Initial Licensure Examination Requirements	The Board of Dental Examiners of Alabama currently accepts the following regional exams: **American Board of Dental Examiners (ADEX, CDCA-WREB-CITA), CRDTS+SRTA.** Both mannequin and patient-based portions are accepted. In order to apply for this method of licensure, you must have successfully passed a regional examination within the five (5) years immediately preceding the date on your application. Source: Board of Dental Examiners of Alabama Licsure Applications
General Licensure Requirements	**Code of Alabama § 34-9-10. Application** (a) Every person who desires to practice dentistry within the State of Alabama shall file an application prescribed by the board. Notwithstanding the method of obtaining licensure or any particular requirement set forth herein, every person as a prerequisite to licensure shall be at least 19 years of age, of good moral character, a citizen of the United States or, if not a citizen of the United States, a person who is legally present in the United States with appropriate documentation from the federal government, and a graduate of a dental school or college accredited by the American Dental Association Commission on Dental Accreditation and approved by the board and shall satisfy any other requirement set forth in any rule adopted by the board. (b) Licensure by examination shall be applicable to the following categories: (1) Those individuals who have never been licensed or taken an examination and whose application to take an examination administered or approved by the board is received by the board within 18 months of graduation from dental school or completion of an accredited or approved post-doctoral residency program. (2) Those individuals who have successfully passed an examination approved but not administered by the board so long as an application for licensure is received by the board within five years of the date of notification of passing such examination. All applicants shall pay a fee which shall accompany the application. **§ 34-9-11. Examination of applicants; issuance of licenses.** When an application and accompanying proof as required under this chapter are found satisfactory, the board shall notify the applicant to appear for examination at a time and place to be fixed by the board, and each applicant shall be examined and graded by number in lieu of name. All examinations provided for in this chapter shall be approved by the board and shall be of the type and character as to test the qualifications of the applicant to practice dentistry. Provided, however, the board may recognize any written parts of an examination given by the Joint Commission on National Dental Examinations in lieu of or subject to the board examinations as the board may approve. Those found qualified by the board, consistent with Section 34-9-10(a), shall be granted a license and a license certificate which shall bear a serial number, the full name of the licensee, the date of issuance, and the seal of the board, and shall be signed by each member of the board. **Alabama Rules 270-X-2.01 Education Requirements for Examination-Dentists.** (1) Pre-Dental. A minimum of three (3) years academic study of ninety (90) semester hours or its equivalent. This will include a minimum of: Biology.....8 hours Chemistry.....16 hours Physics.....8 hours Mathematics.....6 hours Non-Science.....30 hours (12 of which must be English or its equivalent) (2) Must be a graduate of a school or college of dentistry approved by the Board.

	(3) Must successfully complete the National Board Dental Examination Parts one (1) and two (2), or the Integrated National Board Dental Examination, administered by the Joint Commission on National Dental Examinations. (4) A person's failure to satisfy subsection (1) above shall not prevent that person from taking the dental licensure examination provided for in the Alabama Dental Practice Act, Code of Ala. 1975, §34-9-1, et seq., provided that person has satisfied the requirements of subsection (2) above. **270-X-2-.02 Applications For Dental License, Qualifications Of Applicants And Licensing Of Persons Licensed In Other States.** (1) All applicants for dental examination must file his/her application, giving first, middle and last name, and all credentials pertaining to the examination, along with examination fee and certificate fee in an amount set forth in Code of Ala. 1975, §34-9-16, with the secretary-treasurer not less than thirty (30) days prior to the date of the examination (2) Applications not complete with all credentials or received after the closing dates will be returned or rejected. (3) Fees are not refundable. (4) All applicants for licensure shall also comply with the provisions of Code of Ala. 1975, §34-9-10. **270-X-2-.05 Examination Rules And Issuance Of Licenses.** (1) No person other than Examiners and applicants for licensure shall be present in the rooms when and where examinations, either written, clinical or laboratory procedures are being conducted except by permission of examiner in charge. (2) Any applicant found guilty of receiving or giving aid during the theoretical, operative, clinical, or prosthetic laboratory examination will be dismissed. Dismissal will constitute a failure. (3) No smoking is allowed during examinations. (4) Examination paper will be furnished by the Board. No other paper of any kind, or textbooks, will be allowed in the examination room unless approved by the examiner in charge. (5) All written examinations must be written in the English language. (6) Board members are not permitted to interview applicants who have failed the examination. All such matters shall be directed to the secretary-treasurer in writing by the applicant. (7) Board members are not permitted to disclose grades made by any applicant to anyone other than the applicant. (8) When an applicant for licensure successfully passes the written or clinical examination, that passing grade shall carry over and be valid only until the next available examination. (9) In addition, examinations shall be conducted and licenses issued in compliance with Code of Ala. 1975, §34-9-11.
License by Credential/ Endorsement Requirements	**Code of Alabama § 34-9-10. Application; licensure by credentials; special purpose license.** (c) Any applicant who possesses a current license in any state, who has passed an examination approved by the board, and who has, since graduation from dental or dental hygiene school, practiced or participated in a clinical residency or practiced dentistry or dental hygiene in the Armed Forces or with the public health service shall be eligible for licensure if his or her application is received by the board within five years of the completion of the subject residency or Armed Forces or public health service commitment. (d) Licensure by credentials may be utilized to evaluate the theoretical knowledge and clinical skill of a dentist or dental hygienist when an applicant for licensure by credentials holds a dental or dental hygiene license in another state. The board may adopt rules relating to

	licensure by credentials in addition to any requirements by law. The dentist or dental hygienist applicant for licensure by credentials shall satisfy all of the following: (1) Has been engaged in the active practice of clinical dentistry or clinical dental hygiene or in full-time dental or dental hygiene education for the five years or 5,000 hours immediately preceding his or her application. (2) Holds a current, valid, unrevoked, and unexpired license in a state having examination standards regarded by the board as an equivalent to the Alabama standards. (3) Is licensed in good standing without any restrictions, as verified by the board of examiners in the state of current practice. (4) Is not the subject of a pending disciplinary action in any state in which he or she has been licensed as verified by a query to the National Practitioner Data Bank, the Health Integrity Protection Data Bank, the American Association of Dental Boards Clearing House for Disciplinary Information, or any other pertinent bank currently existing or which may exist in the future. (5) Provides a written statement agreeing to be interviewed at the request of the board. (6) Passes a written jurisprudence examination. (7) Is certified by the United States Drug Enforcement Administration and from the state board of any state in which he or she is or has been licensed that the DEA registration is not the subject of any pending disciplinary action or enforcement proceeding of any kind. (8)a. Submits affidavits as a dentist applicant from two licensed dentists practicing in the same geographical area where he or she is then practicing or teaching attesting to his or her moral character, standing, and ability of the applicant. b. Submits affidavits as a dental hygienist applicant from two licensed dentists or two licensed dental hygienists, or any combination of two thereof, practicing in the same geographical area where he or she is then practicing or teaching, attesting to his or her moral character, standing, and ability. (9) Provides the board with an official transcript with school seal from the school of dentistry or school of dental hygiene that issued his or her professional degree or executes a request and authorization allowing the board to obtain the transcript. (10) Is a graduate of a dental or dental hygiene school, college, or educational program approved by the board. (11) Is not the subject of any pending or final action from any hospital revoking, suspending, limiting, modifying, or interfering with any clinical or staff privileges. (12) Has not been convicted of a felony or misdemeanor involving moral turpitude or of any law dealing with the administering or dispensing of legend drugs, including controlled substances. (13) Any other criteria required by the board by rule, including, but not limited to, any of the following: a. Questioning under oath. b. Results of peer review reports from constituent dental societies or federal dental services. c. Substance abuse testing or treatment. d. Background checks for criminal or fraudulent activities. e. Participation in continuing education. f. A current certificate in cardiopulmonary resuscitation. g. Recent case reports or oral defense of diagnosis and treatment plans. 18 h. Proof of no physical or psychological impairment that would adversely affect the ability to practice dentistry or dental hygiene with reasonable skill and safety. i. An agreement to initiate practice within the State of Alabama within a period of one year. j. Proof of professional liability coverage and that coverage has not been refused, declined, canceled, nonrenewed, or modified. k. Whether the applicant has been subject to any final disciplinary action in any state in which he or she has been licensed which shall be verified by a query in the National Practitioner Data Bank, the Health Integrity Protection Data Bank, the American Association of Dental Boards Clearing House for Disciplinary Information, any state where the applicant has been licensed, or any other pertinent bank currently existing or which may exist in the future. l. Whether the applicant's DEA registration or any state-controlled substances permit has ever

	been revoked, suspended, modified, restricted, or limited in any way. Provided, however, that any discipline that results only from a failure to timely renew a registration or permit shall not prevent him or her from being eligible for this method of licensure. (e) If all criteria and requirements are satisfied and the board determines, after notice and a hearing, that the applicant committed fraud or in any way falsified any information in the application process, the license may be revoked by the board. (f) In addition to the requirements for applicants seeking licensure by credentials, an applicant desiring to practice a specialty only shall satisfy the following requirements: (1) The specialty shall be one in a branch of dentistry approved by the board. (2) The applicant shall satisfy the existing educational requirements and standards set forth by the board for that approved specialty. (3) An applicant who chooses to announce or practice a specialty shall limit his or her practice exclusively to the announced special area or areas of dental practice. (4) If an applicant who is initially licensed by credentials for a specialty practice decides to renounce his or her specialty and practice general dentistry and the license originally issued did not require a general dental license but rather a specialty license, or if the applicant originally passed only a specialty examination, the applicant may not practice general dentistry until he or she successfully passes the board's regular general dentistry examination. However, if the applicant passed a general dentistry examination or holds a general dentistry license and practices a specialty, then decides not to continue that specialty but to practice only general dentistry, the applicant is eligible for licensure by credentials as a general dentist. (g)(1) Notwithstanding subsection (a), the board shall issue a special purpose license to practice dentistry across state lines to an applicant who has met the following requirements: a. Holds a full and unrestricted license to practice dentistry in any state of the United States or in territories, other than the State of Alabama, in which the applicant is licensed. 19 b. Has not had any disciplinary action or other action taken against him or her by any state or licensing jurisdiction. If there has been previous disciplinary or other action taken against the applicant, the board may issue a certificate of qualification if it finds that the previous disciplinary or other action indicates that the dentist is not a potential threat to the public. c. Submits an application and an application fee for a certificate of qualification for a special purpose license to practice dentistry across state lines on a form provided by the board and pays a fee upon certification. All required fees shall be established by the board. (2) A special purpose license issued by the board to practice dentistry across state lines limits the licensee solely to the practice of dentistry across state lines. The special purpose license shall be valid for a period of up to three years, shall expire on a renewal date determined by the board, and may be renewed upon receipt of a renewal fee as established by the board. Failure to renew a license according to the renewal schedule established by the board shall cause the special purpose license to be inactive. An applicant may reapply for a special purpose license to practice dentistry across state lines following placement of the license on inactive status. The applicant shall meet the qualifications of subdivision (1) in order to be eligible for renewal of the license. (3) Notwithstanding the provisions of this section, the board shall only issue a special purpose license to practice dentistry across state lines to an applicant whose principal practice location and license to practice are located in a state or territory of the United States whose laws permit or allow for the issuance of a special purpose license to practice dentistry across state lines or similar license to a dentist whose principal practice location and license are located in another state. It is the stated intent of this section that dentists who hold a full and current license authorizing him or her to practice in the State of

	Alabama shall be afforded the opportunity to obtain a reciprocal license to practice dentistry across state lines in any other state or territory of the United States as a precondition to the issuance of a special purpose license as authorized by this section to a dentist licensed in the other state or territory. The board shall determine which states or territories have reciprocal licensure requirements meeting the qualifications of this section. (h) Any applicant who does not qualify for licensure pursuant to any of the above subsections but who has passed an out-of-state examination approved by the board and possesses a license in good standing authorizing the applicant to practice in the state of issuance is eligible to apply for licensure upon payment of a fee established by the board. The board shall have discretion whether to require an examination for the applicant, including the time, place, type, and content of the examination. **Alabama Administrative Code 270-X-2.19: Licensure by Credentials.** (1) Definitions: The following definitions shall apply to these rules: (a) LICENSURE BY CREDENTIALS. Licensure by credentials is to be used to evaluate the theoretical knowledge and clinical skill of a dentist/dental hygienist when an applicant holds a dental/dental hygienist license in another state, (b) BOARD. Board shall mean the Board of Dental Examiners of Alabama. (c) ACT. Code of Ala. 1975, §34-9-1 et seq. (2) To be eligible for licensure by credentials in the State of Alabama, the applicant shall meet the provisions of Code of Ala. 1975, §34-9-10 and this Rule, which are as follows: (a) The dentist/dental hygienist must have been engaged in the active practice of clinical dentistry/clinical dental hygiene or in full time dental/dental hygiene education for the five (5) years or five thousand (5,000) hours immediately preceding their application. (b) The applicant must hold a current, valid, unrevoked, and unexpired license in a state having examination standards regarded by the Board of Dental Examiners of Alabama as an equivalent to the Alabama standards. For purposes of this requirement, these exam standards shall include passing the National Board Dental Examination Parts one (1) and two (2), or the Integrated National Board Dental Examination, administered by the Joint Commission on National Dental Examinations. (c) The Board of Examiners in the state of current practice shall verify or endorse that the applicant's license is in good standing without any restrictions. (d) The dentist/dental hygienist must not be the subject of a pending disciplinary action in any state in which the individual has been licensed which shall be verified through inquiry to the National Practitioner Data Bank, the health Integrity Protection Data Bank, the American Association of Dental Boards Clearing House for Disciplinary Information, or any other pertinent Bank currently existing or which may exist in the future. (e) The applicant shall provide a written statement agreeing to be interviewed at the request of the Board. (f) The applicant must successfully pass a written jurisprudence examination. (g) There shall be certification from the United States Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) and from the State board of any state in which the applicant is or has been licensed that the DEA registration is not the subject of any pending disciplinary action or enforcement of any kind, or that any state-controlled substances permit has not been revoked, suspended, modified restricted or limited in any way. (h) The applicant must submit affidavits from two (2) licensed dentists/dental hygienists practicing in the same geographical area where the applicant currently is practicing or teaching attesting to the applicant's moral character, standing, and ability. (i) The applicant must provide the Board with and official transcript with school seal from the school of dentistry/dental hygiene which issued the applicant's professional degree or execute a request and authorization allowing the board to obtain the transcript. (j) The applicant must

	be a graduate of a dental/dental hygiene school, college or educational program approved by the board. (k) The applicant must not be the subject of any pending or final action from any hospital revoking, suspending, limiting, modifying, or interfering with any clinical or staff privileges. (l) The applicant must not have been convicted of a felony or any misdemeanor involving moral turpitude or of any law dealing with the administering or dispensing of legend drugs, including controlled substances. (m) The Board may consider or require other criteria including, but not limited to, any of the following: 1. Questioning. 2. Results of peer review reports from constituent dental societies or federal dental services. 3. Substance abuse testing or treatment. 4. Background checks for criminal or fraudulent activities. 5. Participation in continuing education. 6. A current certificate in cardiopulmonary resuscitation. 7. Recent case reports or oral defense of diagnosis and treatment plans. 8. Proof of no physical or psychological impairment that would adversely affect the ability to practice dentistry/dental hygiene with reasonable skill and safety. 9. Proof of professional liability coverage and that coverage has not been refused, declined, cancelled, non-renewed, or modified. 10. Whether the applicant has been subject to any final disciplinary action in any state in which the individual has been licensed which shall be verified by a query in the National Practitioner Data Bank, the Health Integrity Protection Databank, the American Association of Dental Examiners Clearing House for Disciplinary Information, any state where the applicant has been licensed, or any other pertinent bank currently existing or which may exist in the future. 11. Whether the applicant's DEA registration or any state-controlled substances permit has ever been revoked, suspended, modified, restricted, or limited in any way. Provided, however, that any discipline that results only from a failure to timely renew a registration or permit shall not prevent an applicant from being eligible for this method of licensure. 12. Denial of any professional license or denial of the opportunity to take a dental/dental hygiene exam. (n) If all criteria and requirements are satisfied and the Board determines, after notice and hearing, that the individual committed fraud or in any way falsified any information in the application process, the Board may impose disciplinary sanctions allowed by the provisions of the Act.
Specialty Practice	**Code of Alabama § 34-9-10. Application; licensure by credentials; special purpose license.** (D)(13)(f) In addition to the requirements for applicants seeking licensure by credentials, an applicant desiring to practice a specialty only shall satisfy the following requirements: (1) The specialty shall be one in a branch of dentistry approved by the board. (2) The applicant shall satisfy the existing educational requirements and standards set forth by the board for that approved specialty. (3) An applicant who chooses to announce or practice a specialty shall limit his or her practice exclusively to the announced special area or areas of dental practice. (4) If an applicant who is initially licensed by credentials for a specialty practice decides to renounce his or her specialty and practice general dentistry and the license originally issued did not require a general dental license but rather a specialty license, or if the applicant originally passed only a specialty examination, the applicant may not practice general dentistry until he or she successfully passes the board's regular general dentistry examination. However, if the applicant passed a general dentistry examination or holds a general dentistry license and practices a specialty, then decides not to continue that specialty but to practice only general dentistry, the applicant is eligible for licensure by credentials as a general dentist.

Advertising	**Code of Alabama § 34-9-19. Advertising -- Dentist; specialty requirements; practice emphasis; purpose of section; rules and regulations.** (a) For the purpose of this section, the following terms shall have the respective meanings: (1) ADVERTISEMENT. An advertisement is information communicated in a manner designed to attract public attention to the practice of a dentist as heretofore defined. (2) DENTIST. Any person licensed to practice dentistry in this state pursuant to this chapter or any entity authorized by law which is formed for the purpose of practicing dentistry. (3) FALSE. A false statement or claim is one which: a. Contains a material misrepresentation of fact or law. b. Omits a material fact rendering the statement or claim when considered as a whole false. (b) A dentist shall have ultimate responsibility for all advertisements which are approved by him or her or his or her agents or associates and the dentist shall be responsible for the following: (1) Broadcast advertisements shall be recorded, approved by the dentist, and a recording of the actual transmission shall be retained by the dentist for one year following the final appearance or use of the advertisement. The dentist is responsible for making copies of the advertisement available to the board within 10 days following a request by the board. (2) Written or printed advertisements shall be approved by the dentist and a copy of the publication in which the advertisement is displayed shall be retained by the dentist for one year following the final appearance or use of the advertisement. The dentist is responsible for making copies of the advertisement available to the board within 10 days following a request by the board. (3) Other forms of advertisement shall be approved by the dentist and the contents and specifications, where applicable, shall be retained by the dentist for one year following the final appearance or use of the advertisement and the dentist is responsible for making copies of the advertisement available to the board within 10 days following a request by the board. (c) A dentist may not hold himself or herself out as a specialist or advertise specialty status unless the specialty is approved by the board. (d) Dentists who are not specialists in specialties approved by the board may nevertheless advertise that their practice is limited to a specific area of dentistry only if the dentist has obtained membership in or otherwise has been credentialed by an accrediting organization which is recognized by the board as a bona fide organization for such an area of practice. (e) Notwithstanding any provision of this section to the contrary, a dentist licensed pursuant to this chapter may not hold himself or herself out as a specialist or advertise membership in a specialty recognized by an accrediting organization, unless the dentist has continuously held himself or herself out as a specialist since December 31, 1964, in a specialty recognized by the board or has completed a specialty education program approved by the board and the Commission on Dental Accreditation and meets either of the following qualifications: (1) Is eligible for examination by a national specialty board recognized by the board. (2) Is a diplomate of a national specialty board recognized by the board. (f) A dentist licensed under this chapter may not represent to the public without appropriate disclosure that his or her practice is limited to a specific area of dentistry other than a specialty area of dentistry authorized under subsection

	(e) unless the dentist has attained membership in or has otherwise been credentialed by an accrediting organization which is recognized by the board as a bona fide organization for such an area of dental practice. In order to be recognized by the board as a bona fide accrediting organization for a specific area of dental practice other than a specialty area of dentistry authorized under subsection (c), the organization must condition membership or credentialing of its members upon all of the following: (1) Successful completion of a formal, full-time advanced education program that is affiliated with or sponsored by a university-based dental school that is beyond the dental degree, is at the graduate or postgraduate level, and is of at least 12 months in duration. (2) Prior didactic training and clinical experience in the specific area of dentistry which is greater than that of other dentists. (3) Successful completion of oral and written examinations based on psychometric principles. (g) Notwithstanding the requirements of subsections (e) and (f), a dentist who lacks membership in or certification, diplomate status, or other similar credentials from an accrediting organization approved as bona fide by the board may announce a practice emphasis in any other area of dental practice if the dentist incorporates in capital letters or some other manner clearly distinguishable from the rest of the announcement, solicitation, or advertisement the following statement: “(NAME OF ANNOUNCED AREA OF DENTAL PRACTICE) IS NOT RECOGNIZED AS A SPECIALTY AREA BY THE BOARD OF DENTAL EXAMINERS OF ALABAMA.” If such an area of dental practice is officially recognized by an organization which the dentist desires to acknowledge or otherwise, reference in the dentist's announcement, solicitation, or advertisement, the same announcement, solicitation, or advertisement shall also state prominently: “(NAME OF REFERENCED ORGANIZATION) IS NOT RECOGNIZED AS A BONA FIDE SPECIALTY ACCREDITING ORGANIZATION BY THE BOARD OF DENTAL EXAMINERS OF ALABAMA.” (h) The purpose of this section is to prevent a dentist from advertising without appropriate disclosure membership in an organization which may be perceived by the public as recognizing or accrediting specialization or other unique competencies in an area of dentistry that is not recognized or accredited by the board in accordance with this section. The purpose of this section is also to prohibit a dentist from advertising a specialty or other area of dental practice without appropriate disclosure unless the special competencies held by the dentist satisfy the requirements of subsections (d) and (f). The Legislature finds that dental consumers can reasonably rely on these requirements as satisfactory evidence of a dentist's attainment of meaningful competencies in the specialty or other bona fide area of dental practice advertised. The Legislature also finds that this process for the recognition of dental specialties and other bona fide areas of dental practice is the least restrictive means available to ensure that consumers are not mislead about a dentist's unique credentials. (i) A dentist who lacks membership in or certification, diplomate status, or similar credentials from an accrediting organization approved as bona fide by the board may announce a practice emphasis in any other area of dental practice if the dentist incorporates the disclaimer set forth in subsection (g). (j) The board shall promulgate rules and regulations delineating examples of advertising which would be considered false, fraudulent, misleading, or deceptive. § 34-9-19.1. Advertising -- Dental referral service; requirements; prohibitions; penalties.

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 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.

	(a) For purposes of this section, the following words shall have the following meanings: (1) ADVERTISEMENT. Information communicated in a manner designed to attract public attention to a referral service, participating dentist, or a practice of dentistry. (2) DENTAL REFERRAL SERVICE. A person, firm, partnership, association, corporation, agent, or employee of any of the foregoing that engages in any business or service for profit that in whole or in part includes the referral or recommendation of persons to a dentist for any form of dental care or treatment. (3) DENTIST. Any person licensed to practice dentistry, or any entity authorized by law which is formed for the purpose of practicing dentistry. (4) FALSE, FRAUDULENT, MISLEADING, OR DECEPTIVE STATEMENT. A statement or claim having one or more of the following characteristics: a. One that contains a misrepresentation of fact. b. One that is likely to mislead or deceive because in context it makes only a partial disclosure of relevant facts. c. One that is intended or is likely to create a false or unjustified expectation of favorable results. d. One that implies unusual superior dental ability. e. One that contains other representations or implications that in reasonable probability will cause an ordinary and prudent person to misunderstand or be deceived. (5) PARTICIPATING DENTIST. A dentist who has paid a fee to the dental referral service in order to be included on its referral service. (b) A dental referral service shall not participate in the advertising of or operate a dental referral service unless all of the following conditions are met: (1) The patient referrals by the dental referral service result from patient-initiated responses to the service's advertising. (2) The dental referral service discloses to any prospective patient who makes contact with the service that the participating dentists have paid a fee for participation in the service. (3) The dental referral service does not impose a fee on the participating dentists dependent on the number of referrals or amount of professional fees paid by the patient to the dentist. (4) Participating dentists charge no more than their usual and customary fees to any patient referred. (5) The dental referral service registers with the Board of Dental Examiners of Alabama providing all the following information: a. Name. b. Street address. c. Mailing address. d. Telephone number. e. Name of registered agent or person responsible for the operation of the dental referral service. f. Listing of other states where the dental referral service is registered. g. A copy of the standard form contract that regulates its relationship with participating dentists. (c) Participating dentists shall not enter into a contract or other form or agreement to accept for dental care or treatment a person referred or recommended for the care or treatment by a dental referral service unless the dental referral service meets all the requirements of this section.

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 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.

	(d) A dental referral service that advertises shall include in each advertisement in legible or audible language, or both, a disclaimer containing all the following statements or information that: (1) The participating dentist of the dental referral service is a dentist who has paid a fee to participate in the service. (2) The advertisement is paid for by participating dentists. (3) No representation is made about the quality of the dental services to be performed or the expertise of the participating dentists. (4) Participating dentists are not more or less qualified than dentists who are not participating in the service. (e) Dental referral service advertisements shall not do any of the following: (1) Advertise or solicit patients in a manner that contains a false, fraudulent, misleading, or deceptive statement in any material respect. (2) Publish or circulate, directly or indirectly, any false, fraudulent, misleading, or deceptive statement as to the skill or methods of practice of any participating dentist. (3) Contain a statement or make a recommendation that the dental referral service provides referrals to the most qualified dentists or dental practices. (4) Contain a review process or a screening. (5) Contain qualifications or information verification that misleads the public into thinking a participating dentist has obtained special recognition or joined a selective group of licensed dentists by being a participating dentist in the dental referral service. (f) A violation of Sections 34-9-15, 34-9-19, 34-9-28, or this section, including, but not limited to, advertising in any manner which is false, fraudulent, misleading, or deceptive, shall subject a participating dentist to possible administrative disciplinary actions outlined in Section 34-9-18, after notice and hearing by the Board of Dental Examiners of Alabama and the opportunity for judicial review as provided in this article. § 34-9-20. Unauthorized advertising, selling, or offering of dental services and appliances; injunctions. Any person, which word when used in this section shall include all legal entities not licensed to practice dentistry in this state, who shall advertise in any manner to the general public that he or she can or will sell, supply, furnish, construct, reproduce, or repair prostheses (fixed or removable), or other appliances to be used or worn as substitutes for natural teeth, or for the regulation thereof, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, and the circuit courts shall have jurisdiction to enjoin such person from so doing. **Alabama Administrative Code 270-X-4.08 Advertising.** (1) A dentist shall not make or cause to be made a false communication about the dentist or the dentist's services. A communication is false if it contains a material misrepresentation of fact or law. (2) A communication is defined as information in any manner or medium designed or intended to attract public attention to the dentist or his/her practice and shall include any "advertisement" as that term is defined in Code of Ala. 1975, §34-9-19. (3) Any/all advertisements for a dental practice/organization must include at least one dentist's name (working within the practice/organization) and/or the practice/organization name.
Continuing Education	**Code of Alabama 34-9-15. Annual registration; continuing education.** (a) No individual shall practice dentistry or dental hygiene in the State of Alabama unless licensed or permitted by the board and registered annually as required by this chapter. (b)(1) The secretary-treasurer of the board shall issue to each licensee an initial

	registration form which shall contain space for the insertion of name, address, date, and number of license certificate, and other information as the board shall deem necessary. The licensee shall sign and verify the accuracy of the registration before a notary public after which he or she shall forward the registration to the secretary-treasurer of the board together with a fee. Each subsequent registration shall be made in electronic format or by United States mail upon a form to be determined by the board. (2) On or before October 1 of each year, every dentist and dental hygienist licensed or permitted to practice dentistry or dental hygiene in the state shall transmit either online or by United States mail to the secretary-treasurer of the board the completed form prescribed by the board, together with a fee established by the board pursuant to this chapter, and receive thereafter the current annual registration certificate authorizing him or her to continue the practice of dentistry or dental hygiene in the state for a period of one year. Notwithstanding Section 34-9-16, the total amount of any administrative fines and costs assessed upon the licensee pursuant to Section 34-9-18 in a final and non-appealable order or agreement shall be added to and made a part of the fee. (c)(1) Any license or permit previously granted under the authority of this chapter or any prior dental practice act shall automatically be suspended if the holder thereof fails to secure the annual registration certificate before January 1, each year. Any dentist or dental hygienist whose license or permit is automatically suspended by reason of failure, neglect, or refusal to secure the annual registration certificate shall be reinstated by the board upon payment of the penalty fee plus all accrued annual registration fees up to a maximum of five years, accompanied with the prescribed form for annual registration of the license or permit. (2) Upon failure of any licensee or permittee to file application for the annual registration certificate and pay the annual registration fee on or before November 30, each year, the board shall notify the licensee or permittee by mail addressed to the last address of record that the application and fee have not been received and that, unless the application and fee are received on or before the first day of January, the license or permit shall be automatically suspended. The board shall notify the licensee or permittee by mail addressed to the last address of record of the effective date of the automatic suspension and the provisions for registration of the license or permit. (d)(1) The board shall waive the annual payment of fees herein provided for and issue a current annual registration certificate to any licensee or permittee who has retired from the practice of dentistry or dental hygiene because of age or physical disability. (2) The board by rule shall waive annual registration and the payment of fees while any licensee is on temporary active duty with any of the Armed Forces of the United States. (3) The waivers of fees provided in this subsection shall be effective so long as the retirement because of age or physical disability or temporary active duty continues. (e) The board shall adopt rules for the adoption of a program of continuing education for its licensees. The successful completion of continuing education program requirements shall be a requisite for renewal of licenses and permits issued pursuant to this chapter. **Alabama Administrative Code Rule 270-X-2-.07 - Annual Registration For Dentists** (1) The Secretary-Treasurer of the Board shall furnish to every dentist currently licensed and registered to practice in the State of Alabama, on or before September 1 of each year, a registration form which contains space for the insertion of his/her name, address, date and number of his/her license certificate and such other information as the Board shall deem necessary. The registration form shall also require the dentist to attest whether he or she is in possession of

	any controlled substances for dispensing or administration to patients, and, if so, whether his or her inventory record is reconciled to the actual inventory of controlled substances. (2) No later than September 30 of each year, every dentist licensed and registered to practice in the State of Alabama shall transmit to the Secretary of the Board the completed form prescribed by the Board, together with the prescribed annual registration fee. The valid period of a certificate of registration shall be exactly one year, commencing on October 1 and ending on September 30 of the following calendar year, without regard to the date on which the annual registration takes place. On October 1 of each year, the license of any dentist who shall have failed to complete the annual registration process as provided in this subsection shall be converted to expired status. (3) Between October 1 and December 31 of each year, any dentist whose license is converted to expired status as provided in subsection (2) may reinstate his or her license to active status by meeting all applicable requirements for renewal, and by paying the prescribed annual registration fee. (4) On or about December 1 of each year, the Executive Director shall cause the issuance of the written notices described in Ala. Code §34-9-15(c)(2), via U.S. Mail, to all dentists who, as of such date, shall not have completed the annual registration process. (5) On January 1 of each year, the licenses of all dentists who shall have failed to complete the annual registration process shall automatically be suspended. Any dentist whose license is automatically suspended for less than five years may reinstate his or her license by completing all of the following: (a) meeting all applicable requirements for reinstatement; (b) paying the prescribed annual registration fee for all intervening years up to a maximum of five years; and (c) paying the statutory maximum reinstatement penalty as prescribed by Ala. Code §34-9-16. (6) Any person who performs any act constituting the practice of dentistry without a valid license and annual registration as prescribed by law shall be subject to disciplinary action. (7) In no case shall a dentist be permitted to complete the annual license registration process unless he or she demonstrates the he or she has fulfilled the continuing education requirements prescribed by Rule 270-X-4-.04. **Alabama Administrative Code 270-X-4-.0 4 Mandatory Continuing Education For Dentists and Dental Hygienists.** 1. DEFINITIONS a. Live Training-The primary presenter or instructor is physically present at the same location as the student and is presenting information in real time. b. Online Training-The primary presenter or instructor is located at a different physical location than the student and is presenting pre-recorded information by means of an internet-based platform or other media. Self-guided, internet-based courses that may or may not have a presenter would also be considered online training. 2. NUMBER OF HOURS a. Dentists shall complete twenty (20) hours of continuing education every year as a condition of licensure renewal. All continuing education hours earned shall be completed and submitted within the renewal period in which they were earned. 1. A minimum of ten (10) hours shall be live training. 2. A dentist shall maintain a current certification in Basic Life Support (BLS) training through the American Heart Association, American Red Cross, or an

	equivalent program. This program shall be completed through live training and certified for a minimum of two (2) hours and a maximum of four (4) hours. 3. A dentist shall complete a minimum of one (1) hour of prescribing of controlled substances training annually. 4. A dentist holding an active sedation or anesthesia related permit (e.g., oral conscious sedation, parenteral sedation, general anesthesia) shall maintain a current certification in Advanced Cardiac Life Support (ACLS) training through the American Heart Association, American Red Cross, or an equivalent program. For dentists with a declared pediatric specialty, Pediatric Advanced Life Support (PALS) may be substituted for ACLS. The ACLS or PALS program shall be completed through live training. 5. A dentist with an active oral conscious sedation permit shall complete a minimum of two (2) hours of training related to sedation and/or anesthesia annually. 6. A dentist shall complete a minimum of one (1) hour of training in infectious disease control annually. 7. A dentist shall complete a minimum of one (1) hour of ethical considerations in the practice of dentistry training annually. 8. A dentist may earn up to a maximum of four (4) hours for pro bono charitable work performed within the state of Alabama. One (1) hour of continuing education credit shall be awarded for every two (2) hours of documented service. b. Dental hygienists shall complete twelve (12) hours of continuing education every year as a condition of licensure renewal. All continuing education hours earned shall be completed and submitted within the renewal period in which they were earned. 1. A minimum of six (6) hours shall be live training. 2. A dental hygienist shall maintain a current certification in Basic Life Support (BLS)training through the American Heart Association, American Red Cross, or an equivalent program. This program shall be completed through live training and certified for a minimum of two (2) hours and a maximum of four (4) hours. 3. A dental hygienist shall complete a minimum of one (1) hour of training in infectious disease control annually. 4. A dental hygienist shall complete a minimum of one (1) hour of ethical considerations in the practice of dental hygiene training annually. 5. A dental hygienist may earn up to a maximum of four (4) hours for pro bono charitable work performed within the state of Alabama. One (1) hour of continuing education credit shall be awarded for every two (2) hours of documented service. Any such service must be completed under the direct supervision of a dentist actively licensed in the state of Alabama. 3. LICENSEES EXCUSED FROM CONTINUING EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS a. A dentist enrolled full-time in a post graduate specialty training or residency program at a dental college accredited by the American Dental Association's Commission on Dental Accreditation is excused from the requirements in 2(a). The dentist shall provide documentation of their enrollment during the annual renewal as described in 4(d). b. A licensee may submit a written request to the Board requesting a waiver or extension of the continuing education requirements for a specific annual cycle. The written request and supporting documentation must be received by the Board no later than September 1st of the annual continuing education cycle in which the waiver or extension is to apply. Upon review, the Board shall notify the licensee in writing of their approval or denial of the request.

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 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.

	c. A dentist or dental hygienist licensed in the State of Alabama but practicing outside the State of Alabama is excused from the requirements of 2(a) or 2(b). If the dentist or dental hygienist returns to the State of Alabama to practice, they shall submit proof of continuing education for the number of years they practiced outside the State of Alabama up to a maximum of five (5) years. 4. RECORD KEEPING, REPORTING, AND MONITORING a. Licensees shall document continuing education by uploading proof of completion to their online continuing education account maintained within the board-approved online platform (i.e., CE Broker). b. Proof of completion documents shall include, at a minimum, the name of the licensee, the date the training occurred, the number of approved continuing education hours, the entity or instructor providing the training, and the location where the training occurred. c. Documentation regarding pro bono chartable work shall include, at a minimum, the name of the licensee, the date the service was provided, the beginning and ending time the service was provided, the entity the service was provided on behalf of, and the name and phone number of a contact person that can verify the service was provided. d. A dentist enrolled full-time in a post graduate specialty training or residency program at a dental college accredited by the American Dental Association's Commission on Dental Accreditation, shall upload a letter from their specialty training or residency program indicating the start date and anticipated graduation date of their training. This document is required to renew their dental license with the Board. e. An applicant applying for a dental or dental hygiene license shall, at a minimum, provide documentation of completion of BLS and Infectious Disease Control training. f. It is the responsibility of the licensee to maintain continuing education records for a period of two (2) years in a manner prescribed by the Board. g. A dentist or dental hygienist requesting to reinstate their license after having requested their license be placed inactive or having allowed their license to expire shall show continuing education equal to 2(a) or 2(b) up to a maximum of five (5) years. If the license has been inactive or expired for more than five (5) years, the dentist or dental hygienist shall be required to show continuing education equal to 2(a) or 2(b) and additional continuing education as determined by the Board. The additional continuing education shall include but not limited to live training in hand/instrument skills. 5. AUDIT PROCEDURES a. The Board shall conduct random audits of the continuing education documents uploaded by licensees into their online continuing education account. The scope of the random audit will be determined by the Board and the Executive Director will be responsible for completing the audit and reporting the results to the Board. b. Any documented continuing education training that does not appear to be related to the practice of dentistry or fall within the established scope of practice for a licensee shall be reviewed by a designee of the Board prior to being accepted or denied as part of an audit. c. A licensee chosen for audit shall receive notification of the results of the audit. d. A licensee that does not successfully pass an audit shall be subject to the provisions of Alabama Administrative Code, r. 270-X-5-.09 "Non-disciplinary Administrative Penalties." 6. GENERAL CRITERIA FOR APPROVED CONTINUING EDUCATION

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	a. Continuing education credit shall be awarded at the rate of one (1) hour for every fifty (50) minutes of instruction. b. Continuing education for licensees should be related to the practice of dentistry and fall within their established scope of practice. c. Training provided by national, state, district, or local dental or dental hygiene associations shall be recognized as approved training. d. Training provided by accredited dental or dental hygiene colleges or schools shall be recognized as approved training. e. A licensee that is the primary presenter or instructor of continuing education training may submit the training for continuing education credit that is eligible to be applied to their individual professional license or permit. The rate of two (2) hours of credit for each one (1) hour of instruction presented shall be awarded. Documentation of this instruction must show the licensee's name as the primary presenter or instructor, the topic, the length of the training, the location, and the date/time of the presentation. 7. CRITERIA FOR SUBMITTING TRAINING FOR BOARD APPROVAL a. Courses that do not meet the criteria noted in 6(a, b) above may be submitted to the Board, or designee, for pre-approval. Once approved, the course shall be accepted by the Board when submitted by licensees towards their annual continuing education requirements. Courses should be submitted at least thirty (30) days in advance to ensure approval prior to presentation. The Board reserves the right to approve or deny course submissions. A designee of the Board may attend or audit any approved courses to ensure compliance with this rule. b. Courses submitted for approval shall have documentation of, at a minimum: 1. Didactic/clinical subject matter; 2. Type of presenter/student participation; 3. Outlined course objectives; 4. Number of requested continuing education credit hours; 5. Primary presenter/instructor's qualifications. c. Courses submitted for approval as meeting the ethical considerations requirement in Section 2 above should demonstrate the course includes substantial content addressing any combination of one or more of the following topics: 1. The American Dental Association (ADA) Principles of Ethics and Code of Professional Conduct (dentists and/or dental hygienists); 2. The American Dental Hygienists Association (ADHA) Code of Ethics for Dental Hygienists (dental hygienists only); 3. Abuse, neglect, or human trafficking; 4. Sexual abuse, misconduct, and/or boundary violations; 5. Informed consent; 6. Billing and coding; 7. Mandatory reporting obligations applicable to dentists and/or dental hygienists. d. Courses presented by the American Society for Dental Ethics or the American College of Dentistry, and any course that satisfies an ethics continuing education requirement of the licensee's professional liability insurance carrier, will also generally be accepted as satisfying the ethics requirement.

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