Initial Licensure Examination Requirements

The following exams will be accepted for dental applicants, successfully completed within 5 years prior to license application:

- Traditional Clinical Dental Exam: CDCA-WREB-CITA (ADEX Exam), CRDTS, SRTA OR
- CDCA-WREB-CITA (ADEX Exam) CompeDont, in lieu of the traditional CDCA (ADEX Exam) patient-based restorative. This still includes Endodontic Manikin and Prosthodontic Manikin components, and CDCA Dental OSCE OR WREB manikin & CTP (this is the WREB computer treatment plan section)

PGY-1 (completed in a CODA-accredited program)

Source: Minnesota Board of Dentistry Web Site

General Licensure Requirements

Minnesota Statutes 150A.06 Licensure

Subdivision 1.Dentists. A person of good moral character who has graduated from a dental program accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation, having submitted an application and fee as prescribed by the board, may be examined by the board or by an agency pursuant to section 150A.03, subdivision 1, in a manner to test the applicant's fitness to practice dentistry. A graduate of a dental college in another country must not be disqualified from examination solely because of the applicant's foreign training if the board determines that the training is equivalent to or higher than that provided by a dental college accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation. In the case of examinations conducted pursuant to section 150A.03, subdivision 1, applicants shall take the examination prior to applying to the board for licensure. The examination shall include an examination of the applicant's knowledge of the laws of Minnesota relating to dentistry and the rules of the board. An applicant is ineligible to retake the clinical examination required by the board after failing it twice until further education and training are obtained as specified by the board by rule. A separate, nonrefundable fee may be charged for each time a person applies. An applicant who passes the examination in compliance with subdivision 2b, abides by professional ethical conduct requirements, and meets all other requirements of the board shall be licensed to practice dentistry and granted a general dentist license by the board.

Subd. 2b.Examination. When the Board of Dentistry administers the examination for licensure, only those board members or board-appointed deputy examiners qualified for the particular examination may administer it. An examination which the board requires as a condition of licensure must have been taken within the five years before the board receives the application for licensure

Subdivision.3. Waiver of examination.

- (a) All or any part of the examination for dentists, dental therapists, dental hygienists, or dental assistants, except that pertaining to the law of Minnesota relating to dentistry and the rules of the board, may, at the discretion of the board, be waived for an applicant who presents a certificate of having passed all components of the National Board Dental Examinations or evidence of having maintained an adequate scholastic standing as determined by the board.
- (b) The board shall waive the clinical examination required for licensure for any dentist applicant who is a graduate of a dental school accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation, who has passed all components of the National Board Dental Examinations, and who has satisfactorily completed a postdoctoral general dentistry residency program (GPR) or an advanced education in general dentistry (AEGD) program after January 1, 2004. The

postdoctoral program must be accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation, be of at least one year's duration, and include an outcome assessment evaluation assessing the resident's competence to practice dentistry. The board may require the applicant to submit any information deemed necessary by the board to determine whether the waiver is applicable.

Minnesota Administrative Rules 3100.1100 Application for License to Practice Dentistry

Subpart 1. Licensure application and examination requirements. A person seeking licensure to practice general dentistry in Minnesota must provide the board:

A. a completed application;

B. a form of current government-issued identification;

C. the fee in Minnesota Statutes, section 150A.091, subdivision 2;

D. evidence of having graduated from a school of dentistry accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation;

E. evidence of passing all parts of a national board examination for the practice of dentistry within the past five years;

F. evidence of passing a board-approved clinical examination within the past five years;

G. evidence of passing the board's jurisprudence examination within the past five years;

H. documentation of current CPR certification; and

I. a criminal background check as required by Minnesota Statutes, section 214.075.

Subp. 1a. Additional education for two failed clinical examinations. If an applicant fails twice any part of the clinical examination required by Minnesota Statutes, section 150A.06, subdivision 1, the applicant must not retake the clinical examination until the applicant successfully completes additional education provided by an institution accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation. The education must cover all of the subject areas failed by the applicant in each of the two clinical examinations. The applicant may retake the examination only after the institution provides the board information specifying the areas failed in the previous examinations and the education provided to address the areas failed, and certifies that the applicant has successfully completed the education. The applicant must take the additional education required in this subpart each time the applicant fails the clinical examination twice.

Subp. 2. [Repealed, 46 SR 908]

Subp. 2a. Terms and renewal of license. A general dentist may renew a general dentist license according to the terms of renewal under part 3100.1700.

Subp. 3. [Repealed, 18 SR 2042]

Subp. 4. [Repealed, 46 SR 908]

Subp. 4a. Reinstatement of license. To reinstate a terminated general dental license, the applicant must comply with the requirements of part 3100.1850. Subp. 5. [Repealed, 46 SR 908]

Subp. 5a. Emeritus license. A general dentist who wishes to apply for an emeritus license may apply for an emeritus inactive license under part 3100.1340 or an emeritus active license under part 3100.1350.

Subp. 5b. Professional development. A general dentist must complete professional development requirements including maintaining a professional portfolio under parts 3100.5100 to 3100.5300.

Subp. 6. Anesthesia, sedation, and nitrous oxide. A person applying for a general dental license who wants the authority under the license to administer a pharmacological agent for the purpose of general anesthesia, deep sedation, or moderate sedation or to administer nitrous oxide inhalation analgesia must comply with the applicable requirements of part 3100.3600.

Statutory Authority: MS s 150A.04; 150A.06; 150A.08; 150A.09; 150A.10; 214.06

History: 10 SR 1612; 16 SR 2314; 17 SR 1279; 18 SR 2042; 35 SR 459; 39

SR 1455; 46 SR 908; 48 SR 1089 Published Electronically: July 24, 2024

License by Credential/ Endorsement Requirements

Minnesota Statutes 150A.06 Subdivision 4 Licensure by Credentials

- (a) Any dentist or dental hygienist may, upon application and payment of a fee established by the board, apply for licensure based on the applicant's performance record in lieu of passing an examination approved by the board according to section 150A.03, subdivision 1, and be interviewed by the board to determine if the applicant:
- (1) has passed all components of the National Board Dental Examinations;
- (2) has been in active practice at least 2,000 hours within 36 months of the application date, or passed a board-approved reentry program within 36 months of the application date;
- (3) currently has a license in another state or Canadian province and is not subject to any pending or final disciplinary action, or if not currently licensed, previously had a license in another state or Canadian province in good standing that was not subject to any final or pending disciplinary action at the time of surrender:
- (4) is of good moral character and abides by professional ethical conduct requirements:
- (5) at board discretion, has passed a board-approved English proficiency test if English is not the applicant's primary language; and
- (6) meets other credentialing requirements specified in board rule.
- (b) An applicant who fulfills the conditions of this subdivision and demonstrates the minimum knowledge in dental subjects required for licensure under subdivision 1 or 2 must be licensed to practice the applicant's profession.
- (c) If the applicant does not demonstrate the minimum knowledge in dental subjects required for licensure under subdivision 1 or 2, the application must be denied. When denying a license, the board may notify the applicant of any specific remedy that the applicant could take which, when passed, would qualify the applicant for licensure. A denial does not prohibit the applicant from applying for licensure under subdivision 1 or 2.
- (d) A candidate whose application has been denied may appeal the decision to the board according to subdivision 4a.

Minnesota Administrative Rules 3100.1400 Application for Licensure by Credentials.

Subpart 1. Licensure application requirements for a dentist, dental therapist, or dental hygienist. A person who is currently a licensed dentist, dental therapist, or dental hygienist in another United States jurisdiction or Canadian province seeking to be licensed to practice dentistry, dental therapy, or dental hygiene in Minnesota must provide the board:

A. a completed application;

- B. a form of current government-issued identification;
- C. the fee in Minnesota Statutes, section 150A.091, subdivision 9;
- D. evidence of having graduated either:

- (1) from a school of dentistry or dental hygiene accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation; or
- (2) with a baccalaureate degree or a master's degree from a dental therapy education program that has been approved by the board or accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation or another board-approved national accreditation organization;
- E. proof of completing at least 2,000 hours within the past 36 months in active practice in another United States jurisdiction, Canadian province, or United States government service;
- F. evidence of passing a clinical examination for licensure in another United States jurisdiction or Canadian province;
- G. evidence of passing all parts of a national board examination for the practice of dentistry, dental therapy, or dental hygiene;
- H. evidence of passing the board's jurisprudence examination within the past five years;
- I. documentation of current CPR certification; and
- J. a criminal background check as required by Minnesota Statutes, section 214.075.
- Subp. 2. Disciplinary action. A person seeking licensure under subpart 1 must not be subject to any pending or final disciplinary action in another United States jurisdiction or Canadian province.

Statutory Authority: MS s 150A.04; 150A.06; 150A.08; 150A.09; 150A.10; 150A.11; 214.06; 214.15; 319A.18

History: 10 SR 1612; 14 SR 1214; 18 SR 2042; 20 SR 2316; 31 SR 1238; 35 SR 459; 39 SR 1455; 46 SR 908; 48 SR 1089

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Specialty Practice

Minnesota Statutes 150A.06 Licensure Subdivision 1c Specialty dentists

- (a) The board may grant one or more specialty licenses in the specialty areas of dentistry that are recognized by the Commission on Dental Accreditation.(b) An applicant for a specialty license shall:
- (1) have successfully completed a postdoctoral specialty program accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation, or have announced a limitation of practice before 1967;
- (2) have been certified by a specialty board approved by the Minnesota Board of Dentistry, or provide evidence of having passed a clinical examination for licensure required for practice in any state or Canadian province, or in the case of oral and maxillofacial surgeons only, have a Minnesota medical license in good standing;
- (3) have been in active practice or a postdoctoral specialty education program or United States government service at least 2,000 hours in the 36 months prior to applying for a specialty license;
- (4) if requested by the board, be interviewed by a committee of the board, which may include the assistance of specialists in the evaluation process, and satisfactorily respond to questions designed to determine the applicant's knowledge of dental subjects and ability to practice;
- (5) if requested by the board, present complete records on a sample of patients treated by the applicant. The sample must be drawn from patients treated by the applicant during the 36 months preceding the date of application. The number of records shall be established by the board. The records shall be reasonably representative of the treatment typically provided by the applicant for each specialty area;
- (6) at board discretion, pass a board-approved English proficiency test if English is not the applicant's primary language;

- (7) pass all components of the National Board Dental Examinations;
- (8) pass the Minnesota Board of Dentistry jurisprudence examination;
- (9) abide by professional ethical conduct requirements; and
- (10) meet all other requirements prescribed by the Board of Dentistry.
- (c) The application must include:
- (1) a completed application furnished by the board;
- (2) a nonrefundable fee; and
- (3) a copy of the applicant's government-issued photo identification card.
- (d) A specialty dentist holding one or more specialty licenses is limited to practicing in the dentist's designated specialty area or areas. The scope of practice must be defined by each national specialty board recognized by the Commission on Dental Accreditation.
- (e) All specialty dentists who have fulfilled the specialty dentist requirements and who intend to limit their practice to a particular specialty area or areas may apply for one or more specialty licenses.

Minnesota Administrative Rules 3100.7000 ADVERTISING DENTAL SPECIALTY PRACTICE.

Subpart 1. Specialty areas. The following special areas of dentistry are recognized as suitable for the announcement of specialty dental practices:

- A. dental anesthesiology;
- B. dental public health;
- C. endodontics (endodontist);
- D. oral and maxillofacial pathology (oral pathologist);
- E. oral and maxillofacial radiology (oral radiologist);
- F. oral and maxillofacial surgery (oral and maxillofacial surgeon);
- G. oral medicine:
- H. orofacial pain;
- I. orthodontics and dentofacial orthopedics (orthodontist);
- J. pediatric dentistry (pedodontist);
- K. periodontics (periodontist); and
- L. prosthodontics (prosthodontist).
- Subp. 2. Education criteria. A licensed dentist may advertise as a specialist in an area if the dentist has evidence of graduating from a postdoctoral specialty program accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation in any of the designated specialty areas of subpart 1.
- §Subp. 3. Restricting practice. Subpart 2 does not prohibit a dentist who does not meet the above education or experience criteria from restricting a practice to one or more specific areas of dentistry. These dentists must not use the terms "specialist," "specialty," "specializing," or "limited to." The advertising must state that the services are being provided by a general dentist.

Continuing Education

Minnesota Administrative Rules 3100.5100 Professional Development Subpart 1. Professional development cycles.

Click here for online renewal web site for dentists

A. The initial professional development cycle begins on the date licensure is granted by the board and ends on the last day of the licensee's birth month in either an even-numbered or odd-numbered year that corresponds with the licensee's year of birth. The initial cycle varies in the number of months depending on the date licensure is granted.

B. A biennial professional development cycle coincides with the biennial renewal period. Each biennial renewal cycle consists of a 24-month period beginning on the first day of the month following expiration of the previous cycle. An established biennial cycle continues to apply even if the license is revoked, suspended, conditioned, or not renewed for any reason for any length of time.

Subp. 2. Professional development requirements.

- A. Each licensee shall establish a portfolio to record, monitor, and retain documentation of fundamental and elective professional development activities.
- B. The minimum number of required hours of fundamental and elective activities for each initial or biennial cycle is 50 hours for dentists and dental therapists and 25 hours for dental hygienists and licensed dental assistants. Any professional development hours earned in excess of the required hours for an initial or biennial cycle must not be carried forward to the next biennial cycle.
- (1) Of the 50 hours required for a dentist and dental therapist, at least 30 hours must be fundamental activities and no more than 20 hours can be elective activities.
- (2) Of the 25 hours required for a dental hygienist and licensed dental assistant, at least 15 hours must be fundamental activities and no more than ten hours can be elective activities.
- C. Professional development is credited on an hour-for-hour basis.
- D. If a licensee fails to meet the professional development requirements because of extenuating circumstances, the licensee may request to the board in writing an extension of time at least seven days before the end of the licensee's biennial cycle. The licensee's written request must explain the circumstances, the renewal period, and the licensee's plan for completing the requirement. If the board grants the extension, the board shall notify the licensee of the extension. If the licensee fails to submit a written extension request to the board by the seven-day deadline or fails to complete the professional development requirements by the end of the extension period, the board shall administratively terminate the licensee's license. A licensee may reinstate a license that has been terminated under this subpart according to part 3100.1850.
- Subp. 3. Professional development activities. Professional development activities are categorized as fundamental or elective activities as described in items A and B.
- A. Fundamental activities for an initial or biennial cycle must directly relate to clinical dental services to patients. Fundamental activities include:
- (1) clinical subjects. Clinical subjects are covered through seminars, webinars, symposiums, lectures, college courses pertaining to basic sciences, or programs whose contents directly relate to the provision of dental care and treatment to patients. College course credit is limited to five hours for each college course completed within a cycle with a maximum of 15 college credit hours per cycle;
- (2) other fundamental courses listed in units (a) to (f) that are offered through seminars, webinars, symposiums, lectures, or programs. Each licensee must complete at least two courses out of the following list for each initial or biennial cycle:
- (a) record keeping;
- (b) ethics;
- (c) patient communications;
- (d) management of medical emergencies;
- (e) treatment and diagnosis; and
- (f) Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA);
- (3) an infection control course. An infection control course is mandatory for each licensee to maintain licensure. The course must primarily address patient

safety and health issues as referenced in part 3100.6300 and chapter 6950; and

- (4) activities approved by the board. Fundamental activities under this subitem shall be approved by the board only if the board finds the activity contents are directly related to dental care and treatment to patients or public safety and professionalism.
- B. Elective activities for an initial or biennial cycle must directly relate to or support dentistry and include:
- (1) general attendance at a multiday state or national dental convention for a maximum of three credit hours per convention;
- (2) volunteerism or community service directly relating to dentistry such as international or national mission work, voluntary clinic work, or dental health presentations to students or groups;
- (3) professional reading of published articles or other forms of self-study directly relating to dentistry;
- (4) scholarly activities, including:
- (a) teaching a professional course directly related to dentistry or presenting a continuing dental education program;
- (b) presenting a table clinic directly related to dentistry;
- (c) authoring a published dental article or text in a recognized publication;
- (d) participating in test construction for an accredited state or nationally recognized dental association or organization;
- (e) participating in a scientific dental research program from an accredited institution or program or an evidence-based clinical study; and
- (f) similar academic activities relating to dentistry;
- (5) dental practice management courses;
- (6) leadership or committee involvement with a dental board or a dental professional association for a maximum of three credit hours per cycle; and
- (7) elective activities approved by the board. Elective activities under this subitem shall be approved by the board only if the board finds the contents of the activity directly relates to or supports dentistry.
- Subp. 4. Documentation of professional development activities. A licensee must record or obtain documentation of hours in professional development activities for the licensee's portfolio. Documentation includes:
- A. confirming documentation from the presenting organization that provides the attendee's name, name of the organization or presenter, course date, number of credit hours, subject matter, or program title;
- B. a personal log of published articles read by the licensee including title of the article, name of author, name of journal or periodical, and date of published article; and
- C. similar documentation of professional development activities.
- §Subp. 5. Retention of documentation. A licensee must keep documentation for each fundamental and elective activity as required to meet professional development requirements. The licensee must retain the documentation for the current biennial renewal cycle and the previous completed biennial cycle for purposes of an audit by the board.

Minnesota Administrative Rules 3100-5200 Portfolio Contents

A licensee must establish a professional portfolio. The professional portfolio must be used to record, monitor, and retain acceptable documentation of professional development activities. Upon completion of an initial or biennial professional development cycle, a licensee must have the required number of hours, if applicable, and proof of acceptable documentation described under part 3100.5100, subpart 4, contained within the portfolio.

Minnesota Administrative Rules 3100.5300 Audit Process of Portfolio

Subpart 1. Auditing for compliance. The board shall perform random audits of the portfolios. Besides random audits, the board may conduct a designated portfolio audit for a licensee who is the subject of any complaint, investigation, or proceeding under Minnesota Statutes, sections 150A.08 and 214.10. The licensee shall receive notification of being audited. A licensee who is selected for an audit shall provide a portfolio to the appropriate board committee within 60 days from the notification date. Failure to comply with the audit documentation request or failure to supply acceptable documentation within 60 days may result in disciplinary action. After completion of an audit, the appropriate board committee shall officially notify the licensee by indicating the determination made regarding professional development compliance. A licensee is considered to be actively licensed during the audit process. Subp. 2. Appropriate documentation. The licensee shall submit true, complete, and accurate documentation. Falsification of any evidence for any renewal period or falsification or omission of documentation may result in disciplinary action.

Subp. 3. Failure of an audit.

A. Upon failure of an audit, the appropriate board committee must impose one or both of the following options:

- (1) grant the licensee up to six months to comply with written requirements to resolve deficiencies in professional development compliance; or
- (2) initiate disciplinary proceedings against the licensee on grounds specified in parts 3100.6100 and 3100.6200 and Minnesota Statutes, section 150A.08, subdivision 1. Deficiencies causing audit failure may include, but are not limited to, the following:
- (a) lack of proof of documentation or participation;
- (b) credit hours earned outside of renewal period being audited;
- (c) excess of earned hours in a category having a maximum if a deficiency exists:
- (d) lack of earned hours in a category having a minimum if a deficiency exists;
- (e) failure to submit the portfolio;
- (f) unacceptable professional development sources; or
- (g) fraudulently earned or reported hours.
- B. Failing to comply with the board committee's requirements by the end of the grace period shall result in the expiration of the person's license and termination of the right to practice. A license that has expired according to this part may be reinstated according to part 3100.1850.
- Subp. 4. Audit appeal. Upon failure of an audit, the licensee has the option to appeal the decision to the board.
- Subp. 5. Mandatory audit. The licensee must submit to a mandatory audit of the next renewal period by the appropriate board committee when the previous audit was failed by the licensee.
- Subp. 6. Audit fee. The licensee shall submit to the board the nonrefundable fee in Minnesota Statutes, section 150A.091, subdivision 16, after failing two professional development portfolio audits and thereafter for each failed professional development portfolio audit.