Alaska Laws & Rules

Updated: 24 October 2025

Initial Licensure Examination Requirements

American Board of Dental Examiners (ADEX, CDCA-WREB-CITA), CRDTS+SRTA or successful completion of a PGY-1 program approved by the Commission on Dental Accreditation of the American Dental Association, and 20 hours continuous clinical practice per week for previous 5 years immediately preceding application (clinical practice may include dental school) Exam must include constructive response or objective structured clinical exam (OSCE) or DLOSCE testing that includes diagnosis and treatment planning; periodontics, restorative dentistry, oral pathology, medical considerations, prescription writing and prosthodontics; endodontics testing, on a mannequin or live patient; prosthetics testing, on a mannequin or live patient and operative exam that includes one class II posterior ally or composite procedure and one additional operative procedure.

Source: Board of Dental Examiners of Alaska Licensing Application and 12 Alaska Administrative Code 28.940. DENTAL LICENSURE BY EXAMINATION.

General Licensure Requirements

Alaska Statutes Chapter 36, Article 2, Sec. 08.36.110. Qualifications for license

Sec. 08.36.100. License required. Except as provided in AS 08.36.238 and 08.36.254, a person may not practice, or attempt to practice, dentistry without a license.

Sec. 08.36.110. Qualifications for license; interview. (a) An applicant for a license to practice dentistry shall

- (1) provide certification to the board that the applicant
- (A) is a graduate of a dental school that, at the time of graduation, is approved by the board;
- (B) has successfully passed a written examination approved by the board;
- (C) has not had a license to practice dentistry revoked, suspended, or voluntarily surrendered in this state or another state;
- (D) is not the subject of an adverse decision based on a complaint, investigation, review procedure, or other disciplinary proceeding within the five years immediately preceding application, or of an unresolved complaint, investigation, review procedure, or other disciplinary proceeding, undertaken by a state, territorial, local, or federal dental licensing jurisdiction;
- (E) is not the subject of an unresolved or an adverse decision based on a complaint, investigation, review procedure, or other disciplinary proceeding, undertaken by a state, territorial, local, or federal dental licensing jurisdiction or law enforcement agency that relates to criminal or fraudulent activity, dental malpractice, or negligent dental care and that adversely reflects on the applicant's ability or competence to practice dentistry or on the safety or well-being of patients;
- (F) is not the subject of an adverse report from the National Practitioner Data Bank or the American Association of Dental Boards Clearinghouse for Board Actions that relates to criminal or fraudulent activity, or dental malpractice;
- (G) is not impaired to an extent that affects the applicant's ability to practice dentistry;
- (H) has not been convicted of a crime that adversely reflects on the applicant's ability or competency to practice dentistry or that jeopardizes the safety or well-being of a patient:
- (2) pass, to the satisfaction of the board, written, clinical, and other examinations administered or approved by the board; and
- (3) meet the other qualifications for a license established by the board by regulation, including education in pain management and opioid use and addiction in the two years preceding the application for a license, unless the applicant has demonstrated to the satisfaction of the board that the applicant does not currently

hold a valid federal Drug Enforcement Administration registration number; approved education may include dental school coursework.

- (b) An applicant for licensure may be interviewed in person by the board or by a member of the board before a license is issued. The interview must be recorded. If the application is denied on the basis of the interview, the denial shall be stated in writing, with the reasons for it, and the record shall be preserved.
- 12 Alaska Administrative Code 28.940. DENTAL LICENSURE BY EXAMINATION
- (a) The board will issue a license by examination to practice dentistry to an applicant who meets the requirements of AS 08.36.110 and this section.
- (b) An applicant for a license under this section shall submit
- (1) a complete, notarized application on a form provided by the department;
- (2) the applicable fees established in 12 AAC 02.190;
- (3) an affidavit by the applicant stating the applicant is not impaired to an extent that affects the applicant's ability to practice dentistry;
- (4) as required under 12 AAC 28.908(b), a statement from the applicant certifying the applicant will adhere to the ethical standards specified in 12 AAC 28.905(b);
- (5) an authorization from the applicant for release of the applicant's records to the department;
- (6) an affidavit from the applicant that lists the license number and name of the jurisdiction for all dental licenses that the applicant holds or has ever held in any jurisdiction;
- (7) a copy of a current certification in cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) techniques that meets the requirements of 12 AAC 28.920;
- (8) a copy of the applicant's certificate
- (A) of examination from the Western Regional Examining Board (WREB) showing that the applicant has passed the clinical examination conducted by WREB before February 1, 2019 and within the five years immediately preceding the date of application;
- (B) of examination showing that the applicant has passed the clinical examination conducted by WREB on or after February 1, 2019 or an equivalent examination; an applicant must have passed an examination under this subparagraph within the five years immediately preceding the date of application; and the examination must include the following subject areas, components, or characteristics:
- (i) standardization and calibration of the examiners and anonymity between candidates and grading examiners;
- (ii) repealed 10/4/2020;
- (iii) constructive response or objective structured clinical examination testing that includes diagnosis and treatment planning, periodontics, restorative dentistry, oral pathology, medical considerations, prescription writing and prosthodontics;
- (iv) endodontics testing, on a mannequin or live patient, to include access and obturation of an anterior tooth and access of a multi-canalled posterior tooth;
- (v) prosthetics testing, on a mannequin or live patient, to include a crown prep or a bridge prep;
- (vi) a patient based or a mannequin based operative examination that includes one class II posterior alloy or composite procedure, and one additional operative procedure, either anterior class III or posterior class II:
- (C) showing successful completion of a two-year or more postgraduate dental specialty training program approved by the Commission on Dental Accreditation of the American Dental Association; or

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- (D) showing satisfactory completion of a clinically-based postdoctoral general practice residency (GPR) or advanced education in general dentistry program (AEGD), of at least one year's duration, in a hospital or dental facility accredited for teaching purposes by the Commission on Dental Accreditation of the American Dental Association; the residency program must include a formal evaluation of the resident's competence to practice dentistry;
- (9) a copy of the applicant's certificate of examination from the American Dental Association Joint Commission on National Dental Examinations, verifying successful passage of the National Board Dental Examination Part I and Part II, or the Integrated National Board Dental Examination;
- (10) if the applicant holds a valid federal Drug Enforcement Administration registration number, verification that the applicant has completed not less than two hours of education in pain management and opioid use and addiction within the two years before the date of application; and
- (11) an official transcript sent directly to the department from a dental school verifying a dental degree from a school that meets the requirements of 12 AAC 28,938.
- (c) In addition to the requirements of (a) and (b) of this section, an applicant for licensure by examination must pass the written Alaska jurisprudence examination authorized under AS 08.36.110 and conducted by the board with a passing score of at least 70 percent.
- (d) Repealed 2/19/2021.
- (e) In addition to the requirements of (a) (c) of this section, an applicant who has ever been licensed in a jurisdiction before the 90 days immediately preceding the date of application or has ever been licensed to practice dentistry in a foreign country shall submit
- (1) repealed 2/19/2021;
- verification of the status of the applicant's registration with the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA), sent directly to the department from DEA, even if the applicant is not currently registered with the DEA; and
- (3) verification of the applicant's status and complete information regarding any disciplinary action or investigation taken or pending from all licensing jurisdictions where the applicant holds or has ever held a dental license.
- (f) Notwithstanding other provisions of this section, the board will issue a license to practice dentistry to an applicant who
- (1) held an active Alaska dental specialty license from this state in 2012;
- (2) meets the requirements of AS 08.36.110 and (b)(1) (7) and (11) of this section; and
- (3) provides a copy of the applicant's certificate of examination from the American Dental Association Joint Commission on National Dental Examinations that the applicant has successfully passed the written examinations given by the commission.

License by Credential/ Endorsement Requirements

Alaska Statutes Chapter 36, Article 2, Sec. 08.36.234. Licensure by credentials.

- (a) The board may waive the examination requirement and license by credentials if the dentist applicant meets the requirements of AS 08.36.110, submits proof of continued competence as required by regulation, pays the required fee, and has
- (1) an active license from a board of dental examiners established under the laws of a state or territory of the United States issued after thorough examination; or
 (2) passed an examination as specified by the board in regulations.
- (b) A dentist applying for licensure without examination is responsible for providing to the board all materials required by the board to implement this section to establish eligibility for a license without examination. In addition to the grounds

for revocation of a license under AS 08.36.315, the board may revoke a license issued without examination upon evidence of misinformation or substantial omission.

- (c) The board shall adopt regulations necessary to implement this section including the form and manner of certification of qualifications under this section.
- (d) A dentist applying for licensure without examination shall be interviewed in person by the board or by a member of the board before a license is issued. The interview must be recorded. If the application is denied on the basis of the interview, the denial shall be stated in writing, with the reasons for it, and the record shall be preserved.

Sec. 08.36.238. Exemption from license requirement. (a) A person enrolled as a student in an accredited school of dentistry may perform procedures as part of a course of study without a license if

- (1) the procedures are performed under the direct supervision of a member of the faculty who is licensed under this chapter, or under the direct supervision of a team of licensed faculty dentists, at least one of whom is licensed under this chapter; and
- (2) the clinical program has received written approval from the board.
- (b) A person practicing dentistry under (a) of this section is subject to all other provisions of this chapter and to other laws and regulations which apply to the practice of dentistry.

12 Alaska Administrative Code 28.951. DENTAL LICENSURE BY CREDENTIALS.

- (a) The board will issue a license by credentials to practice dentistry to an applicant who meets the requirements of AS 08.36.110, 08.36.234, and this section.
- (b) An applicant for a license under this section shall submit to the department
- (1) a complete, notarized application on a form provided by the department;
- (2) the applicable fees established in 12 AAC 02.190;
- (3) an authorization from the applicant for release of the applicant's records to the department;
- (4) an affidavit from the applicant that lists the license number and name of the jurisdiction for all dental licenses that the applicant holds or has ever held in any jurisdiction;
- (5) verification of the status of the applicant's registration with the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA), sent directly to the department from DEA, even if the applicant is not currently registered with the DEA;
- (6) repealed 3/5/2023;
- (7) if the applicant holds a valid federal Drug Enforcement Administration registration number, verification that the applicant has completed not less than two hours of education in pain management and opioid use and addiction within the two years before the date of application;
- (8) a copy of a current certification in cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) techniques that meets the requirements of 12 AAC 28.920;
- (9) a copy of the applicant's certificate from the American Dental Association Joint Commission on National Dental Examinations verifying successful passage of the National Board Dental Examination Part 1 and Part II, or the Integrated National Board Dental Examination;
- (10) an affidavit from the applicant stating the applicant is not impaired to an extent that affects the applicant's ability to practice dentistry;
- (11) as required under 12 AAC 28.908(b), a statement from the applicant certifying the applicant will adhere to the ethical standards specified in 12 AAC 28.905(b); and
- (12) repealed 3/5/2023.

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- (c) In addition to the requirements of (a) and (b) of this section, an applicant for a license under this section shall arrange for and ensure submission of
- (1) if the applicant is or has ever been employed as a dentist with a federal agency, verification of the current status and disciplinary history from each federal agency where the applicant is or has been employed, sent directly to the department from the agency;
- (2) repealed 3/5/2023;
- (3) verification of the applicant's status and complete information regarding any disciplinary action or investigation taken or pending from all licensing jurisdictions where the applicant holds or has ever held a dental license, sent directly to the department from the licensing jurisdiction;
- (4) repealed 3/5/2023;
- (5) repealed 3/5/2023; and
- (6) an official transcript sent directly to the department from a dental school verifying a dental degree from a school that meets the requirements of 12 AAC 28.938.
- (d) In addition to the requirements of this section, an applicant for a dental license must document completion of the jurisprudence examination prepared by the board, covering the provisions of AS 08.32, AS 08.36, and this chapter relating to the practice of dentistry, with a passing score of at least 70 percent.
- (e) Repealed 5/14/2022.
- (f) Repealed 5/14/2022.
- (g) The personal interview of the applicant required in AS 08.36.234(d) must be completed.
- (h) Repealed 5/14/2022.

Specialty Practice

Alaska Statutes Article 2, Section 242

Sec. 08.36.242. License to practice as specialist required. A licensed dentist may not represent to the public to be qualified in a specialized branch of dentistry through any means of public advertising using the term "specialist," the name of a specialty, or a phrase that would suggest to the public that the dentist is a qualified specialist in a branch of dentistry unless the dentist has a specialist license in that branch as provided in this chapter.

Sec. 08.36.243. Qualification for specialist license; scope of practice.

- (a) An applicant for a specialist license must (1) hold a license issued by the board in accordance with AS 08.36.110 or 08.36.234; and (2) meet additional qualifications for a specialist license in a specified branch of dentistry as established by the board by regulation.
- (b) In determining the qualifications for a specialist license in a specified branch of dentistry under (a) of this section, the board shall consider the qualifications necessary to obtain specialty certification by a nationally recognized certifying entity approved by the board. (
- c) The practice of a dentist who obtains a specialist license under (a) of this section is limited to the branch of dentistry in which the dentist holds a specialist license. Sec. 08.36.244. License to practice as specialist required. [Repealed, Sec. 40 ch 53 SLA 2012.]

Sec. 08.36.245. Suspension or revocation of specialist license. The board may suspend or revoke a specialist license on grounds and according to the procedures set out in AS 08.36.315.

Sec. 08.36.246 – 08.36.248. Qualification for a specialist license; limitation of special practice; suspension or revocation of specialty licenses. [Repealed, Sec. 40 ch 53 SLA 2012.]

12 Alaska Administrative Code 28.959. Dental Specialist License

- (a) The board may issue a dental specialist license in a branch of dentistry recognized by the board to a dentist applicant who
- (1) holds a license issued by the board in accordance with AS 08.36.110 or 08.36.234:
- (2) submits proof of successful completion of a post-doctoral dental specialty residency program that, at the time of completion, is accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation of the American Dental Association:
- (3) has successfully completed a post-doctoral residency in a branch of dentistry that is recognized by the board and the National Commission on Recognition of Dental Specialties and Certifying Boards; and
- (4) submits a notarized, completed application on a form provided by the department; the completed application must include the
- (A) applicant's name and license number;
- (B) name and location of the applicant's dental practice, office, or clinic; and
- (C) applicable fees required in 12 AAC 02.190.
- (b) A dentist may only advertise as a specialist in a branch of dentistry that is recognized by the board, including
- (1) endodontics;
- (2) oral and maxillofacial surgery;
- (3) oral and maxillofacial radiology;
- (4) oral and maxillofacial pathology;
- (5) orthodontics and dentofacial orthopedics;
- (6) pediatric dentistry;
- (7) periodontics;
- (8) prosthodontics;
- (9) dental public health;
- (10) dental anesthesiology;
- (11) oral medicine; or
- (12) orofacial pain.
- (c) Notwithstanding (b) of this section, a general dentist who does not obtain a dental specialist license may advertise fellowships, other credentials earned, or aspects of focus in the area of general dentistry so long as any communications that express or imply specialization are avoided, and the advertisement includes a disclaimer that the dentist is a general dentist.
- (d) A dentist who obtains a dental specialist license under (a) of this section is limited to practice in the branch of dentistry in which the dentist holds a dental specialist license.
- (e) In this section, "dental specialty" means an area of dentistry that has been formally recognized by the National Commission on Recognition of Dental Specialties and Certifying Boards.

Continuing Education

Alaska Statutes Sec. 08.36.250. License renewal, lapse, and reinstatement.

(a) At least 60 days before expiration of a license issued under this chapter, the department shall notify the licensed dentist. A licensee who wishes to renew a license shall submit a completed license renewal form, the appropriate fee, and evidence of continued professional competence as required by the board. The department shall, as soon as practicable, issue a new license valid for a stated number of years. Failure to receive notification from the department under this subsection does not exempt a licensee from renewing a license to practice dentistry under this chapter.

(b) When applying for license renewal, a dentist shall report to the board each instance during the prior registration period in which the quality of the licensee's professional services was the subject of legal action.

(c) A licensed dentist who does not pay the license renewal fee forfeits the dentist's license. The board may reinstate the license without examination within two years after the date on which payment was due upon written application, proof of continued professional competence, and payment of all unpaid renewal fees and any penalty fee established under AS 08.01.100(b).

12 Alaska Administrative Code 28.400. CONTINUING EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS FOR DENTISTRY AND DENTAL HYGIENISTS LICENSEES

- (a) Except as provided in 12 AAC 28.405(a), an applicant for renewal of a dentistry license shall submit evidence of continued professional competence by documenting
- (1) completion of at least 32 contact hours of continuing education;
- (2) cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) certification that meets the requirements of 12 AAC 28.920; and
- (3) if the applicant holds a valid federal Drug Enforcement Administration registration number, verification that the applicant has completed not less than two hours of continuing education in pain management and opioid use and addiction.
- (b) Except as provided in 12 AAC 28.405(b), an applicant for renewal of a dental hygienist license shall submit evidence of continued professional competence by documenting
- (1) completion of at least 20 contact hours of continuing education; and
- (2) cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) certification that meets the requirements of 12 AAC 28.920.
- (c) An applicant for renewal of a dental hygienist restorative function endorsement under 12 AAC 28.780 shall submit evidence of continued competence by documenting an additional two hours of continuing education relating to materials or techniques used for the restoration of teeth.
- (d) For the purpose of this section,
- (1) one "contact hour" equals a minimum of 50 minutes of instruction;
- (2) one academic semester credit hour equals 15 contact hours;
- (3) one academic quarter credit hour equals 10 contact hours;
- (4) one continuing education unit equals one contact hour;
- (5) one continuing education credit equals one contact hour.
- (e) Credit is given only for class hours and not hours devoted to class preparation.
- (f) Except as provided under 12 AAC 02.965, the continuing education requirements of 12 AAC 28.010, 12 AAC 28.015, and 12 AAC 28.400 12 AAC 28.410 must be completed during the concluding licensing period.

12 AAC 28.405. CONTINUING EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS FOR FIRST TIME RENEWAL OF A LICENSE.

- (a) An applicant applying for renewal of a dentistry license for the first time shall submit evidence of continued professional competence by documenting
- (1) completion of at least one-half of the number of contact hours of continuing education required by 12 AAC 28.400(a)(1) and (c) for each complete year that the applicant was licensed during the concluding licensing period; and
- (2) cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) certification that meets the requirements of 12 AAC 28.920.
- (b) An applicant applying for renewal of a dental hygienist license for the first time shall submit evidence of continued professional competence by documenting
- (1) completion of at least one-half of the number of contact hours of continuing education required by 12 AAC 28.400(b)(1) and (c) for each complete year that the applicant was licensed during the concluding licensing period; and
- (2) cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) certification that meets the requirements of 12 AAC 28.920.

12 AAC 28.410. APPROVED CONTINUING EDUCATION COURSES.

- (a) Except as provided in (c) of this section, and subject to the limits set out in (g) and (h) of this section, only the following courses will be accepted as continuing education under 12 AAC 28.400 12 AAC 28.420 and 12 AAC 28.880(b), and only if participation in those courses is verifiable and the subject matter contributes to the professional knowledge and development of the practitioner or enhances the ability to provide services to the patient:
- (1) courses, workshops, or symposiums approved, provided, or sponsored by the American Dental Hygienist's Association (ADHA), Academy of General Dentistry (AGD), or American Dental Association (ADA);
- (2) other courses, workshops, or symposiums approved by the board that are offered by dental or dental hygiene colleges or universities, or similar dental or dental hygiene organizations or associations;
- (3) organized study club courses approved by the board;
- (4) self-study programs offered by a dental or dental hygiene college or university, the AGD, or the ADA that have been approved by the board.
- (b) Repealed 1/15/2003.
- (c) The continuing education contact hours required by 12 AAC 28.400 or 12 AAC 28.405 for renewal of a dentistry license or a dental hygienist license may include no more than four hours of CPR training for the entire renewal period.
- (d) An applicant for renewal of a dentistry or dental hygienist license may receive contact hours of continuing education for the applicant's presentation of a lecture or course that meets the requirements of (a) of this section. For the purpose of this section, contact hours for the presentation of a lecture or course will be awarded as follows:
- (1) three contact hours for each 50 minutes of an initial presentation; and
- (2) one contact hour for each 50 minutes of a repeat presentation.
- (e) Acceptance or approval by the board under this section of a course, workshop, or symposium is valid for two years, if a change is not made to its content.
- (f) If a change is made to the content of a course, workshop, or symposium or more than two years have passed since its acceptance or approval by the board, the course, workshop, or symposium must be resubmitted to the board for acceptance or approval under this section.
- (g) Courses in practice management and risk management are limited to three hours per licensing period.
- (h) Not more than two credit hours of continuing education may apply for at least two hours of volunteer service in a dental related setting.
- (i) Not more than eight hours of continuing education taken through the Internet in a 24-hour period may apply to meet the continuing education hours required by 12 AAC 28.400 or 12 AAC 28.405.

12 AAC 28.420. REPORT OF CONTINUING EDUCATION.

- (a) An applicant for renewal of a dentistry license or a dental hygienist license shall submit, on a renewal form provided by the department, a signed statement of compliance with the continuing education requirements under 12 AAC 28.400 12 AAC 28.410, as described in 12 AAC 02.960.
- (b) An applicant for renewal is responsible for maintaining adequate and detailed records of continuing education courses taken, as described in 12 AAC 02.960(f), and shall make them available to the board upon request.
- (c) Falsification of any written evidence submitted to the board under this section is grounds for license revocation or suspension under AS 08.32.160(1) and (5) and AS 08.36.315(1) and (7).