

Initial Licensure Examination Requirements	American Board of Dental Examiners (ADEX, CDCA-WREB-CITA), CRDTS+SRTA The Board will recognize successful completion of the dental examination approved by the Board for up to 5 years from the date scores are reported to the Board. After 5 years, the Board will accept passing scores on the examinations only if the candidate has been engaged in postgraduate training or in the practice of dentistry in another jurisdiction. Source: Dentist - Pennsylvania Licensure Requirements
General Licensure Requirements	Title 63, Chapter 4, Pennsylvania Statutes § 122. General powers of the State Board of Dentistry The State Board of Dentistry (hereinafter called the board) shall have the following powers and duties: (a) To establish and alter, from time to time, the standards of preliminary and professional education and the training required for licensure to practice dentistry and as dental hygienists and certification for expanded function dental assistants. (b) To investigate and determine the acceptability and to approve and disapprove institutions and colleges of this State and of other states and countries for the education of students desiring to be licensed to practice dentistry or as dental hygienists or to be certified as expanded function dental assistants, and to revoke approvals where such institutions and colleges no longer are deemed proper. (c) To provide for and to regulate the licensing, and to license to practice dentistry, after examination, any duly qualified applicant, at least twenty-one years of age, of good moral character, not addicted to the use of intoxicating liquor or narcotic drugs, who has obtained the required education, together with a diploma from an approved institution or college conferring upon him or her the degree of doctor of dental surgery or other established dental degree. The board shall not issue a license to an applicant who has been convicted of a felony under the act of April 14, 1972 (P.L. 233, No. 64), known as "The Controlled Substance, Drug, Device and Cosmetic Act," ¹ or of an offense under the laws of another jurisdiction which if committed in this Commonwealth would be a felony under "The Controlled Substance, Drug, Device and Cosmetic Act," unless: (1) at least ten (10) years have elapsed from the date of conviction, (2) the applicant satisfactorily demonstrates to the board that he has made significant progress in personal rehabilitation since the conviction such that licensure of the applicant should not be expected to create a substantial risk of harm to the health and safety of his patients or the public or a substantial risk of further criminal violations, and (3) the applicant otherwise satisfies the qualifications contained in or authorized by this act. As used in this section the term "convicted" shall include a judgment, an admission of guilt or a plea of nolo contendere. (c.1) To provide for and to regulate the licensing, and to license to practice dentistry for the limited purpose of teaching, without examination, any qualified applicant who satisfies the requirements of section 11.11.2 (d) To provide for and to regulate the licensing, and to license as a dental hygienist, after examination, any duly qualified person, not less than eighteen years of age, of good moral character, not addicted to the use of intoxicating liquor or narcotic drugs, who has obtained the required education for the training of dental hygienists from an approved institution or college that meets or exceeds the minimum standards established by an approved United States Department of Education-recognized regional accrediting agency or the American Dental Association Commission on Dental Accreditation. The board

	<p>shall, consistent with this act, adopt regulations providing for the general supervision and practice of dental hygienists under this act.</p> <p>(d.1)(1) To provide for and to regulate the certification and to certify as an expanded function dental assistant any duly qualified person, not less than eighteen years of age, of good moral character, not addicted to the use of intoxicating liquor or narcotic drugs, who has:</p> <p>(i)(A) graduated from an expanded function dental assisting program at an accredited two-year college or other accredited institution which offers an associate degree;</p> <p>(B) graduated from an accredited dental hygiene program which required the successful completion of at least seventy-five hours of clinical and didactic instruction in restorative functions; or</p> <p>(C) completed a certification program in expanded function dental assisting of at least two hundred hours clinical and didactic instruction from an accredited dental assisting program; and</p> <p>(ii) passed an examination adopted by the board pursuant to subsection (e).</p> <p>(2) A person who on the effective date of this clause has been practicing as an expanded function dental assistant for at least five consecutive years prior to the effective date of this amendatory act and who presents a validation from the person's current dentist-employer may qualify for certification without satisfying the education requirements set forth in subclause (i) if the person passes the examination required by subclause (ii).</p> <p>(e) To prescribe the subjects, character, manner, time and place of examinations and the filing of applications for examinations, and to conduct and provide for the conduct of the examinations in accordance with section 812.1 of the act of April 9, 1929 (P.L. 177, No. 175), known as "The Administrative Code of 1929";3 to make written reports of such examinations, which reports shall be preserved in the Department of State for a period of not less than five years; to collect such fees for such examinations as may be fixed according to regulation; and to issue licenses and certificates to such applicants as successfully pass such examination.</p> <p>(f) To accept and endorse, as valid in this Commonwealth, licenses to practice dentistry or as dental hygienists issued by another state or territory or by Canada, and to accept as properly qualified any applicant who has been examined and certified by the National Dental Examining Board, upon the payment of such fees as prescribed according to law for applicants in this State: Provided, That the standards of such other state, territory or of Canada or of such national board are, in the opinion of the board, equal to the standards of this Commonwealth: And provided further, That such other state, territory or Canada shall recognize and endorse, as valid in such state or territory or in Canada, licenses issued by this Commonwealth.</p> <p>(f.1) To accept and endorse, as valid in this Commonwealth, credentials to perform as an expanded function dental assistant issued by another state or territory or by Canada: Provided, That the standards of such other state or territory or of Canada are, in the opinion of the board, equal to the standards of this Commonwealth: And provided further, That such other state or territory or Canada shall recognize and endorse, as valid in such state or territory or in Canada, certificates issued by this Commonwealth.</p> <p>(g) To prescribe the professional title or other designation which any person licensed or certified under this act may use in connection with his or her name in the practice of dentistry or as a dental hygienist or as an expanded function dental assistant, to regulate the use of the same, and to prosecute those who illegally use the same.</p>
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	<p>(g.1) To receive and record all filings of the names and fictitious names of providers of dental services but shall not make determinations or judgments as to the appropriateness of such names.</p> <p>(h) To investigate and conduct hearings, either before the membership of the board or committees thereof, and to discipline and prosecute those guilty of illegal practices.</p> <p>(i) To suspend, revoke or refuse to grant licenses or certificates as further provided for in section 4.1.4</p> <p>(j) To provide for, regulate, and require biennial renewals of all persons licensed or certified in accordance with the provisions of this act; to prescribe the form of such renewals; to require, as a condition precedent to such biennial renewal, the payment of such biennial renewal fee as shall be fixed by regulation of the board, the maintenance of certification in cardiopulmonary resuscitation and the demonstration of continuing education credits required under this act; to issue biennial renewals to such persons; and to suspend or revoke the license or certificate of such persons as fail, refuse or neglect to renew biennially, comply with the requirements of subsection (j.2), or pay the appropriate fee.</p> <p>(j.1) To require, as a condition of renewal of any license or certificate, the maintenance of current certification to administer cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR). The board may recognize the maintenance of certification in CPR or basic life support offered by a bona fide charitable organization.</p> <p>(j.2)(1) To adopt, promulgate and enforce rules and regulations establishing requirements for continuing dental education to be met by persons licensed or certified under this act. The board shall approve sponsors of continuing education courses within one year of the effective date of regulations adopted to enforce this subsection. No credit may be given for courses in office management or practice building. The board may waive all or part of the continuing education requirement to a licensee who shows to the satisfaction of the board that he or she was unable to complete the requirement due to illness, emergency or hardship.</p> <p>(2) The following requirements shall be satisfactorily completed in accordance with board regulations as a precedent to biennial renewal of a license or certification:</p> <p>(i) Thirty credit hours for a person licensed to practice dentistry, including an individual licensed to practice dentistry under a restricted faculty license.</p> <p>(ii) Twenty credit hours for a person licensed to practice dental hygiene. For a public health dental hygiene practitioner, five hours shall be public health-related courses.</p> <p>(iii) Ten credit hours for a person certified to practice expanded function dental assisting.</p> <p>(3) For the purposes of this subsection, one credit hour shall be defined as one clock hour of instruction.</p> <p>(k) To keep a record of all licenses, certificates and biennial renewals, and to prescribe the form of such record.</p> <p>(l) To submit biennially to the Department of State an estimate of the financial requirements of the board for administrative, investigative, legal, and miscellaneous expenses.</p> <p>(m) To administer and enforce the laws of the Commonwealth relating to the practice of dentistry and dental hygienists and certified expanded function dental assistants, and to instruct and require its agents to bring prosecutions for unauthorized and unlawful practices.</p> <p>(n) To keep minutes and records of all its transactions and proceedings.</p>
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	<p>(o) To adopt, promulgate, and enforce such rules and regulations as may be deemed necessary by the board and proper to carry into effect the powers hereby conferred.</p> <p>(p) To hold at least four meetings a year for the conduct of its business upon giving public notice of such meetings in the manner provided by law.</p> <p>(q) To submit annually to the Appropriations Committees of the House of Representatives and the Senate, fifteen days after the Governor has submitted his budget to the General Assembly, a copy of the budget request for the upcoming fiscal year which the board previously submitted to the Department of State.</p> <p>(r) To submit annually a report to the Professional Licensure Committee of the House of Representatives and to the Consumer Protection and Professional Licensure Committee of the Senate a description of the types of complaints received, status of cases, board action which has been taken and the length of time from the initial complaint to final board resolution.</p> <p>(s) To provide for the licensing of graduates of foreign dental schools in accordance with section 6.2.5</p> <p>(t) To purchase and publish, other than in the legal section, in a newspaper of general circulation in the area where the disciplined dentist conducts or recently conducted his or her practice, notice of all final disciplinary decisions which impose discipline amounting to more than a reprimand. The board shall not be required to comply with the provisions of this subsection in those cases in which the board places a dentist in a probationary program for drug or alcohol abuse or where, in the board's opinion, publication of the disciplinary decision would be detrimental to the licensee's rehabilitation and recovery.</p>
	<p><u>49 Pennsylvania Code § 33.102. Professional education.</u></p> <p>(a) <i>Dentists.</i></p> <p>(1) Candidates for licensure as dentists shall show compliance with section 3(c) of the act (63 P. S. § 122(c)) which requires a diploma from an "approved institution or college," by submitting certification of graduation from a dental school accredited or provisionally accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of the American Dental Association.</p> <p>(2) Candidates for licensure who received their professional education outside the United States in a nonaccredited school may satisfy the education requirement by submitting their credentials to an accredited or provisionally accredited school and obtaining additional preclinical and clinical training that will lead to the awarding of the D.M.D. or D.D.S. degree by that school.</p> <p>§ 33.103. Examinations.</p> <p>(a) <i>Dentists.</i> Candidates for licensure shall pass the National Board Dental Examination (written examination) and the dental clinical examination administered by one of the following:</p> <p>(1) The North East Regional Board of Dental Examiners, Inc. (NERB).</p> <p>(2) The Southern Regional Testing Agency, Inc. (SRTA).</p> <p>(3) The Western Regional Examining Board (WREB).</p> <p>(4) The Central Regional Dental Testing Service, Inc. (CRDTS).</p> <p>(5) The Council of Interstate Testing Agencies, Inc. (CITA).</p> <p>(b) <i>Dental hygienists.</i> Candidates for licensure shall pass the National Board Dental Hygiene Examination (written examination) and the dental hygiene clinical examination administered by one of the following:</p> <p>(1) The North East Regional Board of Dental Examiners, Inc. (NERB).</p> <p>(2) The Southern Regional Testing Agency, Inc. (SRTA).</p> <p>(3) The Western Regional Examining Board (WREB).</p> <p>(4) The Central Regional Dental Testing Service, Inc. (CRDTS).</p>

	<p>(5) The Council of Interstate Testing Agencies, Inc. (CITA).</p> <p>(c) <i>Expanded function dental assistants.</i> Candidates for certification shall pass a written examination acceptable to the Board.</p> <p>(d) <i>Additional requirement.</i> The Board will recognize successful completion of the dental or dental hygiene clinical examinations or the expanded function dental assistant examination approved by the Board for up to 5 years from the date scores are reported to the Board. After 5 years, the Board will accept passing scores on the examinations only if the candidate has been engaged in postgraduate training or in the practice of dentistry, as a dental hygienist or as an expanded function dental assistant in another jurisdiction.</p> <p>§ 33.104. Initial licensure/certification; licensure/certification documents.</p> <p>(a) Each new licensee is issued a wall certificate indicating initial licensure and a registration packet including a biennial renewal certificate and a wallet-size license card that show the expiration date of the license. Licenses expire on March 31 of each odd-numbered year, regardless of the date of issuance.</p> <p>(b) Each new certificate holder is issued a wall certificate indicating initial certification and a registration packet including a biennial renewal certificate and a wallet-size certification card that show the expiration date of the certificate. Certificates expire on March 31 of each odd-numbered year, regardless of the date of issuance.</p> <p>(c) Fees as prescribed by the Bureau of Professional and Occupational Affairs Fee Act (63 P. S. § 1401-101—1401-501), shall be charged for duplicate wall certificates and biennial renewal documents. A duplicate will be issued only upon submission by the licensee or certificate holder of a notarized statement specifying why the original is unavailable and stating that the duplicate will be returned if the original is recovered.</p>
License by Credential/ Endorsement Requirements	<p>Title 63, Chapter 4, Pennsylvania Statutes § 122. General powers of the State Board of Dentistry</p> <p>(f) To accept and endorse, as valid in this Commonwealth, licenses to practice dentistry or as dental hygienists issued by another state or territory or by Canada, and to accept as properly qualified any applicant who has been examined and certified by the National Dental Examining Board, upon the payment of such fees as prescribed according to law for applicants in this State: Provided, That the standards of such other state, territory or of Canada or of such national board are, in the opinion of the board, equal to the standards of this Commonwealth: And provided further, That such other state, territory or Canada shall recognize and endorse, as valid in such state or territory or in Canada, licenses issued by this Commonwealth.</p> <p>(f.1) To accept and endorse, as valid in this Commonwealth, credentials to perform as an expanded function dental assistant issued by another state or territory or by Canada: Provided, That the standards of such other state or territory or of Canada are, in the opinion of the board, equal to the standards of this Commonwealth: And provided further, That such other state or territory or Canada shall recognize and endorse, as valid in such state or territory or in Canada, certificates issued by this Commonwealth.</p> <p>Pennsylvania Code, Title 49, Chapter 33, Subchapter B § 33.107. Licensure and certification by criteria approval.</p> <p>Dentists, dental hygienists and expanded function dental assistants who are currently licensed or certified in another state or territory or in Canada may be granted licensure or certification in this Commonwealth if the credentials submitted meet the requirements of the act and of this subchapter. Licensure and certification by criteria approval will be granted only to applicants whose licensing boards confirm that they reciprocate with the Commonwealth. An</p>

	<p>applicant shall cause the licensing authority of each state where the applicant has practiced to submit to the Board a letter of good standing. The Board may grant a personal interview to resolve questions concerning an applicant's qualifications.</p> <p>§ 33.107a. Licensure by endorsement.</p> <p>(a) <i>Requirements for issuance.</i> To be issued a license by endorsement under 63 Pa.C.S. § 3111 (relating to licensure by endorsement), an applicant shall satisfy all of the following conditions:</p> <p>(1) Have a current license, certification, registration or permit in good standing to practice as a dentist, dental hygienist or expanded function dental assistant in another jurisdiction whose licensure standards are substantially equivalent to or exceed those established under section 3(c), (d) and (d.1) of the act (63 P.S. § 122(c), (d) and (d.1)) and §§ 33.102 and 33.103 (relating to professional education; and examinations). The following apply:</p> <p>(i) An applicant shall submit a copy of the current applicable law, regulation or other rule governing licensure, certification, registration or permit requirements and scope of practice in the jurisdiction that issued the license, certificate, registration or permit.</p> <p>(ii) If the applicable law, regulation or other rule and scope of practice is in a language other than English, at the applicant's expense, the applicable law, regulation or other rule and scope of practice shall be translated by a professional translation service and verified to be complete and accurate.</p> <p>(iii) The copy of the applicable law, regulation or other rule and scope of practice must include the enactment date.</p> <p>(2) Demonstrate competency by establishing experience in the practice of the profession by demonstrating, at a minimum, that the applicant has actively engaged in the licensed practice of their profession under a license, certificate, registration or permit in a jurisdiction or jurisdictions that have substantially equivalent licensure standards for at least 2 of the 5 years immediately preceding the filing of the application with the Board.</p> <p>(3) Have not committed any act that constitutes grounds for refusal, suspension or revocation of a license, certificate, registration or permit to practice under section 4.1 of the act (63 P.S. § 123.1).</p> <p>(4) Have not been disciplined by the jurisdiction that issued the license, certificate, registration or permit.</p> <p>(5) Have paid the required application fee as required under § 33.3 (relating to fees).</p> <p>(6) Have applied for licensure in accordance with this chapter in the manner and format prescribed by the Board, including satisfaction of the professional liability insurance requirements in section 3.2 of the act (63 P.S. § 122.2).</p> <p>(7) Have completed 3 hours of training in child abuse recognition and reporting from a provider approved by the Department of Human Services as required under 23 Pa.C.S. § 6383(b)(3)(i) (relating to education and training) and § 33.256 (relating to child abuse recognition and reporting—mandatory training requirement).</p> <p>(b) <i>Interview and additional information.</i> An applicant may be required to appear before the Board for a personal interview and may be required to submit additional information, including supporting documentation relating to competency and experience. The applicant may request the interview to be conducted by video teleconference for good cause shown.</p> <p>(c) <i>Prohibited acts and discipline.</i> Notwithstanding subsection (a)(3) and (4), the Board may, in its discretion, determine that an act prohibited under section</p>
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	<p>4.1 of the act or a disciplinary action by another jurisdiction are not impediments to the granting of a license under 63 Pa.C.S. § 3111.</p> <p>Authority</p> <p>The provisions of this § 33.107a added under 63 Pa.C.S. § 3111; and section 3(o) of The Dental Law (63 P.S. § 122(o)).</p> <p>Source</p> <p>The provisions of this § 33.107a added July 25, 2025, effective July 26, 2025, 55 Pa.B. 4972.</p> <p>Cross References</p> <p>This section cited in 49 Pa. Code § 33.107b (relating to provisional endorsement license).</p> <p>§ 33.107b. Provisional endorsement license.</p> <p>(a) <i>Provisional endorsement license.</i> The Board may, in its discretion, issue a provisional endorsement license to an applicant while the applicant is satisfying the remaining requirements for licensure by endorsement under 63 Pa.C.S. § 3111 (relating to licensure by endorsement) and § 33.107a (relating to licensure by endorsement).</p> <p>(b) <i>Expiration of a provisional endorsement license.</i></p> <p>(1) An individual holding a provisional endorsement license may practice up to 1 year after the date of issuance of the provisional endorsement license. The Board, in its discretion, may determine that an expiration date of less than 1 year is appropriate.</p> <p>(2) Upon written request and showing of good cause, the Board may grant an extension of no longer than 1 year from the expiration date of the provisional endorsement license.</p> <p>(c) <i>Termination of a provisional endorsement license.</i> A provisional endorsement license terminates when any of the following occurs:</p> <p>(1) The Board completes its assessment of the applicant and grants or denies the license.</p> <p>(2) The holder of the provisional license fails to comply with the terms of a provisional endorsement license.</p> <p>(3) The provisional endorsement license expires.</p> <p>(d) <i>Reapplication.</i> An individual may reapply for licensure by endorsement under § 33.107a after expiration or termination of a provisional endorsement license. The individual may not be issued a subsequent provisional endorsement license.</p> <p>Authority</p> <p>The provisions of this § 33.107b added under 63 Pa.C.S. § 3111; and section 3(o) of The Dental Law (63 P.S. § 122(o)).</p> <p>Source</p> <p>The provisions of this § 33.107b added July 25, 2025, effective July 26, 2025, 55 Pa.B. 4972.</p> <p>§ 33.108. Transfers out-of-state.</p> <p>Dentists, dental hygienists and expanded function dental assistants who wish their licensure, certification or grades certified to another state shall pay the fee in § 33.3 (relating to fees).</p> <p>Specialty Practice</p> <p>49 Pennsylvania Code § 33.203. Advertising.</p> <p>(a) Advertising is permitted to provide the public with a sufficient basis for making an informed selection of a dentist. For purposes of this section, the term "advertising" includes signs, letterheads, business cards, and printed or broadcast announcements of services to the public.</p> <p>(b) Advertising that is false, misleading or deceptive is prohibited under section 4.1(a)(10) of the act (63 P. S. § 123.1(a)(10)). Advertising is false,</p>
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	<p>misleading or deceptive if it does one or more of the following:</p> <p>(1) Contains a material misrepresentation of fact, or omits a fact necessary to make the statement considered as a whole not materially misleading.</p> <p>(2) Is likely to create an unjustified expectation about results the dentist can achieve.</p> <p>(3) Compares the advertising dentist's services with the services of other dentists unless the comparison can be factually substantiated.</p> <p>(c) A dental advertisement in any medium shall contain the name of at least one dentist whose services are being advertised. Each dentist whose name appears in the advertisement shall assume responsibility for the advertisement and shall use the name that appears on the dentist's current biennial renewal certificate. A dentist who advertises under a fictitious name shall comply with § 33.202 (relating to fictitious names).</p> <p>(d) A dental advertisement in any medium may identify the dentist as a specialist in a particular area of dentistry, state that the practice is limited to a particular area of dentistry or merely designate the kinds of dental services available. In addition, the following shall be met:</p> <p>(1) An advertisement may not hold out or imply that the dentist is a specialist in any area unless the conditions in subparagraphs (i) and (ii) are satisfied. Holding out as a specialist includes the use of the terms "specialist" and "limited to specialty of" or of words such as "endodontist" and "pediatric dentist," which denote a practitioner of the dental specialties listed in subparagraph (i).</p> <p>(i) The area must be recognized by the Board as a dental specialty. The Board has adopted the American Dental Association's (ADA's) standards for recognizing the following specialties:</p> <p class="list-item-l1">(A) Dental public health.</p> <p class="list-item-l1">(B) Endodontics.</p> <p class="list-item-l1">(C) Oral and maxillofacial surgery.</p> <p class="list-item-l1">(D) Oral pathology.</p> <p class="list-item-l1">(E) Orthodontics.</p> <p class="list-item-l1">(F) Pediatric dentistry.</p> <p class="list-item-l1">(G) Periodontics.</p> <p class="list-item-l1">(H) Prosthodontics.</p> <p>(ii) The dentist shall have successfully completed a specialty training program approved by the ADA's Commission on Dental Accreditation.</p> <p>(2) A dentist who is a specialist in one area under paragraph (1) and advertises, in conjunction with the specialty, that services are provided in another recognized specialty area, or in a nonspecialty area (examples: a specialist in orthodontics announcing additional services in pediatric dentistry or a specialist in periodontics announcing additional services in placing dental implants) shall conspicuously disclose that specialty status does not extend to the other specialty or nonspecialty area.</p> <p>(3) A specialist under paragraph (1) may not hold out or imply that general dentists associated with the practice are specialists.</p> <p>(4) A dentist who is not a specialist under paragraph (1) may list the area in which the dentist practices or to which the practice is limited. If the advertisement identifies an area by a term that designates a recognized specialty under paragraph (1)(i), the advertisement shall conspicuously disclose that services are provided by a general dentist. For example, an advertisement that announces services in prosthodontics or oral surgery shall include the general dentist</p>
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	<p>disclosure, whereas an advertisement that announces services such as crown and bridge work or extractions may omit the disclosure.</p> <p>(5) Neither general dentists nor specialists may hold out or imply that a nonspecialty area of dentistry has specialty status. For example, dentists may not state that they specialize in or limit their practice to temporomandibular joint disorders or implantology but may announce services in, or a practice limited to diagnosing or treating temporomandibular joint disorders, or placing dental implants.</p> <p>(e) A dental advertisement in any medium may contain the fees charged by the advertising dentist for dental services, as defined in subsection (k). If a minimum fee is advertised, the advertisement shall contain a statement disclosing that the advertised fee is the minimum fee charged for the advertised service and that the actual fee may vary depending on the degree of complexity involved in treatment. The disclosure statement shall be at least as prominent in the context of the advertisement as the fee information contained in the advertisement. If the fee information is verbal, the disclosure statement also shall be verbal and shall be at least equal to the fee information in volume, quality and duration. If the fee information is in writing, the disclosure statement also shall be in writing and shall be at least equal to the fee information in size, legibility and length.</p> <p>(f) A dental advertisement in any medium may state that dental services, as defined in subsection (k), will be rendered free of charge.</p> <p>(g) For at least 60 days following final publication or broadcast of an advertisement containing information about fees or free services, the advertising dentist shall neither increase the advertised fees nor charge fees for services advertised as free unless the advertisement specifically and conspicuously stated that the advertised fees or free services would be available for a shorter period of time. When a dental patient agrees, within the 60-day period or the period otherwise stated in the advertisement, to accept a treatment plan for services for which fees have been advertised, the advertising dentist may not charge a fee higher than the advertised fee, even if the services are rendered beyond the 60-day period or the period otherwise stated in the advertisement. When a dental patient agrees, within the 60-day period or the period otherwise stated in the advertisement, to accept a treatment plan for services advertised as free, the advertising dentist may not charge fees for services, even if the services are rendered beyond the 60-day period or the period otherwise stated in the advertisement.</p> <p>(h) A dental advertisement in any medium may state the dentist's office hours.</p> <p>(i) A recorded copy of an advertisement on radio or television shall be retained for 1 year following the final broadcast of the advertisement. The dentist who is responsible for the advertisement under subsection (c) shall furnish the Board with a copy of the advertisement within 20 days of being requested to do so.</p> <p>(j) If the narrator of a dental advertisement on radio or television is represented as a dentist, that person shall be the dentist so represented.</p> <p>(k) This subsection contains definitions of some but not all of the various types of dental services for which fees may be advertised under subsection (e). Whenever a fee is advertised for one of the defined terms listed in paragraphs (1)–(10), the meaning of the term, as used in the advertisement, is at least as inclusive as the definition set forth in this subsection. These definitions will help ensure that commonly used terms for dental services convey the same meanings in advertisements, thus providing consumers with</p>
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	<p>a better opportunity to compare fees for equivalent services.</p> <p>(1) Examination. A study of the structures of the oral cavity, including the recording of the condition of the structures and the appropriate history. At a minimum, the study shall include the charting of caries; the notation of periodontal disease, occlusal discrepancies, and oral lesions; and a written diagnosis. If a dentist intends to render services in addition to the examination and to charge a separate fee for the additional services, the dentist shall disclose this separate fee to the patient before rendering the additional services.</p> <p>(2) Treatment planning. A written statement of treatment recommendations following an examination and diagnosis. This statement shall include an itemized treatment recommendation and an itemized fee statement.</p> <p>(3) Radiographs. X-rays of the hard and soft oral structures to be used as an aid to diagnosis.</p> <p>(4) Oral prophylaxis. Scaling and polishing of teeth by a licensed dentist or dental hygienist.</p> <p>(5) Restorative dentistry. Procedures involving restoration of tooth structure. The advertisement shall indicate type of restoration and materials to be used.</p> <p>(6) Endodontics. Treatment of the dental pulp, its replacement with suitable material and associated surgery, if indicated.</p> <p>(7) Orthodontics. Prevention and treatment of irregular dentition.</p> <p>(8) Periodontics. Treatment of diseases of the hard and soft tissue surrounding and supporting the oral dentition, including curettage, root planing, surgery, splinting, equilibration and hygiene control procedures.</p> <p>(9) Prosthodontics. Restoration and replacement of teeth and other oral structures by artificial devices, including:</p> <p>(i) Fixed prosthetics. Crowns and bridges. The advertisement shall indicate the type of prosthesis and materials to be used.</p> <p>(ii) Removable prosthetics. Partial and full dentures. The advertisement shall indicate type of prosthesis and materials to be used.</p> <p>(10) Surgery. Surgical treatment of hard or soft tissues, extractions, and treatment of oral pathology, injuries, pain, dysfunction, deformities or other conditions of the oral cavity and its surrounding structures.</p>
Continuing Education	<p>Pennsylvania Code, Title 49, Chapter 33, Subchapter B § 33.105. Biennial renewal of licenses and certificates.</p> <p>(a) Licenses and certificates are renewable for a 2-year period beginning April 1 of each odd-numbered year. The fee for the biennial renewal is set by the Board. See § 33.3 (relating to fees). Upon renewal, licensees and certificate holders receive new biennial renewal licenses or certificates, as appropriate, and wallet-size cards which include the expiration date.</p> <p>(b) As a condition of biennial renewal, commencing with the 2001-2003 renewal period, licensees and certificate holders shall maintain current certification in infant, child and adult cardiopulmonary resuscitation and continuing education requirements specified in Subchapter F (relating to continuing dental education). Licensees and certificate holders shall certify their compliance with this subsection when renewing their licenses on and after April 1, 2001. Courses for certification in cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) shall be substantially similar in content to the CPR courses offered by the American Heart Association and the American Red Cross and have a similar renewal period.</p>

(c) Dentists and dental hygienists who fail to renew their licenses and expanded function dental assistants who fail to renew their certificates are prohibited from practicing their profession in this Commonwealth.

Pennsylvania Code, Title 49, Chapter 33, Subchapter F. CONTINUING DENTAL EDUCATION

§ 33.401. Credit-hour requirements.

(a) An applicant shall complete the following continuing education credit hours during the preceding biennial period:

- (1) Dentists—30 hours.
- (2) Dental hygienists—20 hours.
- (3) Expanded function dental assistants—10 hours.

(b) Except as provided in subsection (h), the required hours shall be taken in subject areas listed in § 33.402 (relating to continuing education subject areas) from a program sponsor listed in § 33.403 (relating to program sponsors).

(c) At least 50% of the required credit hours shall be taken in lecture or clinical presentations.

(d) A maximum of 50% of the required credit hours, listed in § 33.402, may be taken through individual study, serving as an instructor or author of a book, article or continuing education program.

(1) Instructors will be awarded two additional credit hours as preparation time for each credit hour of instruction, and for actual instruction, up to 50% of the required hours. Additional credit hours for instructors are subject to the limitations of subsection (e).

(2) Authors will be awarded 50% of the required hours for articles published in a peer-reviewed professional journal.

(e) Credit will not be awarded for repeating a program in the same renewal period unless the subject matter has substantially changed during that period.

(f) A licensee or certificate holder suspended for disciplinary reasons is not exempt from the continuing education requirements in subsection (a).

(g) Exceptions are as follows:

(1) An applicant is exempt from the continuing education requirement in subsection (a) for only the biennial period during which the applicant passed the licensure or certification examination.

(2) An applicant who cannot meet the continuing education requirement due to illness, emergency or hardship may apply to the Board in writing for a waiver. The request must explain why compliance is impossible. Waiver requests will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis.

(h) All licensees and certificate holders shall complete 2 of the required hours of continuing education in approved courses on child abuse recognition and reporting as set forth in § 33.256 (relating to child abuse recognition and reporting—mandatory training requirement). The Board will not renew a license or certificate unless the bureau has received an electronic report from an approved course provider documenting the attendance/participation by the licensee or certificateholder.

§ 33.402. Continuing education subject areas.

(a) Except as provided in subsections (c)—(e), the required credit hours shall be completed in subjects which contribute directly to the maintenance of clinical competence of a dentist, dental hygienist, public health dental hygiene practitioner or expanded function dental assistant. Examples of acceptable subjects include:

- (1) Diagnosis and treatment of oral pathosis.
- (2) Clinical and technological subjects.

	<p>(3) Emergency procedures excluding hours required for cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) certification.</p> <p>(4) Infection control.</p> <p>(5) Abuse and neglect.</p> <p>(6) Medical and scientific subjects.</p> <p>(7) Laws and regulations pertaining to dentists, dental hygienists and expanded function dental assistants.</p> <p>(b) Credit hours will not be awarded in nonclinical subjects, including:</p> <p>(1) Billing.</p> <p>(2) Office management.</p> <p>(3) Practice building.</p> <p>(4) Insurance reimbursement.</p> <p>(5) Communication skills, except as provided in subsection (c).</p> <p>(c) A dental hygienist may complete no more than three of the required 20 hours of continuing education in courses relating to communication skills.</p> <p>(d) A public health dental hygiene practitioner shall complete five of the required 20 hours of continuing education in public health-related courses.</p> <p>(e) A school dental hygienist who is certified as a public health dental hygiene practitioner and who, as a certified educational specialist is required to obtain continuing professional education under the act and under section 1205.2 of the Public School Code of 1949 (24 P. S. § 12-1205.2) may submit evidence of the completion of education courses approved for certification by the school district to meet the 20-hour continuing education requirement.</p> <p>(f) A dental hygienist who holds a local anesthesia permit shall complete 3 of the required 20 hours of continuing education in courses related to the administration of local anesthesia, including pharmacology or other related courses.</p> <p>(g) Expanded function dental assistants shall comply with the following:</p> <p>(1) Except as provided in paragraph (2), expanded function dental assistants shall complete 3 of the 10 required hours of continuing education in the area of coronal polishing as follows:</p> <p>(i) Unless an exemption applies, an expanded function dental assistant certified by the Board by March 31, 2011, shall complete the 3 hours of continuing education in the area of coronal polishing as a condition of renewal for the biennial period which begins on April 1, 2013.</p> <p>(ii) Unless an exemption applies, an expanded function dental assistant certified by the Board after March 31, 2011, shall complete the 3 hours of continuing education in the area of coronal polishing as a condition of renewal for the first complete biennial renewal period after initial certification.</p> <p>(2) The following expanded function dental assistants are exempt from the requirement to complete 3 hours of continuing education in coronal polishing in paragraph (1):</p> <p>(i) Expanded function dental assistants who are also licensed as dental hygienists.</p> <p>(ii) Expanded function dental assistants who can document that they have completed coursework including coronal polishing as part of their education at a Board-approved EFDA education program at any time after June 28, 2010.</p> <p>(iii) Expanded function dental assistants who can document that they have completed a course in coronal polishing of at least 3 hours offered by an approved program sponsor at any time after June 28, 2010.</p> <p>(3) The requirements of this subsection may not be met through video, online or distance education, but shall be completed by physical attendance at</p>
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	<p>a hands-on clinical training course offered by an approved program sponsor or an approved EFDA education program.</p> <p>§ 33.403. Program sponsors.</p> <p>(a) The Board has approved the following as program sponsors:</p> <p>(1) An accredited dental, dental hygiene or expanded function dental assisting school or program.</p> <p>(2) The medical or osteopathic medical school or college accredited by an accrediting body recognized by the State Board of Medicine, State Board of Osteopathic Medicine or State Board of Nursing.</p> <p>(3) The American Dental Association Continuing Education Review Program, the American Dental Association's specialty associations, the American Dental Hygienists Association and the American Dental Assistants Association.</p> <p>(4) The National Dental Association and its specialty societies and the National Dental Hygienists Association.</p> <p>(5) The American Medical Association, American Osteopathic Medical Association and the American Nursing Association.</p> <p>(6) The Pennsylvania Academy of Dental Hygiene Studies.</p> <p>(7) The Academy of General Dentistry National Sponsor Approval Program.</p> <p>(8) The Veterans' Administration.</p> <p>(9) The United States military services.</p> <p>(10) The National Institutes of Health.</p> <p>(11) The United States Public Health Services.</p> <p>(b) Program sponsors shall:</p> <p>(1) Disclose in advance to prospective participants the objectives, prerequisites, experience level, content, required advanced preparation, teaching method and number of continuing education credits involved in the program.</p> <p>(2) Conduct programs in subjects which contribute directly to the maintenance of clinical competence of a dentist, dental hygienist or expanded function dental assistant.</p> <p>(3) Provide program materials which are accurate and consistent with currently accepted standards relating to the program's subject matter.</p> <p>(4) Provide sufficient and adequate physical facilities for the number and type of participants and the teaching methods to be utilized.</p> <p>(5) Evaluate the program, through questionnaires of the participants and instructors, to determine its effectiveness.</p> <p>(6) Retain accurate attendance records and written outlines for a 4-year period.</p> <p>(7) Provide participants with a continuing education certificate after assuring satisfactory completion and attendance of the program.</p> <p>(c) The Board may, following notice and hearing under 2 Pa.C.S. §§ 501—508 (relating to practice and procedure of Commonwealth agencies), withdraw the approval of a program sponsor for cause and amend subsection (a) accordingly.</p> <p>(d) A party desiring to be an approved program sponsor shall file a written petition with the Board outlining the party's qualifications and experience. Upon Board approval, subsection (a) will be amended accordingly.</p> <p>§ 33.404. Reporting continuing education credit hours.</p> <p>(a) The applicant shall provide the requested information concerning the required hours on an application for biennial renewal.</p> <p>(b) The applicant shall provide a copy of the documentation supporting the completion of the required credit hours when requested to do so by the Board.</p>
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	<p>(c) Acceptable documentation consists of any one of the following:</p> <p>(1) A continuing education certificate or sponsor-generated printouts.</p> <p>(2) A certified transcript of courses taken for credit in an accredited university or college. For noncredit courses taken, a statement of hours of attendance, signed by the instructor.</p> <p>(3) Evidence of publication for published articles, books or continuing education programs.</p> <p>(4) Evidence obtained from the program sponsor of having been an instructor, including an agenda.</p> <p>(d) The responsibility for documenting the continuing education requirements rests with the applicant. The documentation shall be maintained for 4 years after the completion of the program.</p> <p>(e) Falsification of information required under subsection (a) constitutes a violation of § 33.212(1) (relating to misleading, deceptive, untrue or fraudulent representations) and section 4.1 of the act (63 P. S. § 123.1(a)(2)).</p> <p>(f) Failure to comply with subsection (b) may result in disciplinary or corrective action.</p>
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