| Initial Licensure Examination Requirements | CDCA, CITA, CRDTS, WREB, NDEB of Canada — if applicant is graduate of an Accredited Canadian Dental School or PGY-1 in a setting that serves predominantly low-income patients in Washington State  
(Source: Washington State Dentist Licensing Requirements - Examinations) |
| General Licensure Requirements | Revised Code of Washington 18.32.040 Requirements for licensure.  
The commission shall require that every applicant for a license to practice dentistry shall:  
(1) Present satisfactory evidence of graduation from a dental college, school, or dental department of an institution approved by the commission;  
(2) Submit, for the files of the commission, a recent picture duly identified and attested; and  
(3) Pass an examination prepared or approved by and administered under the direction of the commission. The dentistry licensing examination shall consist of practical and written tests upon such subjects and of such scope as the commission determines. The commission shall set the standards for passing the examination. The secretary shall keep on file the examination papers and records of examination for at least one year. This file shall be open for inspection by the applicant or the applicant's agent unless the disclosure will compromise the examination process as determined by the commission or is exempted from disclosure under chapter 42.56 RCW.  
(b) The commission may accept, in lieu of all or part of the written examination required in (a) of this subsection, a certificate granted by a national or regional testing organization approved by the commission.  
(c) The commission shall accept, in lieu of the practical examination required in (a) of this subsection, proof that an applicant has satisfactorily completed a general practice residency, pediatric residency, or advanced education in general dentistry residency program in Washington state accredited by the commission on dental accreditation of the American dental association, of at least one year's duration, in a residency program that serves predominantly low-income patients.  
Washington Administrative Code WAC 246-817-110 Dental licensure—Initial eligibility and application requirements.  
To be eligible for Washington state dental licensure, the applicant must provide:  
(1) A completed application and fee. The applicant must submit a signed application and required fee as defined in WAC 246-817-990;  
(2) Proof of graduation from a dental school approved by the DQAC:  
(a) DQAC recognizes only those applicants who are students or graduates of dental schools in the United States or Canada, approved, conditionally or provisionally, by the Commission on Dental Accreditation of the American Dental Association. The applicant must have received, or will receive, a Doctor of Dental Surgery (DDS) or Doctor of Dental Medicine (DMD) degree from that school;  
(b) Other dental schools which apply for DQAC approval and which meet these adopted standards to the DQAC's satisfaction may be approved, but it is the responsibility of a school to apply for approval and of a student to ascertain whether or not a school has been approved;  
(3) Proof of successful completion of the National Board Dental Examination Parts I and II, or the Canadian National Dental Examining Board Examination. An original scorecard or a certified copy of the scorecard shall be accepted. Exception: Dentists who obtained initial licensure in a state prior to that state's requirement for successful completion of the national boards, may be licensed.
in Washington, provided that the applicant provide proof that their original state of licensure did not require passage of the national boards at the time they were initially licensed. Applicants need to meet all other requirements for licensure;
(4) Proof of graduation from an approved dental school. The only acceptable proof is an official, posted transcript sent directly from such school, or in the case of recent graduates, a verified list of graduating students submitted directly from the dean of the dental school. Graduates of nonaccredited dental schools must also meet the requirements outlined in WAC 246-817-160;
(5) A complete listing of professional education and experience including college or university (predental), and a complete chronology of practice history from the date of dental school graduation to present, whether or not engaged in activities related to dentistry;
(6) Proof of completion of seven clock hours of AIDS education as required in chapter 246-12 WAC, Part 8;
(7) Proof of malpractice insurance if available, including dates of coverage and any claims history;
(8) Written certification of any licenses held, submitted directly from another licensing entity, and including license number, issue date, expiration date and whether applicant has been the subject of final or pending disciplinary action;
(9) Proof of successful completion of:
(a) An approved practical/clinical examination under WAC 246-817-120; or
(b) A qualifying residency program under RCW 18.32.040 (3)(c);
(10) Proof of successful completion of an approved written jurisprudence examination;
(11) A recent 2” x 2” photograph, signed, dated, and attached to the application;
(12) Authorization for background inquiries to other sources may be conducted as determined by the DQAC, including but not limited to the national practitioner data bank and drug enforcement agency. Applicants are responsible for any fees incurred in obtaining verification of requirements;
(13) Any other information for each license type as determined by the DQAC.

License by Credential/Endorsement Requirements

Revised Code of Washington 18.32.215 Licensure without examination—Licensed in another state.
(1) An applicant holding a valid license and currently engaged in practice in another state may be granted a license without examination required by this chapter, on the payment of any required fees, if the applicant:
(a) Is a graduate of a dental college, school, or dental department of an institution approved by the commission under RCW 18.32.040(1); or
(b)(i) Has practiced in another state for at least four years; and
(ii) Has completed a one-year postdoctoral residency approved by the commission. The residency may have been completed outside Washington.
(2) The commission may also require the applicant to: (a) File with the commission documentation certifying the applicant is licensed to practice in another state; and (b) provide information as the commission deems necessary pertaining to the conditions and criteria of the Uniform Disciplinary Act, chapter 18.130 RCW, and to demonstrate to the commission a knowledge of Washington law pertaining to the practice of dentistry.
Washington Administrative Code WAC 246-817-135 Dental licensure without examination—Eligibility and application requirements.
For individuals holding a dentist credential in another U.S. state or territory, to be eligible for Washington state dental license without examination, the applicant must provide:
Individuals seeking dental licensure should consult with the state board of dentistry and their professional advisors for the complete and most recent dental licensure information, application requirements, forms and fees.

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<td>(1) It shall be misleading, deceptive or improper conduct for a dentist to represent or imply that he/she is a specialist or use any of the terms to designate a dental specialty such as:</td>
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<td>(a) Endodontist</td>
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<td>(b) Oral or maxillofacial surgeon</td>
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<td>(c) Oral pathologist</td>
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<td>(d) Orthodontist</td>
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(f) Periodontist
(g) Prosthodontist
(h) Public health
or any derivation of these specialties unless he/she is entitled to such specialty designation under the guidelines or requirements for specialties approved by the Commission on Dental Accreditation and the Council on Dental Education of the American Dental Association, or such guidelines or requirements as subsequently amended and approved by the DQAC, or other such organization recognized by the DQAC.

(2) A dentist not currently entitled to such specialty designation shall not represent that his/her practice is limited to providing services in a specialty area without clearly disclosing in the representation that he/she is a general dentist. A specialist who represents services in areas other than his/her specialty is considered a general dentist.

Washington Administrative Code WAC 246-817-440 Dentist continuing education requirements.
The goal of continuing education is to encourage the lifetime professional development of the licensed dentist, and to enhance the clinical and overall skills needed to protect the health and safety of all patients.

(1) A licensed dentist shall complete a minimum of sixty-three hours of continuing education every three years.

(a) The three-year continuing education reporting period for a dentist licensed in Washington before 2019 begins January 1, 2019, and verification of completion of continuing education hours will be due on the dentist's annual license renewal date in 2022, and every three years thereafter. The three-year continuing education reporting period for a dentist initially licensed in Washington in 2019 or later begins upon date of licensure.

(b) A licensed dentist shall attest to the completion of sixty-three hours of continuing education every three years as a part of their license renewal requirement.

(c) The dental quality assurance commission (commission) may randomly audit up to twenty-five percent of licensed dentists every three years for compliance after the license is renewed as allowed by chapter 246-12 WAC, Part 7.

(d) A licensed dentist shall comply with the requirements of chapter 246-12 WAC, Part 7.

(e) The commission will not authorize or approve specific continuing education courses.

(2) A licensed dentist shall complete the commission approved dental jurisprudence examination once every three years. One hour of continuing education will be granted toward the sixty-three hour requirement.

(3) Continuing education must contribute to the professional knowledge and development of the licensed dentist or enhance services provided to patients. Continuing education must be completed in one or more of the following subject categories:

(a) Education courses relating to the practice of dentistry;

(b) Emergency management, advanced cardiac life support (ACLS), and pediatric advanced life support (PALS);

(c) Health care provider basic life support (BLS). BLS certification is required in WAC 246-817-720. One hour of continuing education for each BLS certification course will be granted. A licensed dentist may not count more than three hours every three years in this category;

(d) Infection control, federal/state safety standards, and radiation protection;

Continuing Education
(e) Pharmacology, prescribing practices, and pain management;
(f) Ethics;
(g) Patient care related education including risk management, methods of health delivery, multicultural, and suicide prevention education;
(h) Washington state dentistry law;
(i) Practice management and billing practices. A licensed dentist may not count more than twenty-one hours every three years in this category.

(4) Continuing education in subject categories identified in subsection (3) of this section may be completed using any of the following activities or methods:
(a) Attendance at local, state, national, or international continuing education courses, live interactive webinars, dental study clubs, postdoctoral education, and dental residencies;
(b) Self-study by various means, relevant to dentistry, without an instructor physically present.
   (i) Self-study can be continuing education provided online or through the mail provided by a continuing education provider. Thirty minutes will count for every one hour completed for this activity;
   (ii) Self-study can be reading a book that contributes to the professional knowledge and development of the licensed dentist, or enhance services provided to patients. A two-page synopsis of what was learned written by the licensed dentist is required. Two hours of continuing education for each book and synopsis will be granted. A licensed dentist may not count more than six hours every three years for this activity.
(c) Teaching, presenting, or lecturing in a course, only if the presentation or lecture is created or authored by the dentist claiming the continuing education hours. A licensed dentist may not count more than twenty-one hours every three years in this activity;
(d) Direct clinical supervision of dental students and dental residents. A licensed dentist may not count more than twenty-one hours every three years in this activity;
(e) Publishing a paper in a peer review journal. A licensed dentist may count fifteen hours the year the paper is published and may not count more than a total of thirty hours every three years in this activity. A copy of the publication is required;
(f) Reading and critically evaluating any hypothesis-driven scientific journal article on a topic that has relevance to dentistry and is published in a peer-reviewed journal devoted to dentistry, medicine, or useful to dentistry. A licensed dentist may not count more than twenty-one hours every three years.
   (i) Before completing this activity, the licensed dentist must complete at least four hours of education in evidence-based dentistry or medicine that includes journal article evaluation. The four-hour education may count toward the required sixty-three hour requirement. The four-hour education is a one-time requirement. A licensed dentist may not count more than four hours every three years.
   (ii) A licensed dentist may count one hour for each article that the dentist completes a “Critical Evaluation of a Journal Article” questionnaire. The questionnaire may be obtained from the commission. The completed questionnaire is required;
(g) Volunteer dental patient care. A licensed dentist may not count more than twenty-one hours every three years; and
(h) The commission will accept a current certification or recertification from any specialty board approved and recognized by the American Dental Association (ADA), the American Board of Dental Specialties (ABDS), or other specialty
board certification or recertification approved by the commission as sixty-two hours of continuing education. The commission will also accept the award of Fellow of the Academy of General Dentistry, Master of the Academy of General Dentistry, or the Lifelong Learning and Service Recognition Award as sixty-two hours of continuing education. The certification, recertification, or award must be obtained in the three-year reporting period.

(5) Proof of continuing education is a certificate of completion, letter, or other documentation verifying or confirming attendance or completion of continuing education hours. Documentation must be from the organization that provided the activity, except in subsection (4)(b)(ii), (e), and (f)(i) of this section, and must contain at least the following:

(a) Date of attendance or completion;
(b) Hours earned; and
(c) Course title or subject.