Mississippi Laws & Rules

Updated: 11 March 2025

Initial Licensure Examination Requirements

CDCA-WREB-CITA (ADEX), SRTA

The Mississippi State Board of Dental Examiners has agreed to accept applications for licensure by examination from those candidates successfully completing licensure examinations administered by the American Board of Dental Examiners (ADEX), North East Regional Board of Dental Examiners (NERB), Council of Interstate Testing Agencies (CITA) or Southern Regional Testing Agency (SRTA) for a maximum of five (5) years from the date of successful completion of either of these examinations.

The Board met on January 13, 2023 and approved acceptance of the hybrid of either manikin or patient-based clinical examinations on a permanent basis. (Source: Mississippi State Board of Dental Examiners - Dental - Licensure by Examination)

General Licensure Requirements

Mississippi Code, Title 73, Chapter 9 Dentists

§ 73-9-23: Examinations for License

- (1) No person who desires to practice dentistry or dental hygiene in the State of Mississippi shall be licensed until that person has passed an examination by the board. Applicants for examination shall apply in writing to the board for an examination at least thirty (30) days before the examination and shall upon application pay a nonrefundable fee as elsewhere provided in this chapter.
- (2) An applicant for licensure by examination as a dentist who is a graduate of a dental school accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation of the American Dental Association (ADA), or its successor commission, shall:
- (a) Be of good moral character, be possessed of a high school education, and have attained the age of twenty-one (21) years;
- (b) Exhibit with the application a diploma or certificate of graduation from the ADA accredited dental school; and
- (c) Have successfully completed Parts I and II of the National Board Examinations of the Joint Commission on National Dental Examinations, or its successor commission, unless the applicant graduated from an accredited dental school before 1960.
- (3) An applicant for licensure by examination as a dentist who is a graduate of a non-ADA accredited foreign country dental school shall:
- (a) Be of good moral character and have attained the age of twenty-one (21) years;
- (b) Be proficient in oral and written communications in the English language;
- (c) Have completed not less than six (6) academic years of postsecondary study and graduated from a foreign dental school that is recognized by the licensure authorities in that country;
- (d) Have been licensed as a dentist or admitted to the practice of dentistry in the foreign country in which the applicant received foreign dental school training;
- (e) Present documentation of having completed at least two (2) or more years of full-time post-doctoral dental education in a dental school accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation of the American Dental Association, or its successor commission, and has been certified by the dean of the accredited dental school as having achieved the same level of didactic and clinical competence as expected of a graduate of the school; and
- (f) Have successfully completed Parts I and II of the National Board Examinations of the Joint Commission on National Dental Examinations, or its successor commission, unless the applicant graduated from an approved dental school before 1960.
- (4) An applicant for licensure by examination as a dental hygienist who is a graduate of a dental hygiene school accredited by the Commission on Dental

Accreditation of the American Dental Association (ADA), or its successor commission, shall:

- (a) Be of good moral character, be possessed of a high school education and have attained the age of eighteen (18) years;
- (b) Exhibit with the application a diploma or certificate of graduation from the ADA accredited dental hygiene school; and
- (c) Have successfully completed the National Board Dental Hygiene Examinations of the Joint Commission on National Dental Examinations, or its successor commission.
- (5) An applicant for licensure by examination as a dental hygienist who is a graduate of a non-ADA accredited foreign country dental hygiene school shall:
- (a) Be of good moral character and have attained the age of eighteen (18) years;
- (b) Be proficient in oral and written communications in the English language;
- (c) Have completed not less than two (2) academic years of postsecondary study and graduated from a foreign dental hygiene school that is recognized by the licensure authorities in that country;
- (d) Have been licensed as a dental hygienist or admitted to the practice of dental hygiene in the foreign country in which the applicant received foreign dental hygiene school training;
- (e) Present documentation of having completed at least one or more years of full-time post-graduate clinical education in a dental hygiene school accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation of the American Dental Association, or its successor commission, and has been certified by the dean of the accredited dental hygiene school as having achieved the same level of didactic and clinical competence as expected of a graduate of the school: and
- (f) Have successfully completed the National Board Dental Hygiene Examinations of the Joint Commission on National Dental Examinations, or its successor commission.
- (6) Applications shall be made in the form and content as required in this section and as shall be prescribed by the board, and each applicant shall submit upon request such proof as the board may require as to age, character and qualifications. Applications must be signed by two (2) citizens of the state of which the applicant is a resident, attesting under oath that the applicant is of good moral character. All applicants for licensure shall submit an endorsement from all states in which he or she is currently licensed or has ever been licensed to practice dentistry or dental hygiene. The board may disallow the licensure examination to any applicant who has been found guilty of any of the grounds for disciplinary action as enumerated in Section 73-9-61.
- (7) Examination shall be as elsewhere provided in this chapter and the board may by its rules and regulations prescribe reasonable professional standards for oral, written, clinical and other examinations given to applicants, and, if deemed necessary by the board, include a requirement that licensure examinations of applicants be conducted utilizing live human subjects. Each applicant shall appear before the board and be examined to determine his or her learning and skill in dentistry or dental hygiene. If found by the members of the board conducting the examination to possess sufficient learning and skill therein and to be of good moral character, the board shall, as early as practicable, grant to the person a license to practice dentistry or dental hygiene, as the case may be, which shall be signed by each member of the board who attended the examination and approved the issuance of a license.

(8) The Board of Dental Examiners may, at its own discretion, accept certification of a licensure applicant, either dentist or dental hygienist, by the National Board Examinations of the Joint Commission on National Dental Examinations, or its successor commission, in lieu of the written examination. However, in all such instances the board shall retain the right to administer such further written and practical examinations and demonstrations as it deems necessary.

(9) Each application or filing made under this section shall include the social security number(s) of the applicant in accordance with Section 93-11-64.

§ 73-9-25—Examinations, Subjects, Time and Place for Holding The regular meeting of the State Board of Dental Examiners shall be held at least annually at such place, date and time as the board may determine in its discretion, for the purpose of examining applicants for a license to practice dentistry and dental hygiene, and continue in session until all applicants have been examined and their examinations have been approved or disapproved. The board may meet more often if necessary, in the discretion of the board, at such times and places as it may deem proper for the examination of applicants who may wish to practice dentistry or dental hygiene in this state, to administer makeup examinations, or for the purpose of enforcing the dental laws of the state. Examinations for a license to practice dentistry or dental hygiene shall cover the subjects taught in the recognized schools of dentistry or dental hygiene together with such other subjects and practical demonstrations as the board may require. The state shall furnish the necessary equipment for the required practical examinations for dentists and dental hygienists, and properly house and care for same.

<u>Mississippi State Board of Dental Examiners Regulations Adopted by the Board</u>

Regulation Number 14 – Candidate Participation in Licensure ExaminationPurpose: To provide standards and policies for candidates who participate in
Board approved licensure examinations and subsequently make application for licensure by examination to the Board.

- 1. Applicability This regulation applies to all applicants for licensure to practice dentistry or dental hygiene in the State of Mississippi by examination.
- 2. Duty to Obtain License
- a. Any dentist or dental hygienist desiring to practice in this State must first obtain a license to do so by contacting the Mississippi State Board of Dental Examiners at its current address.
- b. When an inquiry concerning licensure is received, an application eliciting certain pertinent information is sent to the applicant. References submitted on the application are queried, as well as the school(s) of graduation, the American Dental Association (ADA) or American Dental Hygienists' Association (ADHA), other states in which the applicant may be licensed, and facilities/clinics where the applicant has practiced.
- c. An applicant who is participating in or who has participated in an impaired professionals/disabled dentist program as approved by the Board must document a two-year period of abstinence from any abusive use of moodaltering drugs, which shall include, but not be limited to, alcohol and all substances listed in Schedules I through V of the Uniform Controlled Substances Law, Mississippi Code (1972) Annotated, from the date of completion of the program before the applicant is eligible for a permanent license to practice dentistry/dental hygiene in the State of Mississippi.
- d. Prior to the issuance or reinstatement of a dental or dental hygiene license, any dentist or dental hygienist who has not actively practiced his/her profession for the time period stipulated in Regulation 49 shall be required to

participate in a Board-approved clinical skills assessment program to assure post-licensure competency.

- 3. Licensure by Examination
- a. To qualify for consideration of a license by examination, an applicant shall fulfill, at a minimum, those requirements stipulated by Miss. Code Ann. § 73-9-23, provided that the Board reserves its right to deny licensure if that individual fails to meet all requirements for licensure subsequent to successful completion of a Board-approved licensure examination, as hereinafter defined.
- b. All candidates applying for licensure by examination also shall be required to successfully complete a Mississippi jurisprudence examination based upon the laws and regulations currently adopted by the Board, such examination to be completed within ninety (90) days from the date the candidate makes application to the Board for a license by examination. No license shall be issued to any candidate who does not successfully complete a Mississippi jurisprudence examination.
- 4. Licensure Examinations Approved by the Board
- a. For the purpose of licensure by examination, the Board may from time-to time recognize clinical licensure examinations administered by other state and regional testing agencies (hereinafter referred to as "Board-approved licensure examination"). The Board shall maintain an up-to-date list of all Board-approved licensure examinations by state and/or regional testing authority, which list also shall include the dates of initial acceptance of such Board-approved licensure examinations. Furthermore, this list may be made available on the Board's Internet web site.
- b. Effective January 1, 2014, dental and dental hygiene candidates applying for licensure by examination who have successfully completed a Board-approved licensure examination which does not contain a written /computerized comprehensive examination on applied clinical diagnosis and treatment planning, aside from the written/computerized examinations administered by the Joint Commission on National Dental Examinations, will be required to successfully complete the American Board of Dental Examiners (ADEX) computerized/written comprehensive examination on applied clinical diagnosis and treatment planning prior to applying for licensure by examination in the State of Mississippi. The time period for successfully completing the ADEX computerized/written examination will coincide with the time period stipulated in item 4.c. of this Regulation for dental and dental hygiene candidates to apply for licensure by examination based upon successful completion of a Board-approved licensure examination.
- c. Candidates who successfully complete a Board-approved licensure examination shall have a maximum of five (5) years from the date of successful completion of a Board-approved licensure examination to make application for licensure by examination in the State of Mississippi. Furthermore, after the expiration of one (1) year from the date of their successful completion of a Board-approved licensure examination, candidates shall be required to show proof of actively practicing their profession for a minimum of ninety (90) days per year prior to making application for licensure by examination.
- 5. Participation in Licensure Examination
- a. Candidates for licensure to practice dentistry or dental hygiene in the State of Mississippi who fail any part(s) of a Board-approved licensure examination will be required to adhere to all examination guidelines of the testing entity responsible for administering the Board-approved licensure examination. Further, in those instances where the testing entity requires remediation following failure(s) of Board-approved licensure examinations, a candidate

for licensure to practice dentistry must take and successfully complete one (1) academic year of clinical training in an approved dental school before being allowed to take the same Board-approved licensure examination again. In the case of a candidate for licensure to practice dental hygiene, the candidate must take and successfully complete six (6) months of clinical training in an approved dental hygiene school before being allowed to take the same Board-approved licensure examination again.

- b. Candidates who successfully complete a Board-approved dental hygiene licensure examination administered by this Board and who have not yet successfully completed the National Board Dental Hygiene Examinations of the Joint Commission on National Dental Examinations (hereinafter referred to as "National Board") shall be required to have successfully completed the National Board on or before December 31 of the same year in which they successfully completed a Board-approved dental hygiene licensure examination; otherwise, the Board-approved licensure examination scores for these candidates will expire on January 1, and these candidates shall be required to successfully complete another Board-approved dental hygiene licensure examination in order to become licensed in this State.
- c. Candidates who successfully complete a Board-approved dental licensure examination administered by this Board and who have not yet successfully completed Part II of the National Board Examinations of the Joint Commission on National Dental Examinations (Part II) shall be required to have successfully completed Part II on or before December 31 of the same vear in which they successfully completed a Board-approved dental licensure examination; otherwise, the Board-approved licensure examination scores for these candidates shall expire on January 1, and these candidates shall be required to successfully complete another Board-approved dental licensure examination in order to become licensed in this State. However, candidates who are enrolled and actively participating in dental residency programs accredited by the American Dental Association (ADA) during this same time period and who have not successfully completed Part II on or before December 31 of that same year, shall not have their scores voided on January 1, but shall be allowed additional time for the Board to be in receipt of proof of successful completion of Part II, such additional time period not to extend beyond the first day of the date established for the next regularly scheduled Board-approved dental licensure examination. If proof of successful completion of Part II has not been received by the Board on or before the first day of the date established for the next regularly scheduled Board-approved dental licensure examination, the scores for the previous year's Board-approved dental licensure examination shall expire, and these candidates shall be required to successfully complete another Board approved dental licensure examination in order to become licensed in this

License by Credential/ Endorsement Requirements

Mississippi Code, Title 73, Chapter 9 Dentists

§ 73-9-24—Alternative Procedure for Qualifying for License Based on Credentials

- (1) § 73-9-24--ALTERNATIVE PROCEDURE FOR QUALIFYING FOR LICENSE BASED ON CREDENTIALS
- (1) In addition to the method for obtaining a license to practice dentistry or dental hygiene by way of examination as provided by Section 73-9-23, the board, in its sole discretion, may grant a license to a candidate who meets the following criteria:
- (a) Submit proof of graduation from a dental school or school of dental hygiene

accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation of the American Dental Association (ADA), or its successor commission.

- (b) Be engaged in the active practice of dentistry or dental hygiene or in full-time dental education or dental hygiene education for the past five (5) years;
- (c) Currently hold a valid, unrestricted and unexpired license in a state whose standards for licensure are determined by the board as equivalent to Mississippi's standards, and which state grants reciprocity or licensure by credentials to licensees of the State of Mississippi;
- (d) Provides an endorsement from all states in which he or she is currently licensed or has ever been licensed to practice dentistry or dental hygiene;
- (e) Has not been the subject of pending or final disciplinary action in any state in which the applicant has been licensed;
- (f) Is not the subject of a pending investigation in any other state or jurisdiction;
- (g) Has passed a state or regional clinical licensure examination and, within the past five (5) years, has not failed a clinical licensure examination administered by another state, jurisdiction, or regional licensing board;
- (h) Has not failed at any time, a licensure examination administered by the Mississippi State Board of Dental Examiners;
- (i) Provides a written statement agreeing to appear for interviews at the request of the board;
- (j) Has successfully completed all parts of the National Board Examinations of the Joint Commission on National Dental Examinations, or its successor commission, unless the applicant graduated from an accredited dental or dental hygiene school before 1960;
- (k) Successfully passes a written jurisprudence examination;
- (I) Provides payment of a nonrefundable application fee as provided in Section 73-9-43; and
- (m) In addition, the State Board of Dental Examiners may consider the following in accepting, rejecting or denying an application for licensure by credentialing:
- (i) Information from the National Practitioner Data Bank, the Healthcare Integrity and Protection Data Bank and/or the American Association of Dental Examiners Clearinghouse for Disciplinary Information.
- (ii) Questioning under oath.
- (iii) Results of peer review reports from constituent societies and/or federal dental services.
- (iv) Substance abuse testing or treatment.
- (v) Background checks for criminal or fraudulent activities.
- (vi) Participation in continuing education.
- (vii) A current certificate in cardiopulmonary resuscitation.
- (viii) Recent patient case reports and/or oral defense of diagnosis and treatment plans.
- (ix) No physical or psychological impairment that would adversely affect the ability to deliver quality dental care.
- (x) Agreement to initiate practice in the credentialing jurisdiction within a reasonable period of time.
- (xi) Proof of professional liability coverage and that the coverage has not been refused, declined, canceled, nonrenewed or modified.
- (xii) Any additional information or documentation that the board may stipulate by rule or regulation as necessary to qualify for a license by credentialing.
- (2) The board shall be granted sufficient time to conduct a complete inquiry into the applicant's qualifications for licensure by credentials, and the board may adopt such rules and regulations pertaining to the time needed to conduct

investigations and the responsibility of applicants to produce verifiable documentation.

- (3) Any applicant failing to meet the criteria in subsection (1) of this section shall not be eligible for a license based on credentials. Upon meeting the criteria in subsection
- (1) of this section, the Mississippi State Board of Dental Examiners may, in its discretion, issue to the applicant a license to practice dentistry, or dental hygiene, unless grounds for denial of licensure exist as enumerated in Section 73-9-61. Evidence of falsification in the application for licensure through credentialing will result in revocation of the license.
- (4) Any applicant applying for a specialty license by credentials must stay within his or her board recognized specialty and must practice only that specialty within the State of Mississippi. A specialty license holder must hold a general dentistry license before obtaining a specialty license.
- (5) The issuance of a license by reciprocity to a military-trained applicant or military spouse shall be subject to the provisions of Section 73-50-1.

 Mississippi State Board of Dental Examiners Regulations Adopted by the Board

Regulation Number 47 – Licensure by Credentials

Purpose: To establish additional standards for licensure by credentials not included in Miss. Code Ann. § 73-9-24.

- 1. The Mississippi State Board of Dental Examiners has determined that a dentist or dental hygienist must practice a minimum of ninety (90) days per year from the date the application for licensure by credentials is received by the Board to be considered as actively practicing for the past five (5) years, pursuant to Miss. Code Ann. § 73-9-24(1)(b).
- 2. The Mississippi State Board of Dental Examiners has determined that an approved residency program may be used toward fulfilling the minimum five-year, active practice requirement stipulated by Miss. Code Ann. § 73-9-24(1)(b).

Specialty Practice

Mississippi Code, Title 73, Chapter 9 Dentists

§ 73-9-28—Issuance of Special License, Certificate or Permit for Teaching or Dental Practice in Limited Categories

The Mississippi State Board of Dental Examiners is vested with the authority to promulgate rules and regulations allowing special categories of licenses, certificates, specialty certificates and permits under which institutional, teaching and provisional privileges may be granted on an individual basis, pursuant to such rules and regulations prescribing the qualifications, conditions and limitations of such privileges as may be established by the board. Those qualifications, conditions and limitations shall pertain to applicants who require but are eligible for less than complete resident licensure as provided for in the dental practice act. Application for a special category of license, certificate, specialty certificate or permit, and the renewal thereof, shall be made to the board in writing in accordance with such rules and regulations as the board may adopt. The secretary or executive director shall collect a fee therefor as provided in Section 73-9-43.

§ 73-9-29—Certification of Dental Specialists

Any dentist of this state licensed by the Mississippi State Board of Dental Examiners, who has complied with the requirements specified by the Council on Dental Education of the American Dental Association, or its successor council or commission, in a specialty branch of dentistry or who has otherwise met the requirements of the rules and regulations promulgated by the board may apply for a certificate as a specialist. The application shall be accompanied by the payment of a fee not to exceed the fee provided for in Section 73-9-43 and the application

must be on file for at least sixty (60) days before the regular meeting of the board, and if the application is accepted the applicant may be notified to appear for examination before the board and a committee of that particular specialty, if available, appointed by the board. Examinations may be oral, written, or both, and the applicant may be required to demonstrate his or her knowledge and proficiency in the specialty in which he or she desires to be certified. The board is authorized to certify specialists in all specialty areas approved by the American Dental Association. Any dentist not licensed by the Mississippi State Board of Dental Examiners but who is eligible to take the Mississippi State Board examination, and is further eligible for specialty examination, may take both examinations at the discretion of the board. No licensed dentist shall hold himself or herself out to the public as a specialist, or publicly announce as being specially qualified in any particular branch of dentistry, or publicly announce as giving special attention to any branch of dentistry, until he or she has been issued a certificate by the board authorizing him or her to do so. Failure to comply shall be cause for his or her dental license to be revoked or suspended. Only the following shall be eligible to announce as specialists:

- (a) A diplomate of a specialty board approved by the American Dental Association;
- (b) A dentist who has complied with requirements as specified by the Council on Dental Education of the American Dental Association, or its successor council or commission, for graduate training in the specialty sought to be announced, the training to meet the educational or training requirement for diplomate status;
- (c) A dentist who has announced a specialized practice in one (1) of the special areas of dental practice within the State of Mississippi for at least five (5) years before January 1, 1970, and who meets the requirements elsewhere in this section may be granted a specialist certificate upon application and payment only of an initial specialty registration fee. A dentist specialist's certificate shall be revoked or voided upon the revocation or avoiding of the holder's license to practice dentistry in Mississippi.

<u>Mississippi State Board of Dental Examiners Regulations Adopted by the Board</u>

Board Regulation Number 7: Provisional and Specialty Licensure

Pursuant to its authority under Miss. Code Ann. §§ 73-9-3, 73-9-28 and 73-9-29, the Board may, in its discretion, award (a) licenses, other than regular licenses, to practice dentistry or dental hygiene in this State to individuals selected for the faculty of any college of dentistry, college of dental hygiene, or other dental auxiliary program, and for participants in any Board-approved fellowship program; and (b) specialty licenses to licensed dentists who meet all criteria therefor. Additionally, pursuant to Miss. Code Ann. § 73-50-1, occupational licensing boards are charged with issuing temporary or provisional licenses/permits to military personnel and their spouses to enable dental and dental hygiene applicants to practice in the State of Mississippi for a reasonable period of time while they fulfill all requirements for a permanent license.

3. The Types of Specialty Licensure.

The Board herein adopts the currently recognized dental specialties as defined by the National Commission on Recognition of Dental Specialties and Certifying Boards (NCRDSCB) and as recognized by the American Dental Association (ADA). These dental specialties and their corresponding definitions are as follows: A. Dental Anesthesiology. Dental Anesthesiology is the specialty of dentistry and discipline of anesthesiology encompassing the art and science of managing pain, anxiety, and overall patient health during dental, oral, maxillofacial and adjunctive

surgical or diagnostic procedures throughout the entire perioperative period. The specialty is dedicated to promoting patient safety as well as access to care for all dental patients, including the very young and patients with special health care needs. (Adopted March 2019, American Dental Association)

B. Dental Public Health. Dental public health is the science and art of preventing and controlling dental diseases and promoting dental health through organized community efforts. It is that form of dental practice which serves the community as a patient rather than the individual. It is concerned with the dental health education of the public, with applied dental research, and with the administration of group dental care programs as well as the prevention and control of dental diseases on a community basis. (Adopted May 1976, American Dental Association.)

- C. Endodontics. Endodontics is the branch of dentistry which is concerned with the morphology, physiology and pathology of the human dental pulp and periradicular tissues. Its study and practice encompass the basic and clinical sciences including biology of the normal pulp, the etiology, diagnosis, prevention and treatment of diseases and injuries of the pulp and associated periradicular conditions. (Adopted December 1983,American Dental Association.)

 D. Oral and Maxillofacial Pathology. Oral pathology is the specialty of dentistry and discipline of pathology that deals with the nature, identification, and management of diseases affecting the oral and maxillofacial regions. It is a science that investigates the causes, processes, and effects of these diseases. The practice of oral pathology includes research and diagnosis of diseases using clinical, radiographic, microscopic, biochemical, or other examinations. (Adopted May 1991, American Dental Association.)
- E. Oral and Maxillofacial Radiology. Oral and maxillofacial radiology is the specialty of dentistry and discipline of radiology concerned with the production and interpretation of images and data produced by all modalities of radiant energy that are used for the diagnosis and management of diseases, disorders and conditions of the oral and maxillofacial region. (Adopted April 2001, American Dental Association.)
- F. Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery. Oral and maxillofacial surgery is the specialty of dentistry which includes the diagnosis, surgical and adjunctive treatment of diseases, injuries and defects involving both the functional and aesthetic aspects of the hard and soft tissues of the oral and maxillofacial region. (Adopted October 1990, American Dental Association.)
- G. Oral Medicine. Oral Medicine is the specialty of dentistry responsible for the oral health care of medically complex patients and for the diagnosis and management of medically-related diseases, disorders and conditions affecting the oral and maxillofacial region. (Adopted September 2020, American Dental Association)
- H. Orofacial Pain. Orofacial Pain is the specialty of dentistry that encompasses the diagnosis, management and treatment of pain disorders of the jaw, mouth, face, head and neck. The specialty of Orofacial Pain is dedicated to the evidence-based understanding of the underlying pathophysiology, etiology, prevention, and treatment of these disorders and improving access to interdisciplinary patient care. (Adopted September 2020, American Dental Association)

 I Orthodontics and Dentofacial Orthopedics. Orthodontics and dentofacial orthopedics is the dental specialty that includes the diagnosis, prevention, interception, and correction of malocclusion, as well as neuromuscular and skeletal abnormalities of the developing or mature orofacial structures. (Adopted April 2003, American Dental Association.)

J. Pediatric Dentistry. Pediatric dentistry is an age-defined specialty that provides both primary and comprehensive preventive and therapeutic oral health care for infants and children through adolescence, including those with special health care needs. (Adopted 1995, American Dental Association.)

K. Periodontics. Periodontics is that specialty of dentistry which encompasses the prevention, diagnosis and treatment of diseases of the supporting and surrounding tissues of the teeth or their substitutes and the maintenance of the health, function and aesthetics of these structures and tissues. (Adopted December 1992, American Dental Association.)

L. Prosthodontics. Prosthodontics is the dental specialty pertaining to the diagnosis, treatment planning, rehabilitation and maintenance of the oral function, comfort, appearance and health of patients with clinical conditions associated with missing or deficient teeth and/or oral and maxillofacial tissues using biocompatible substitutes. (Adopted April 2003, American Dental Association).

Mississippi State Board of Dental Examiners Regulations Adopted by the Board

Board Regulation Number 43: Advertising

Purpose: The purpose of this regulation is to ensure that the public has access to information which provides a sufficient basis upon which to make an informed selection of dentists, while also ensuring that the public is protected from false or misleading advertisements which would detract from a fair and rational selection process. Accordingly, the Board shall adopt rules which shall regulate the manner of such advertising in keeping with the provisions hereof.

- 1. For the purposes of Miss. Code Ann. § 73-9-61, "advertising" shall include any information communicated in a manner designed to attract public attention to the practice of the licensee.
- 2. A dentist may provide information regarding himself or herself, his or her practice, and fixed fees associated with dental services in various forms of public communications. The responsibility for the form and content of an advertisement offering services or goods by a dentist shall be jointly and severally that of each professional who is a principal, partner, officer, or associate of the firm or entity identified in the advertisement.
- 3. All advertisements shall contain the full name and degree of the practitioner who will provide services. If services are referenced in the advertisement, the advertisement shall state either "general practice "or "general dentistry," or the American Dental Association recognized specialty that the practitioner practices immediately following the name and degree of the practitioner. The word "family" maybe substituted for the word "general."
- 4. The Board may require a dentist to substantiate the truthfulness of any assertion or representation of material fact set forth in an advertisement. At the time an advertisement is placed, the dentist must then possess and rely upon information which, when produced, would substantiate the truthfulness of any assertion or representation of material fact set forth in such advertisement. The failure to possess and rely upon such information at the time the advertisement is placed, as well as the failure to provide such factual substantiation to support a representation or assertion when requested by the Board, shall be deemed unprofessional conduct as set forth in Miss. Code Ann. § 73-9-61(1)(I).
- 5. A video and/or audio tape of every advertisement communicated by electronic media or copies of printed advertisements shall be retained by the dentist for a period of two (2) years and be made available for review upon request by the Board or its designee.
- 6. Advertising that references a fee or fees, or a service for no fee, must clearly define the professional service being offered in the advertisement. Such

advertised offers shall be presumed to include everything ordinarily required for such a service. No additional fees may be charged unless the advertisement includes the following disclaimer: "Additional fees may be incurred in individual cases."

7. No advertisement by a licensed dentist shall contain any false, fraudulent, misleading, or deceptive statement or claim. The following acts or omissions in the context of advertising by any licensee shall constitute unprofessional conduct as set forth in Miss. Code Ann. § 73-9-61(1)(I), and subject the licensee to disciplinary action: a. Contains misrepresentations of fact. b. Misleads or deceive, or is likely to mislead or deceive, because in context the advertisement makes only a partial disclosure of relevant facts. c. Contains laudatory statements about the dentist or group of dentists. d. Creates, or is likely to create, false and unjustified expectations of favorable results, e. Relates to the quality of dental services provided as compared to other available dental services, f. Appeals, or is likely to appeal, primarily to alay person's fears. g. Contains other representations or implications that in reasonable probability will cause an ordinary, prudent person to misunderstand or to be deceived. h. Communicates personal identifiable facts, data, or information about a patient without first obtaining the patient's consent. i. Fails to disclose the fact of giving compensation or anything of value to representatives of the press, radio, television or other communicative medium (e.g., newspapers or telephone directories) in anticipation of or in return for any advertisement, unless the nature, format, or medium of such advertisement make the fact of compensation apparent. j. Directly or indirectly offers, gives, or agrees to receive any fee or other consideration to or from a third party for the referral of a patient in connection with the performance of professional services.

Continuing Education

<u>Mississippi State Board of Dental Examiners Regulations Adopted by the Board</u>

Regulation 41- Continuing Education

RULE 1.41 BOARD REGULATION NUMBER 41--CONTINUING EDUCATION Purpose: To Establish Continuing Education Requirements of Dentists and Dental Hygienists.

Click here for online renewal web site for dentists

1. Applicability

- A. Continuing dental education (CDE) ensures that dentists and dental hygienists maintain and enhance professional competence as well as stay abreast of best practices and industry developments.
- B. The following are exempt from biennial CDE requirements:
- (1) Licensees enrolled in full-time post-graduate specialty training;
- (2) Licensees' first biennial renewal period; and
- (3) Licensees with an inactive license for the renewal period during which the license was inactive.
- 2. Biennial Requirements
- A. For purposes of this regulation, the biennial renewal period is:
- (1) January 01st of even year through December 31st of odd year for dentists and
- (2) January 01st of odd year through December 31st of even year for dental hygienists.
- B. Licensed dentists must complete (40) hours of Board-approved CDE per biennial renewal period.
- C. Licensed dental hygienists must complete twenty (20) hours of Boardapproved CDE per biennial renewal period.

- D. Licensed dentists who prescribe, administer, or dispense any controlled substance within the State of Mississippi, or who proposes to do so, must complete (3) hours
- of Board-approved CDE per biennial renewal period regarding the prescribing of opioids.
- 3. Method of Delivery
- A. CDE hours may be obtained by in-person attendance or through virtual, correspondence, or otherwise non-in-person method(s).
- B. Non-in-person CDE must include a post-study examination.
- 4. Board-approved Continuing Dental Education (CDE) includes:
- A. Dental or dental hygiene educational courses approved by the following:
- (1) American Dental Association (ADA)
- (2) Academy of General Dentistry (AGD)
- (3) Mississippi Dental Association (MDA)
- (4) Mississippi Dental Society (MDS)
- (5) National Dental Association (NDA)
- (6) National Dental Hygienists' Association (NDHA)
- (7) Mississippi Dental Hygienists' Association (MDHA)
- (8) American Dental Hygienists' Association (ADHA)
- (9) American Association of Dental Boards (AADB)
- (10) Mississippi State Board of Medical Licensure
- B. Attendance of official meetings of the organizations listed in Section 4.(a.).
- C. Attendance of official meetings of the Mississippi State Board of Dental Examiners or its committees. Licensees may earn up to four (4) hours per meeting.
- D. Certifications obtained pursuant to Board Regulation 45 Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation. Hours applied per biennial renewal period may not exceed:
- (1) CPR (Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation) eight (8) hours;
- (2) ACLS (Advanced Cardiac Life Support) sixteen (16) hours; and
- (3) PALS (Pediatric Advanced Life Support) sixteen (16) hours.
- E. Administration and calibration of American Board of Dental Examiners (ADEX) clinical licensure examinations.
- (1) Dentists administering ADEX-Dental may earn up to seven and one-half
- (7.5) hours per one (1) day of examination.
- (2) Dentists and dental hygienists administering ADEX-Dental Hygiene may earn up to six (6) hours per one (1) day of examination and three (3) hours per one-half (1/2) day of examination.
- (3) Dentists calibrating ADEX-Dental may earn up to three (3) hours per ADEX-Dental component calibrated.
- (4) Dentists and dental hygienists calibrating ADEX-Dental Hygiene may earn up to three (3) hours.
- F. Dentists successfully completing an ADA-recognized specialty Board recertification examination may earn up to twenty (20) hours.
- (1) Instructors shall receive the same credit for the course as participants.
- (2) An instructor may only apply credit for a course taught once per biennial renewal period.
- H. Other courses or activities specifically approved by the Board for CDE credit on an individual basis.
- 5. Request for Board-approval of CDE
- A. The Board may specifically approve other courses or activities for CDE credit on an individual basis.

B. Persons and/or organizations seeking Board-approval for CDE credit shall submit the following information for Board consideration at least ten (10) working days

prior to the next scheduled Board Meeting:

- (1) Detailed course syllabus identifying information and/or training that will be covered;
- (2) A proposed date, location, and maximum occupancy for the course;
- (3) Method of delivery of information and/or training;
- (4) Credentials and/or professional qualifications of instructor(s); and
- (5) Proposed number of hours of CDE to be awarded.
- C. Even if CDE is delivered at an ADA-accredited dental, dental hygiene, or dental assisting teaching institution, the course must be approved by an organization

listed in Section 4.(A.) above or by the Board on a course-by-course basis.

- D. Board-approval status shall be clearly notated on course brochures and certificates of completion.
- (1) CDE approved by the Board on a course-by-course basis shall include the date that the Board granted approval.
- (2) CDE approved by an organization listed in Section 4.(a.) above shall include the approving organization.
- 6. Reporting, Record Keeping, and Audits
- A. Each licensee shall certify his or her compliance with the continuing education requirements in this regulation upon biennial license renewal.
- B. Unless otherwise ordered by the Board, continuing education and/or remedial education hours required by a Board disciplinary order shall not be used to satisfy the CDE requirements prescribed by this regulation.
- C. Each licensee is responsible for submitting proof of completion for each Board approved CDE course and/or activity to the continuing education tracking system.
- D. Each licensee shall maintain a record of Board-approved CDE courses and/or activities completed for a minimum of three (3) years from the date of completion.
- (1) Records shall include the date, location, number of credit hours, and certificates of attendance/ successful course completion.
- (2) Records shall be made available for review at any time by the Board, any member of the Board, and/or any designated agent of the Board.
- (3) When a Board member or any designated agent of the Board shall conduct any authorized investigation, any and all continuing education records will be reviewed and/or audited for compliance with this regulation.
- (4) When any licensee is noticed to appear before the Board to show cause why that licensee's dental or dental hygiene license should not be suspended, revoked, or have other action taken against it, the licensee may be required to present proof of compliance with this Regulation.
- E. The Board shall conduct a random audit of a representative sample of licensees

after each biennial renewal period to ensure compliance with this regulation.

- 7. Non-Compliance and Penalties
- A. Failure to comply with this regulation, including but not limited to the following, is grounds for disciplinary action, up to and including revocation of license:
- (1) False certification of the number of hours of Board-approved CDE completed;
- (2) Failure to complete the required number of hours of Board-approved

- CDE; and (3) Failure to respond and/or cooperate with the Board or Board's designee following notification of selection for CDE audit.
- B. Non-compliance with this regulation may result in disciplinary action in accordance with the following schedule of penalties:
- (1) 1st Offense: Five Hundred Dollars (\$500) fine or Non-disciplinary Letter of Concern contingent upon licensee meeting compliance.
- (2) 2nd Offense: One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000) fine
- (3) 3rd Offense: Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000) fine
- (4) 4th Offense: Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000) fine and one (1) month suspension of license.
- (5) 5th Offense: Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000) fine and six (6) month suspension of license.
- 8. Requirement for Change in Status: Inactive to Active
- A. "Active" and "inactive" status shall have the same meanings as in Miss. Code Ann. § 73-9-19 and 30 Miss. Admin. Code Pt. 2301, R. 1.49 (Board Regulation No. 49).
- B. Any dentist or dental hygienist with an inactive license requesting a change to active status must obtain twenty (20) hours or ten (10) hours, respectively, of Board-approved CDE within the twelve (12) months prior to requesting active status.
- C. Any dentist or dental hygienist with an inactive license requesting a change to active status must successfully complete the Board's Jurisprudence examination. D. Hours obtained for certification in CPR, pursuant to Board Regulation No. 45, may not be applied toward meeting this requirement.
- 9. Requirement for Reinstatement
- A. Any dentist or dental hygienist requesting reinstatement of a voided license must obtain twenty (20) hours or ten (10) hours, respectively, of Board-approved CDE within the twelve (12) months prior to requesting licensure reinstatement.
- B. Any dentist or dental hygienist requesting reinstatement of a revoked license must obtain twenty (20) hours or ten (10) hours, respectively, of Board-approved CDE within the twelve (12) months prior to requesting licensure reinstatement.
- C. Any dentist or dental hygienist requesting reinstatement of a voided or revoked license must successfully complete the Board's Jurisprudence examination.
- D. Hours obtained for certification in CPR, pursuant to Board Regulation No. 45, may not be applied toward meeting this requirement.