing, credit, refunds, warranties and  
20 advertising, and decisions relating to office personnel and hours of  
21 practice. Nothing in this paragraph shall be construed to:

- 22 a. limit a patient's right of informed consent, or
- 23 b. prohibit insurers, preferred provider organizations  
24 and managed care plans from operating pursuant to the

1 applicable provisions of the Oklahoma Insurance Code  
2 and the Public Health Code;

3 37. Violating the state dental act of another state resulting  
4 in a plea of guilty or nolo contendere, conviction or suspension or  
5 revocation or other sanction by another state board, of the license  
6 of the dentist under the laws of that state;

7 38. Violating or attempting to violate the provisions of the  
8 State Dental Act or the rules of the Board, a state or federal  
9 statute or rule relating to scheduled drugs, fraud, a violent crime  
10 or any crime for which the penalty includes the requirement of  
11 registration as a sex offender in ~~Oklahoma~~ this state as a  
12 principal, accessory or accomplice;

13 39. Failing to comply with the terms and conditions of an order  
14 imposing suspension of a license or placement on probation issued  
15 pursuant to Section 328.44a of this title;

16 40. Failing to cooperate during an investigation or providing  
17 false information, verbally or in writing, to the Board, the Board's  
18 investigator or an agent of the Board;

19 41. Having multiple administrative or civil actions reported to  
20 the National Practitioner Databank; ~~or~~

21 42. Failing to complete an approved two-hour course on opioid  
22 and scheduled drug prescribing within one (1) year of obtaining a  
23 license or a violation of a law related to controlled dangerous  
24

1 substances including prescribing laws pursuant to Section 2-309D of  
2 Title 63 of the Oklahoma Statutes;

3 43. Falling below the basic standard of care of a licensed  
4 dentist or dentist practicing in his or her specialty, a hygienist,  
5 dental assistant, or other licensee or permit holder pursuant to the  
6 State Dental Act and Section 20.1 of Title 76 of the Oklahoma  
7 Statutes; or

8 44. Failing to provide patient records as provided by Sections  
9 19 and 20 of Title 76 of the Oklahoma Statutes.

10 B. The provisions of the State Dental Act shall not be  
11 construed to prohibit any dentist from displaying or otherwise  
12 advertising that the dentist is also currently licensed, registered,  
13 certified or otherwise credentialed pursuant to the laws of this  
14 state or a nationally recognized credentialing board, if authorized  
15 by the laws of the state or credentialing board to display or  
16 otherwise advertise as a licensed, registered, certified, or  
17 credentialed dentist.

18 SECTION 7. AMENDATORY 59 O.S. 2021, Section 328.41, is  
19 amended to read as follows:

20 Section 328.41. A. 1. On or before the last day of December  
21 of each year, every dentist, dental hygienist, dental assistant,  
22 oral maxillofacial surgery assistant and other licensee or permit  
23 holders previously licensed or permitted by the Board to practice in  
24 this state, with the exception of those listed in paragraph 2 of

1 this subsection, shall submit a completed renewal application with  
2 information as may be required by the Board, together with an annual  
3 renewal fee established by the rules of the Board. Upon receipt of  
4 the annual renewal fee, the Board shall issue a renewal certificate  
5 authorizing the dentist, dental hygienist, dental assistant or oral  
6 maxillofacial surgery assistant to continue the practice of  
7 dentistry or dental hygiene, respectively, in this state for a  
8 period of one (1) year. Every license or permit issued by the Board  
9 shall begin on January 1 and expire on December 31 of each year.

10 2. ~~Beginning July 1, 2017, resident~~ Resident and fellowship  
11 permits shall be valid from July 1 through June 30 of each year and  
12 dental student intern permits shall be valid from August 1 through  
13 July 31 of each year.

14 B. Beginning ~~July 1, 2019~~ July 1, 2021, continuing education  
15 requirements shall be due at the end of each two-year period.

16 C. 1. Continuing education requirements for a dentist or  
17 dental hygienist shall consist of:

- 18 a. a live, in-person cardiopulmonary resuscitation class
- 19 approved by the Board,
- 20 b. an ethics class approved by the Board,
- 21 c. for a dentist, two (2) hours of opioid and scheduled
- 22 drug prescribing classes, and
- 23 d. any combination of the following:

- 1 (1) completion of classes at a university, college or  
2 technology center school accredited by the  
3 Commission on Dental Accreditation (CODA) or  
4 college courses related to dentistry, which shall  
5 count equal to credit hours received on a  
6 transcript,
- 7 (2) teaching one or more classes at a school or  
8 program accredited by CODA, for which the dentist  
9 or dental hygienist shall receive credit for the  
10 semester credit hours and one (1) hour of credit  
11 per eighteen (18) hours of clinical instruction,
- 12 (3) publishing papers, presenting clinics and  
13 lecturing, for which the dentist or dental  
14 hygienist shall receive six (6) credit hours for  
15 each hour of the original presentation and hour-  
16 for-hour credit for a subsequent presentation of  
17 the same material. No more than fifty percent  
18 (50%) of total required continuing education  
19 hours may be fulfilled by activities described in  
20 this division,
- 21 (4) a scientific-based medical treatment and patient  
22 care class approved by the Board,
- 23  
24  
25

- 1 (5) any health-related program sponsored by the  
2 Veterans Administration or Armed Forces provided  
3 at a government facility,  
4 (6) formal meetings by national or state professional  
5 organizations for dental providers, or  
6 university-sponsored professional alumni clinical  
7 meetings approved by the Board,  
8 (7) organized study clubs,  
9 (8) uncompensated volunteer work at an event approved  
10 by the Board not to exceed seven (7) hours for a  
11 dentist or four (4) hours for a dental hygienist,  
12 or  
13 (9) practice-management-related courses not to exceed  
14 four (4) hours for a dentist or two (2) hours for  
15 a dental hygienist.

16 2. Full-time graduate study, internships, residencies and  
17 dentists and dental hygienists engaged in a full-time program  
18 accredited by CODA shall be exempt from continuing education for a  
19 continuing education year per academic year completed.

20 3. New graduates of dental and hygiene programs shall not be  
21 required to complete continuing education for the first year after  
22 graduation. Continuing education requirements for dentists and  
23 dental hygienists who are new graduates shall begin July 1 of the  
24

1 calendar year following the year of graduation. Hours shall be  
2 prorated by year of new licensure.

3 D. 1. Dentists shall complete forty (40) hours of continuing  
4 education with no more than twenty (20) hours to be completed  
5 online. Hygienists shall complete twenty (20) hours of continuing  
6 education with no more than ten (10) hours to be completed online.  
7 Interactive classes or webinar classes may, at the discretion of the  
8 Board, count as in-person.

9 2. Oral maxillofacial surgery assistants shall complete eight  
10 (8) hours of continuing education including one (1) hour of  
11 infection control.

12 3. Dental assistants shall complete two (2) hours of infection  
13 control.

14 4. Any newly licensed dentist shall complete a two-hour opioid  
15 and scheduled drug prescribing class within one (1) year of  
16 obtaining licensure.

17 E. Upon failure of a dentist, dental hygienist, dental  
18 assistant or oral maxillofacial surgery assistant to pay the annual  
19 renewal fee within two (2) months after January 1 of each year, the  
20 Board shall notify the dentist, dental hygienist, dental assistant  
21 ~~or, oral maxillofacial surgery assistant in writing by certified~~  
22 ~~mail to the last-known mailing address of the dentist, dental~~  
23 ~~hygienist, dental assistant or oral maxillofacial surgery assistant~~  
24 ~~as reflected in the records of the Board,~~ or other permit holder

1 that the license or permit will be officially cancelled as of April  
2 1 pursuant to subsection M of Section 328.21 of this title. A list  
3 of cancelled licenses or permits not otherwise renewed shall be  
4 published at the following meeting of the Board.

5 F. Any dentist, dental hygienist, dental assistant or oral  
6 maxillofacial surgery assistant whose license or permit is  
7 automatically canceled by reason of failure, neglect or refusal to  
8 secure the renewal certificate may be reinstated by the Board at any  
9 time within one (1) year from the date of the expiration of the  
10 license, upon payment of the annual renewal fee and a penalty fee  
11 established by the rules of the Board. If the dentist, dental  
12 hygienist, dental assistant, or oral maxillofacial surgery assistant  
13 does not apply for renewal of the license or permit and pay the  
14 required fees within one (1) year after the license has expired,  
15 then the dentist, dental hygienist, dental assistant or oral  
16 maxillofacial surgery assistant shall be required to file an  
17 application for and take the examination or other requirements  
18 provided for in the State Dental Act or the rules promulgated by the  
19 Board before again commencing practice.

20 G. The Board, by rule, shall provide for the remittance of fees  
21 otherwise required by the State Dental Act while a dentist or dental  
22 hygienist is on active duty with any of the Armed Forces of the  
23 United States.

1 H. In case of a lost or destroyed license or renewal  
2 certificate and upon satisfactory proof of the loss or destruction  
3 thereof, the Board may issue a duplicate, charging therefor a fee  
4 established by the rules of the Board.

5 I. A dentist, dental hygienist, oral maxillofacial surgery  
6 assistant or dental assistant that is in good standing and not under  
7 investigation that notifies the Board in writing of a voluntary  
8 nonrenewal of license or requests retirement status shall have a  
9 right to renew or reinstate his or her license within five (5) years  
10 from the date of notice. The Board may require any training or  
11 continuing education requirements to be met prior to reinstatement.

12 J. A dentist, dental hygienist, oral maxillofacial dental  
13 assistant or dental assistant that has not had an active license or  
14 permit in excess of five (5) years shall be required to apply as a  
15 new applicant.

16 K. Any application for a license or permit that has remained  
17 inactive for more than one (1) year shall be closed.

18 SECTION 8. AMENDATORY 59 O.S. 2021, Section 328.53, is  
19 amended to read as follows:

20 Section 328.53. A. All dentists in active practice licensed by  
21 the Board of Dentistry shall maintain a policy for professional  
22 malpractice liability insurance; provided, however, that such  
23 requirement shall not apply to dentists:

24 1. Covered by a group or hospital malpractice insurance policy;

1           2. Practicing in a state facility subject to The Governmental  
2 Tort Claims Act, Section 151 et seq. of Title 51 of the Oklahoma  
3 Statutes;

4           3. Practicing in a federal facility subject to the Federal Tort  
5 Claims Act;

6           4. Providing care as a volunteer under a special volunteer  
7 license pursuant to Section 328.23a of this title;

8           5. Providing care as a retired dentist with a valid license in  
9 a volunteer, nonpaid capacity;

10          6. Practicing or residing in another state or country, who will  
11 not practice within ~~the State of Oklahoma~~ this state during the  
12 license renewal year. A dentist that is residing but not practicing  
13 in this state but wishes to maintain an active license may sign an  
14 affidavit stating that the dentist is not practicing dentistry,  
15 listing the specific dates during which the dentist will not  
16 practice. The dentist must notify the Board in writing and provide  
17 proof of malpractice insurance no less than ten (10) days prior to  
18 resuming practice; or

19          7. A dentist may petition the Board to be temporarily exempted  
20 due to health, injury or other personal exigent circumstance during  
21 the year. A signed and sworn affidavit and other documentation may  
22 be required by the Board. The Board at its discretion may exempt a  
23 dentist for a specific stated period of time.

1 B. The Board of Dentistry may promulgate rules as necessary to  
2 carry out the provisions of this section, including, but not limited  
3 to, minimum requirements for professional malpractice liability  
4 insurance policies and penalties for noncompliance.

5 SECTION 9. This act shall become effective November 1, 2022.

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