# New Mexico

## Initial Licensure Requirements

| CITA, CDCA, CRDTS, SRTA, WREB |
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## License by Credential: Clinical experience requirements (years and/or hours)

| Hold a current active license in good standing by clinical examination in another state or territory of the United States, or has maintained a uniform service practice in the United States military or public health service for three years immediately preceding the application |
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## Other License by Credential Requirements

| Statute 61-5A-12. Dentists; requirements for licensure; specialty license. (Repealed effective July 1, 2016.) |
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| A. All applicants for licensure as a dentist shall have graduated and received a degree from a school of dentistry that is accredited by the commission on dental accreditation and shall have passed the written portion of the dental examination administered by the joint commission on national dental examinations of the American dental association or, if the test is not available, another written examination determined by the board. |
| B. Applicants for a general license to practice dentistry by examination shall be required, in addition to the requirements set forth in Subsection A of this section, to pass a test covering the laws and rules for the practice of dentistry in New Mexico. Written examinations shall be supplemented by the board or its agents by administering to each applicant a practical or clinical examination that reasonably tests the applicant's qualifications to practice general dentistry. These examinations shall include examinations offered by the central regional dental testing service, northeast regional board of dental examiners, southern regional testing agency or western regional examining board or any other comparable practical clinical examination the board approves; provided, however, that the board may disapprove any examination after it considers compelling evidence to support disapproval. Upon an applicant passing the written and clinical examinations and payment in advance of the necessary fees, the board shall issue a license to practice dentistry. |
| C. The board may issue a general license to practice dentistry, by credentials, without a practical or clinical examination to an applicant who is duly licensed by a clinical examination as a dentist under the laws of another state or territory of the United States; provided that license is active and that all dental licenses that individual possesses have been in good standing for five years prior to application. The credentials must show that no dental board actions have been taken during the five years prior to application; that no proceedings are pending in any states in which the applicant has had a license in the five years prior to application; and that a review of public records, the national practitioner data bank or other nationally recognized data resources that record actions against a dentist in the United States does not reveal any activities or unacquitted civil or criminal charges that could reasonably be construed to constitute evidence of danger to patients, including acts of moral turpitude. |
| D. The board may issue a general license to practice dentistry by credentials to an applicant who meets the requirements, including payment of appropriate fees and the passing of an examination covering the laws and rules of the practice of dentistry in New |
Mexico, of the Dental Health Care Act and rules promulgated pursuant to that act, and who:

1. has maintained a uniform service practice in the United States military or public health service for three years immediately preceding the application; or
2. is duly licensed by examination as a dentist pursuant to the laws of another state or territory of the United States.

E. The board may issue a specialty license by examination to an applicant who has passed a clinical and written examination given by the board or its examining agents that covers the applicant’s specialty. The applicant shall have a postgraduate degree or certificate from an accredited dental college, school of dentistry of a university or other residency program that is accredited by the commission on dental accreditation in one of the specialty areas of dentistry recognized by the American dental association. The applicant shall also meet all other requirements as established by rules of the board, which shall include an examination covering the laws and rules of the practice of dentistry in New Mexico. A specialty license limits the licensee to practice only in that specialty area.

F. The board may issue a specialty license, by credentials, without a practical or clinical examination to an applicant who is duly licensed by a clinical examination as a dentist under the laws of another state or territory of the United States and who has a postgraduate degree or certificate from an accredited dental college, school of dentistry of a university or other residency program that is accredited by the commission on dental accreditation in one of the specialty areas of dentistry recognized by the American dental association; provided that license is active and that all dental licenses that individual possesses have been in good standing for five years prior to application. The credentials must show that no dental board actions have been taken during the five years prior to application; that no proceedings are pending in any states in which the applicant has had a license in the five years prior to application; and that a review of public records, the national practitioner data bank or other nationally recognized data resources that record actions against a dentist in the United States does not reveal any activities or acquitted civil or criminal charges that could reasonably be construed to constitute evidence of danger to patients, including acts of moral turpitude. The applicant shall also meet all other qualifications as deemed necessary by rules of the board, which shall include an examination covering the laws and rules of the practice of dentistry in New Mexico. A specialty license limits the licensee to practice only in that specialty area.

### Administrative Code PART 8 DENTISTS, LICENSURE BY CREDENTIALS

**16.5.8.8 PREREQUISITE REQUIREMENTS FOR LICENSURE IN GENERAL PRACTICE:** Each applicant for licensure as a general dentist by credentials must possess the following qualifications:

A. graduated and received a diploma from an accredited dental school as defined in 61-5A-12 A;
B. completed 60 hours of approved continuing education during the past 36 months in compliance with 16.5.1.15 NMAC of these rules;
C. passed the dental national board examination as defined in Section 61-5A-12 A;
D. passed the jurisprudence exam with a score of at least 75 percent;
E. holds a current active license in good standing by clinical examination in another state or territory of the United States, or has maintained a uniform service practice in the United States military or public health service for three years immediately preceding the application;
F. passed a clinical examination approved by the board;
G. the board may deny, stipulate, or otherwise limit a license if it is determined the applicant holds or has held a license in another jurisdiction that is not in good standing, if proceedings are pending against the applicant in another jurisdiction, or information is received indicating the applicant is of danger to patients or is guilty of violating any of the provisions of the act, the Uniform Licensing Act, the Impaired Dentists and Hygienists Act, or these rules;
H. the board requires a level II background status report from a board designated professional background service; application for this service will be included with other application materials; the applicant will apply and pay fees directly to a board designated professional background service to initiate this service.

16.5.8.10 DOCUMENTATION REQUIREMENTS: Each applicant for licensure by credentials must submit the required fees and following documentation:
A. completed application signed and notarized with a passport quality photo taken within six months; applications are valid for one year from the date of receipt;
B. official transcripts or an original letter on letterhead with an embossed seal verifying successfully passing all required courses from the dental school or college, to be sent directly to the board office from the accredited program;
C. copy of national board examination certificate or scorecard;
D. copy of clinical examination score card or certificate from the accepted examining agent;
E. proof of having taken a course in infection control technique within the past twelve months;
F. proof of current life support (BLS) or cardiac pulmonary resuscitation (CPR) certification accepted by the American heart association, the American red cross, or the American safety and health institute (ASHI); cannot be a self-study course;
G. the board will obtain verification of applicant status from the national practitioner's data bank and the American association of dental examiners clearinghouse;
H. verification of licensure in all states where the applicant holds or has held a license to practice dentistry, or other health care profession; verification must be sent directly to the office from the other state(s) board, must include a [raised] seal, and must attest to the status, issue date, license number, and other information contained on the form;
I. a level II status report from a board designated professional background service must be received by the board office directly from a board designated professional background service; the results of the background check must either indicate no negative findings, or if there are negative findings, those findings will be considered by the board;
J. the board may deny, stipulate or otherwise limit a license if it is determined the applicant poses a threat to the welfare of the public;
K. proof of 60 hours of continuing education during the 36 months prior to licensure in compliance with 16.5.1.15 NMAC of these rules;
L. dentists employed in uniform service practice shall furnish:
   (1) a copy of the most recent commissioned officers effectiveness report, or equivalent, issued by the uniformed service dental service, and
   (2) a certified letter from the clinic commander attesting to past record and any actions taken on applicant's uniform service credentials;
M. applicants for specialty by credentials in one of the following applicants for specialty license must submit: official transcripts from the residency program or postgraduate training program, sent directly to the board office from the accredited program;

The ADA attempts to keep this information current based on information from state dental boards, clinical testing agencies and state dental associations. Individuals seeking dental licensure are strongly urged to consult with the state board of dentistry and their professional advisors for current dental licensure information.
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<td>N. certificate of diplomat status from the specialty board, must be sent directly to the board office; and</td>
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<td>O. successfully completed an examination for diplomat status or a specialty licensure examination comparable to the specialty exam recognized by the New Mexico board of dental health care:</td>
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<td>(1) the examination must include the entry level clinical skills in one of the following specialties: endodontics, oral and maxillofacial surgery, orthodontics/dento-facial orthopedics, oral pathology, pediatric dentistry, periodontology, prosthodontics; or oral and maxillofacial radiology; or</td>
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<td>(2) for licensure as a specialist in dental public health, the applicant must have successfully completed the examination for diplomat status given by the American board of public health dentistry;</td>
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<td>P. supplemental information may be requested by the board.</td>
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