Initial Licensure Examination Requirements	**American Board of Dental Examiners (ADEX, CDCA-WREB-CITA), CRDTS+SRTA** (1) The following regional examining boards have been designated as acceptable by the Board as of the effective dates shown: (A) The Commission on Dental Competency Assessments-The Western Regional Examining Board-The Council of Interstate Testing Agencies (CDCA-WREB-CITA), August 1, 2022; and (B) Central Regional Dental Testing Service-States Resources for Testing and Assessments (CRDTS-SRTA), January 6, 2025. (2) Examination results will be accepted for seven years from the date of the examination. Source: Texas Administrative Code, Title 22, Part 5, Chapter 101 Dental Licensure, Rule §101.2
General Licensure Requirements	Texas Statutes, Title 3, Subtitle D, Sec. 256.001. LICENSE REQUIRED. A person may not practice or offer to practice dentistry or dental surgery or represent that the person practices dentistry unless the person holds a license issued by the board. **Sec. 256.002. MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS OF DENTAL APPLICANT.** (a) An applicant for a license to practice dentistry must: (1) be at least 21 years of age; and (2) present proof of: (A) graduation from a dental school accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation of the American Dental Association; or (B) graduation from a dental school that is not accredited by the commission and successful completion of training in an American Dental Association approved specialty in an education program accredited by the commission that consists of at least two years of training as specified by the Council on Dental Education. (b) The board shall grant a dental license to an applicant who: (1) meets the qualifications of this section; (2) pays an application fee set by the board; and (3) satisfactorily passes the examination required by the board. **Sec. 256.003. EXAMINATION**. (a) The board shall provide for the examination of an applicant for a dental license. (b) The examination must consist of subjects and operations relating to dentistry, including: (1) anatomy; (2) physiology; (3) anaesthesia; (4) biochemistry; (5) dental materials; (6) diagnosis; (7) treatment planning; (8) ethics; (9) jurisprudence; (10) hygiene; (11) pharmacology; (12) operative dentistry; (13) oral surgery; (14) orthodontia; (15) periodontia; (16) prosthetic dentistry;

	(17) pathology; (18) microbiology; and (19) any other subject regularly taught in reputable dental schools that the board may require. (c) The board shall contract with one or more independent or regional testing services for any required clinical examination. If the board uses one or more regional testing services, the board may contract for or otherwise use licensed dentists to provide assistance to the regional testing service or services. (d) The board shall have the written portion of the board's jurisprudence examination validated by an independent testing professional. **Sec. 256.005. EXAMINATION RESULTS**. (a) The board shall notify each examinee of the results of the examination not later than the 30th day after the date the examination is administered. If an examination is graded or reviewed by a national testing service, the board shall notify examinees of the results of the examination not later than the 14th day after the date the board receives the results from the testing service. (b) If the notice of the examination results graded or reviewed by a national testing service will be delayed for longer than 90 days after the examination date, the board shall notify the examinee of the reason for the delay before the 90th day. (c) If requested in writing by a person who fails the examination, the board shall provide to the person an analysis of the person's performance on the examination as prescribed by board rule. (d) If the board contracts with an independent or regional testing service, this section does not apply. The contract with the testing service must provide for the notification of results as provided by Subsection (a). **Sec. 256.006. REEXAMINATION**. (a) The board by rule shall establish the conditions under which and the number of times an applicant may retake an examination. (b) The board may require an applicant who fails the examination to meet additional education requirements. **Texas Administrative Code, Title 22, Part 5, Chapter 101 Dental Licensure** **RULE §101.1 General Qualifications for Licensure** (a) Any person desiring to practice dentistry in the State of Texas must possess a license issued by the State Board of Dental Examiners (Board) as required by the Dental Practice Act and Board rules. (b) Any applicant for licensure under this chapter must meet the requirements of this section. (c) To be eligible for licensure, an applicant must present on or accompanying a licensure application form approved by the Board proof satisfactory to the Board that the applicant: (1) Is at least 21 years of age; (2) Is professionally fit, which is demonstrated by patterns of personal, academic and occupational behaviors, including final or pending disciplinary action on an occupational license in any jurisdiction, which, in the judgment of the Board, indicate honesty, accountability, trustworthiness, reliability, integrity, and ability; (3) Has successfully completed a current course in basic life support; (4) Has taken and passed the jurisprudence assessment administered by the Board or an entity designated by the Board within one year immediately prior to application; (5) Has paid all application fees required by the Dental Practice Act and Board rules;

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	(6) Has submitted fingerprints for the retrieval of criminal history record information; (7) Has completed a course in human trafficking prevention approved by the executive commissioner of the Texas Health and Human Services Commission; and (8) Has submitted a National Practitioner Data Bank self-query report upon initial licensure. The report results must remain in the original sealed envelope. (d) In conjunction with the application, the applicant must provide any information requested by the Board pursuant to §254.019(b) of the Dental Practice Act. If an applicant fails to comply with this subsection, then the applicant is subject to disciplinary action, which includes administrative fines and public disciplinary sanctions. (e) Applications for licensure must be delivered to the office of the Board. (f) An application for licensure is filed with the Board when it is actually received, date-stamped, and logged-in by the Board along with all required documentation and fees. An incomplete application for licensure and fee will be returned to the applicant with an explanation of additional documentation or information needed. (g) Each applicant must submit to the Board the documents and information required by this chapter and other documents or information requested by the Board to evaluate an application and take appropriate actions. (h) An applicant for licensure is ineligible if they are in violation of a board order at the time of application. **RULE §101.2 Licensure by Examination** (a) In addition to the general qualifications for licensure contained in §101.1 of this chapter (relating to General Qualifications for Licensure), an applicant for licensure by examination who is a graduate of an accredited school must present proof that the applicant: (1) Has graduated and received either the "DDS" or "DMD" degree from a dental school accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation of the American Dental Association (CODA); (2) Has taken and passed the examination for dentists given by the American Dental Association Joint Commission on National Dental Examinations; and (3) Has taken and passed the appropriate general dentistry live patient or hands-on simulation clinical examination administered by a regional examining board designated by the Board. (b) In addition to the general qualifications for licensure contained in §101.1 of this chapter, an applicant for licensure by examination who is a graduate of a non-accredited school must present proof that the applicant: (1) Has graduated from a dental school that is not CODA-accredited; (2) Has successfully completed training in an American Dental Association-approved specialty in a CODA-accredited education program that consists of at least two years of training as specified by the Council on Dental Education; (3) Has taken and passed the examination for dentists given by the American Dental Association Joint Commission on National Dental Examinations; and (4) Has taken and passed the appropriate general dentistry live patient or hands-on simulation clinical examination administered by a regional examining board designated by the Board. Many regional examining boards require prior written approval by the participating member state in order for graduates of non-accredited schools to be tested. Prior to submitting an application for regional examination, graduates of non-accredited schools must obtain such permission from the Board. (c) Designated regional examining boards.

	(1) The following regional examining boards have been designated as acceptable by the Board as of the effective dates shown: (A) The Commission on Dental Competency Assessments-The Western Regional Examining Board-The Council of Interstate Testing Agencies (CDCA-WREB-CITA), August 1, 2022; and (B) Central Regional Dental Testing Service-States Resources for Testing and Assessments (CRDTS-SRTA), January 6, 2025. (2) Examination results will be accepted for seven years from the date of the examination. (d) Remediation. (1) If an applicant for Texas dental licensure fails three general dentistry live patient or hands-on simulation clinical examination attempts, the applicant must complete 80 hours of a clinical remediation course through a CODA-accredited dental school approved by Board staff. (2) If an applicant fails four or more general dentistry live patient or hands-on simulation clinical examination attempts, the applicant must complete one of the following: (A) the repetition of the final year of a graduate dental program from a CODA-accredited dental school; or (B) the completion of a clinical remediation course offered by a CODA-accredited dental school approved by Board staff, consisting of no less than 1,000 clinical hours. (3) All programs of clinical remediation require prior approval by Board staff. Applicants will be responsible for locating, identifying and obtaining approval from Board staff prior to registration for any program. (4) Re-examination must be accomplished within 18 months of the date of either the completion of the clinical remediation course or the repetition of the final year of a graduate dental program as required in subsection (d)(1)-(3) of this section. (e) An applicant who takes an examination after January 1, 2019, must also successfully complete the periodontics and prosthodontics sections of an exam approved under subsection (c)(1) of this section.
License by Credential/ Endorsement Requirements	Texas Statutes Title 3, Subtitle D, Sec. 256.101. ISSUANCE OF LICENSE TO CERTAIN OUT-OF-STATE APPLICANTS. (a) The board shall issue a license to practice dentistry to a reputable dentist or a license to practice dental hygiene to a reputable dental hygienist who: (1) pays the fee set by the board; (2) is licensed in good standing as a dentist or dental hygienist in another state that has licensing requirements substantially equivalent to the requirements of this subtitle; (3) has not been the subject of a final disciplinary action and is not the subject of a pending disciplinary action in any jurisdiction in which the dentist or dental hygienist is or has been licensed; (4) has graduated from a dental or dental hygiene school accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation of the American Dental Association and approved by the board under board rule; (5) has passed a national or other examination relating to dentistry or dental hygiene and recognized by the board; (6) has passed the board's jurisprudence examination; (7) has submitted documentation of current cardiopulmonary resuscitation certification; (8) has practiced dentistry or dental hygiene:

	(A) for at least the three years preceding the date of application for a license under this section; or (B) as a dental educator at a dental school or dental hygiene school accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation of the American Dental Association for at least the five years preceding the date of application for a license under this section; (9) has been endorsed by the board of dentistry in the jurisdiction in which the applicant practices at the time of application; and (10) meets any additional criteria established by board rule. (a-1) The board by rule shall specify the circumstances under which the board may waive the requirement under Subsection (a)(8) that an applicant for a license under this section has been continuously engaged in the practice of dentistry or dental hygiene during the period required by that subsection if the applicant has engaged in the practice of dentistry or dental hygiene for a cumulative total of at least three years before the date of application for a license under this section. (b) If the board does not complete the processing of an application under this section before the 181st day after the date all documentation and examination results required by this section have been received, the board shall issue a license to the applicant. **Sec. 256.1013. PROVISIONAL LICENSE.** (a) The board may issue a provisional license to an applicant currently licensed in another jurisdiction who seeks a license in this state and who: (1) has been licensed in good standing as a dentist or dental hygienist for at least two years in another jurisdiction that has licensing requirements substantially equivalent to the requirements of this subtitle; (2) is a graduate of a recognized school of dentistry or dental hygiene accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation of the American Dental Association and approved by the board; (3) has passed a national or other examination recognized by the board relating to the practice of dentistry or dental hygiene, as appropriate; and (4) is sponsored by a person who holds an appropriate license under this subtitle and with whom the provisional license holder will practice during the time the person holds a provisional license. (b) The board may waive the requirement of Subsection (a)(4) for an applicant if the board determines that compliance with that subdivision would be a hardship to the applicant. (c) A provisional license is valid until the date the board approves or denies the provisional license holder's application for a license. The board shall issue a license under this subtitle to the provisional license holder if: (1) the provisional license holder is eligible to be licensed under Section 256.101; or (2) the provisional license holder passes the part of the examination under Section 256.003 or 256.055 that relates to the applicant's knowledge and understanding of the laws and rules relating to the practice of dentistry or dental hygiene, as appropriate, in this state and: (A) the board verifies that the provisional license holder meets the academic and experience requirements for a license under this subtitle; and (B) the provisional license holder satisfies any other licensing requirements under this subtitle. (d) The board must approve or deny a provisional license holder's application for a license not later than the 180th day after the date the provisional license is issued. The board may extend the 180-day period if the results of an

	examination have not been received by the board before the end of that period. (e) The board may establish a fee for provisional licenses in an amount reasonable and necessary to cover the cost of issuing the license. **Texas Administrative Code, Title 22, Part 5, Chapter 101 Dental Licensure** **RULE §101.3 Licensure by Credentials** (a) In addition to the general qualifications for licensure contained in §101.1 of this chapter (relating to General Qualifications for Licensure), an applicant for licensure by credentials must present proof that the applicant: (1) Has graduated and received either the "DDS" or "DMD" degree from a dental school accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation of the American Dental Association (CODA); (2) Is currently licensed as a dentist in good standing in another state, the District of Columbia, or a territory of the United States, provided that such licensure followed successful completion of a general dentistry live patient or hands-on simulation clinical examination administered by another state or regional examining board; (3) Has practiced dentistry: (A) For a minimum of three years out of the five years immediately preceding application to the Board, pursuant to section 256.101(a-1) of the Dental Practice Act; or (B) As a dental educator at a CODA-accredited dental or dental hygiene school for a minimum of five years immediately preceding application to the Board; (4) Is endorsed by the state board of dentistry in the jurisdiction in which the applicant practices at the time of the application. Such endorsement is established by providing a copy under seal of the applicant's current license and by a certified statement that the applicant has current good standing in said jurisdiction; (5) Has taken and passed the examination for dentists given by the American Dental Association Joint Commission on National Dental Examinations; (6) Has met the requirements of §101.8 of this title (relating to Persons with Criminal Backgrounds) and has completed background checks for criminal or fraudulent activities, to include information from: the National Practitioner Data Bank, the Healthcare Integrity and Protection Data Bank and/or the American Association of Dental Boards (AADB) Clearinghouse for Disciplinary Action; and (7) Has completed 12 hours of continuing education taken within the 12 months preceding the date the licensure application is received by the Board. All hours shall be taken in accordance with the requirements for continuing education as mandated by Chapter 104 of this title (relating to Continuing Education). (b) Practice experience described in subsection (a)(3) of this section must be subsequent to applicant having graduated from a CODA-accredited dental school.
Specialty Practice	**Texas Administrative Code, Title 22, Part 5, Chapter 119 Special Areas of Dental Practice** **RULE §119.1 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 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. **RULE §119.2 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. **RULE §119.3 Oral and Maxillofacial Pathology** Oral and maxillofacial pathology is that branch of science which deals with the nature of the diseases affecting the oral and adjacent regions, through study of its causes, its processes and its effects, together with the associated alterations of oral structure and function. The practice of oral and maxillofacial pathology shall include the development and application of this knowledge through the use of clinical, microscopic, radiographic, biochemical or other laboratory examinations or procedures as may be required to establish a diagnosis and/or gain other information necessary to maintain the health of the patient, or to correct the result of structural or functional changes produced by alterations from the normal. **RULE §119.4 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 esthetic aspects of the hard and soft tissues of the oral and maxillofacial regions. **RULE §119.5 Orthodontics and Dentofacial Orthopedics** Orthodontics and Dentofacial Orthopedics is that area of dentistry concerned with the supervision, guidance and correction of the growing or mature dentofacial structures, including those conditions that require movement of teeth or correction of malrelationships and malformations of their related structures and the adjustment of relationships between and among teeth and facial bones by the application of forces and/or the stimulation and redirection of functional forces within the craniofacial complex. Major responsibilities of orthodontics and dentofacial orthopedics practice include the diagnosis, prevention, interception and treatment of all forms of malocclusion of the teeth and associated alterations in their surrounding structures; the design, application and control of functional and corrective appliances; and the guidance of the dentition and its supporting structures to attain and maintain optimum occlusal relations in physiologic and esthetic harmony among facial and cranial structures. **RULE §119.6 Pediatric Dentistry** Pediatric dentistry is an age-defined specialty that provides bothprimary and comprehensive preventive and therapeutic oral health care forinfants and children through adolescence, including those with special healthcare needs. **RULE §119.7 Periodontics** Periodontics is that specialty of dentistry which encompasses the preventiondiagnosis and treatment of diseases of the supporting and surrounding tissuesof the teeth or their substitutes and the maintenance of the health functionand esthetics of these structures and tissues. **RULE §119.8 Prosthodontics** Prosthodontics is that branch of dentistry pertaining to the restoration and maintenance of oral functions, comfort, appearance, and health of the patient

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	by the restoration of natural teeth and/or the replacement of missing teeth and contiguous oral and maxillofacial tissues with artificial substitutes. **RULE §119.9 Oral and Maxillofacial Radiology** Oral and Maxillofacial Radiology is that specialty of dentistry that 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. **RULE §119.10 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. **RULE §119.11 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. **RULE §119.12 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 evidenced-based understanding of the underlying pathophysiology, etiology, prevention and treatment of these disorders and improving access to interdisciplinary patient care. **Texas Administrative Code, Title 22, Part 5, Chapter 108 Business Promotion** **RULE §108.54 Advertising of Specialties** (a) Recognized Specialties. A dentist may advertise as a specialist or use the terms "specialty" or "specialist" to describe professional services in recognized specialty areas that are: (1) recognized by a board that certifies specialists in the area of specialty; and (2) accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation of the American Dental Association. (b) The following are recognized specialty areas and meet the requirements of subsection (a)(1) and (2) of this section: (1) Endodontics; (2) Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery; (3) Orthodontics and Dentofacial Orthopedics; (4) Pediatric Dentistry; (5) Periodontics; (6) Prosthodontics; (7) Dental Public Health; (8) Oral and Maxillofacial Pathology; (9) Oral and Maxillofacial Radiology; (10) Oral Medicine; (11) Dental Anesthesiology; and (12) Orofacial Pain. (c) A dentist who wishes to advertise as a specialist or a multiple-specialist in one or more recognized specialty areas under subsection (a)(1) and (2) and

	subsection (b)(1) - (12) of this section shall meet the criteria in one or more of the following categories: (1) Educationally qualified is a dentist who has successfully completed an educational program of two or more years in a specialty area accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation of the American Dental Association, as specified by the National Commission on Recognition of Dental Specialties and Certifying Boards. (2) Board certified is a dentist who has met the requirements of a specialty board referenced in subsection (a)(1) and (2) of this section, and who has received a certificate from the specialty board, indicating the dentist has achieved diplomate status, or has complied with the provisions of §108.56(a) and (b) of this subchapter (relating to Certifications, Degrees, Fellowships, Memberships and Other Credentials). (3) A dentist is authorized to use the term 'board certified' in any advertising for his/her practice only if the specialty board that conferred the certification is referenced in subsection (a)(1) and (2) of this section, or the dentist complies with the provisions of §108.56(a) and (b) of this subchapter. (d) Dentists who choose to communicate specialization in a recognized specialty area as set forth in subsection (b)(1) - (12) of this section should use "specialist in" or "practice limited to" and should limit their practice exclusively to the advertised specialty area(s) of dental practice. Dentists may also state that the specialization is approved by "ADA's National Commission on Recognition of Dental Specialties and Certifying Boards." At the time of the communication, such dentists must have met the current educational requirements and standards set forth by the American Dental Association for each approved specialty. A dentist shall not communicate or imply that he/she is a specialist when providing specialty services, whether in a general or specialty practice, if he or she has not received a certification from an accredited institution. The burden of responsibility is on the practice owner to avoid any inference that those in the practice who are general practitioners are specialists as identified in subsection (b)(1) - (12) of this section. **RULE §108.56 Certifications, Degrees, Fellowships, Memberships and Other Credentials** (a) Dentists may advertise credentials earned in dentistry so long as they avoid any communications that express or imply specialization in a recognized specialty, or specialization in an area of dentistry that is not recognized as a specialty, or attainment of an earned academic degree. (b) A listing of credentials shall be separate and clearly distinguishable from the dentist's designation as a dentist. A listing of credentials may not occupy the same line as the dentist's name and designation as a dentist. Any use of abbreviations to designate credentials shall be accompanied by a definition of the acronym immediately following the credential. (c) The provisions of subsection (b) of this section shall not be required in materials not intended for business promotion or public dissemination, such as peer-to-peer communications.
Continuing Education	**Texas Statutes, Title 3, Subtitle D, Chapter 257 License Renewal** **Sec. 257.001. LICENSE EXPIRATION; TERM**. (a) A license issued under this subtitle is valid for a term of one or two years, as determined by board rule. (a-1) The board by rule may adopt a system under which licenses expire on various dates during the year. (b) Dates of license suspension and reinstatement after failure to pay the license fee shall be adjusted accordingly.

	(c) For the year in which the expiration date is changed, license fees payable shall be prorated on a monthly basis so that each license holder pays only that portion of the fee that is allocable to the number of months during which the license is valid. On renewal of the license on the new expiration date, the total license fee is payable. (d) An initial license issued under this subtitle expires on the 30th day after the date the license is issued if the holder of the license fails to pay the required license fee on or before that date. Sec. 257.002. LICENSE RENEWAL. (a) A person required to hold a license as a practitioner under this subtitle who fails or refuses to apply for renewal of a license and pay the required fee on or before the specified date is: (1) suspended from practice; and (2) subject to the penalties imposed by law on any person unlawfully engaging in a practice regulated under this subtitle. (b) A person who is otherwise eligible to renew a license may renew an unexpired license by paying the required renewal fee to the board before the expiration date of the license. A person whose license has expired may not engage in activities that require a license until the license has been renewed. (c) A person whose license has been expired for 90 days or less may renew the license by paying to the board a renewal fee that is equal to 1-1/2 times the normally required renewal fee. (c-1) A person whose license has been expired for more than 90 days but less than one year may renew the license by paying to the board a renewal fee that is equal to two times the normally required renewal fee. (d) Except as provided by Subsection (d-1) or (d-2), a person whose license has been expired for one year or more may not renew the license. The person may obtain a new license by complying with the requirements and procedures, including the examination requirements, for obtaining an original license. (d-1) A person who was licensed in this state, moved to another state, and is currently licensed and has been in practice in the other state for the two years preceding the date of application may obtain a new license without reexamination. The person must pay to the board a fee that is equal to two times the normally required renewal fee for the license. (d-2) The board may renew the license of a person whose license has been expired for one year or more without requiring the person to comply with the requirements and procedures for an original license if the person places the person's renewed license on retired status and confines the person's practice solely to voluntary charity care under Section 256.102(f). (e) Not later than the 30th day before the date a person's license is scheduled to expire, the board shall send written notice of the impending expiration to the person at the person's last known address according to the board's records. (f) The requirements prescribed by this section relating to the payment of license fees and penalties for the failure to timely renew a license do not apply to license holders who are on active duty with the armed forces of the United States and are not engaged in private or civilian practice. Sec. 257.003. REFUSAL FOR VIOLATION OF BOARD ORDER. The board may refuse to renew a license issued under this subtitle if the license holder is in violation of a board order. Sec. 257.004. CARDIOPULMONARY RESUSCITATION REQUIREMENTS. (a) A person holding a dental or dental hygienist license must submit at the time the person applies for renewal of the license:

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	(1) a written statement executed by the person stating that the person has successfully completed a current program or course in cardiopulmonary resuscitation that includes a demonstration of skills and a written evaluation; or (2) if the person is not physically able to comply with the requirements of Subdivision (1), a written statement describing the person's physical incapacity executed by a licensed physician. (b) Repealed by Acts 2003, 78th Leg., ch. 17, Sec. 28, eff. Sept. 1, 2003. (c) A dentist or dental hygienist licensed by the board who resides in a country other than the United States on the renewal date of the person's license and has not practiced dentistry or dental hygiene in the United States during the license period preceding the renewal date is exempt from the requirements of Subsection (a) if the person submits proof of foreign residence with the person's renewal application. Sec. 257.005. CONTINUING EDUCATION FOR DENTIST AND DENTAL HYGIENIST. (a) The board shall develop a mandatory continuing education program for licensed dentists and dental hygienists. The board by rule shall establish the minimum number of hours of continuing education a license holder is required to complete for each registration period to renew the license for a subsequent registration period. (b) The board may: (1) assess the continuing education needs of license holders; and (2) require license holders to attend continuing education courses specified by the board. (b-1) The board shall require a licensed dentist whose practice includes direct patient care to complete four (4) hours of board-approved continuing education annually regarding safe and effective pain management related to the prescription of opioids and other controlled substances, including education regarding: (1) reasonable standards of care; (2) the identification of drug-seeking behavior in patients; and (3) effectively communicating with patients regarding the prescription of an opioid or other controlled substance. (c) The board by rule shall: (1) identify the key factors required for competent performance of professional duties under this subtitle; (2) develop a process to evaluate and approve continuing education courses; and (3) develop a process to assess a license holder's participation and performance in continuing education courses to evaluate the overall effectiveness of the program. **Texas Administrative Code, Title 22, Part 5, Chapter 104 Continuing Education** **RULE §104.1 Requirement** As a prerequisite to the biennial renewal of a dental or dental hygiene license, proof of completion of 24 hours of acceptable continuing education is required. (1) Each licensee shall select and participate in the continuing education courses endorsed by the providers identified in §104.2 of this title (relating to Providers). A licensee, other than a licensee who resides outside of the United States, who is unable to meet education course requirements may request that alternative courses or procedures be approved by the Licensing Committee.

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	(A) Such requests must be in writing and submitted to and approved by the Licensing Committee prior to the expiration of the biennial period for which the alternative is being requested. (B) A licensee must provide supporting documentation detailing the reason why the continuing education requirements set forth in this section cannot be met and must submit a proposal for alternative education procedures. (C) Acceptable causes may include unanticipated financial or medical hardships or other extraordinary circumstances that are documented. (D) A licensee who resides outside of the United States may, without prior approval of the Licensing Committee, complete all required hours of coursework by self-study. (i) These self-study hours must be provided by those entities cited in §104.2 of this title. Examples of self-study courses include correspondence courses, video courses, audio courses, and reading courses. (ii) Upon being audited for continuing education compliance, a licensee who submits self-study hours under this subsection must be able to demonstrate residence outside of the United States for all periods of time for which self-study hours were submitted. (E) Should a request to the Licensing Committee be denied, the licensee must complete the requirements of this section. (2) Effective September 1, 2018, the following conditions and restrictions shall apply to coursework submitted for renewal purposes: (A) At least 16 hours of coursework must be either technical or scientific as related to clinical care. The terms "technical" and "scientific" as applied to continuing education shall mean that courses have significant intellectual or practical content and are designed to directly enhance the practitioner's knowledge and skill in providing clinical care to the individual patient. (B) Effective January 1, 2021, a licensed dentist whose practice includes direct patient care must complete not less than 2 hours of continuing education annually, and not less than 4 hours for each biennial renewal, regarding safe and effective pain management related to the prescription of opioids and other controlled substances. These 4 hours may be used to satisfy the 16-hour technical and scientific requirement. The courses taken to satisfy the safe and effective pain management requirement must include education regarding: (i) reasonable standards of care; (ii) the identification of drug-seeking behavior in patients; and (iii) effectively communicating with patients regarding the prescription of an opioid or other controlled substance. (C) Up to 8 hours of coursework may be in risk-management courses. Acceptable "risk management" courses include courses in risk management, record-keeping, and ethics. Dentists may complete continuing education courses described by §111.1 of this title (relating to Additional Continuing Education Required) to satisfy a portion of the risk-management requirement. (D) Up to 8 hours of coursework may be self-study. These self-study hours must be provided by those entities cited in §104.2 of this title. Examples of self-study courses include correspondence courses, video courses, audio courses, and reading courses. (E) Hours of coursework in the standards of the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) annual update course or in cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) basic life support training may not be considered in the 24-hour requirement. (F) Hours of coursework in practice finance may not be considered in the 24-hour requirement.

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	(3) As part of the 24-hour requirement, a course in human trafficking prevention approved by the executive commissioner of the Texas Health and Human Services Commission must be completed. (4) Each licensee shall complete the jurisprudence assessment every four (4) years. This requirement is in addition to the twenty-four (24) hours of continuing education required biennially for the renewal of a license. (5) A licensee may carry forward continuing education hours earned prior to a renewal period which are in excess of the 24-hour requirement and such excess hours may be applied to subsequent years' requirements. Excess hours to be carried forward must have been earned in a classroom setting and within the one year immediately preceding the renewal period. A maximum of 24 total excess credit hours may be carried forward. (6) Examiners for The Commission on Dental Competency Assessments-The Western Regional Examining Board-The Council of Interstate Testing Agencies (CDCA-WREB-CITA) and Central Regional Dental Testing Services-States Resources for Testing and Assessments (CRDTS-SRTA) will be allowed credit for no more than 12 hours biennially, obtained from calibration and standardization exercises associated with the examinations. (7) Any individual or entity may petition one of the providers listed in §104.2 of this title to offer continuing education. (8) Providers cited in §104.2 of this title will approve individual courses and/or instructors. (9) A consultant for the SBDE who is also a licensee of the SBDE is eligible to receive up to 12 hours of continuing education credit biennially to apply towards the biennial renewal continuing education requirement under this section. (A) Continuing education credit hours shall be awarded for the issuance of an expert opinion based upon the review of SBDE cases and for providing assistance to the SBDE in the investigation and prosecution of cases involving violations of the Dental Practice Act and/or the Rules of the SBDE. (B) The amount of continuing education credit hours to be granted for each consultant task performed shall be determined by the Executive Director, Division Director, or manager that authorizes the consultant task to be performed. The award of continuing education credit shall be confirmed in writing and based upon a reasonable assessment of the time required to complete the task. (10) A course instructor who offers continuing education through a provider listed in §104.2 of this title is eligible to receive 2 hours of continuing education credit for every 1 hour of instruction provided. This credit applies per course, per renewal period. **RULE §104.2 Providers** (a) The Board hereby establishes a list of providers for continuing education courses. Unless specifically required by state law or Board rule, the Board shall not accept or approve specific continuing education courses for requirements related to the issuance or renewal of licensure, registrations, or sedation/anesthesia permits. (b) At least once per calendar year, the Board shall review the list of providers for continuing education and any applications submitted for continuing education providers, and the Board shall consider additions or removals of providers from the list provided in this section. (1) The Presiding Officer may establish an ad hoc committee pursuant to 22 TAC §100.8 (relating to Ad Hoc Committees of the Board) to review the

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	addition or removal of providers and make recommendations to the full Board for approval. (2) The Board and any ad hoc committee shall consider classifying each provider for full continuing education provider authorization, including clinical, scientific, and sedation/anesthesia provider courses, or for a limited continuing education provider authorization restricted to courses related to risk management, recordkeeping, ethics, and non-clinical dental assistant duties continuing education. If no classification is assigned to a provider, the provider shall be considered a full continuing education provider. (3) Any addition, removal, or classification of providers shall require a majority vote of the full Board in an open meeting. Any provider being considered for addition, removal, or classification shall be given 10 business days' notice of the consideration, and the provider shall be given an opportunity to appear and make a presentation or submit supporting documentation at the scheduled meeting of the Board or any ad hoc committee regarding the addition, removal, or classification. (c) Board staff shall develop and provide an application form for continuing education providers. The application form shall provide instructions for submitting provider information and supporting documentation. The Board shall provide the application form for continuing education providers and general instructions on the continuing education provider application process on its public website. Any request to become an approved continuing education provider must be submitted on the application form provided by the Board; failure to utilize the Board's application form shall be grounds to reject the application request. (d) The Board shall consider the following criteria when reviewing providers: (1) the health, safety, and welfare of the residents of Texas; (2) access to providers for licensees and registrants in all portions of Texas; (3) competency of course providers and quality of course materials; (4) internal and external audits, guidelines, safeguards, and standards to ensure consistent and quality education; and (5) demonstrable clinical, professional, and/or scientific education experience. (e) Continuing Education courses endorsed by the following providers will meet the criteria for acceptable continuing education hours if such hours are certified by the following providers: (1) American Dental Association--Continuing Education Recognition Program (CERP); (2) American Dental Association, its component, and its constituent organizations; (3) Academy of General Dentistry and its constituents and approved sponsors; (4) Dental/dental hygiene schools and programs accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation of the American Dental Association; (5) American Dental Association approved specialty organizations; (6) American Dental Hygienists' Association, its component, and its constituent organizations; (7) American Medical Association approved specialty organizations; (8) American Medical Association approved hospital courses; (9) National Dental Association, its constituent, and its component societies; (10) National Dental Hygienists' Association, its constituent, and its component societies; (11) Medical schools and programs accredited by the Standards of the Medical Specialties, the American Medical Association, the Advisory Board for

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	Osteopathic Specialists and Boards of Certification, or the American Osteopathic Association; (12) The Commission on Dental Competency Assessments-The Western Regional Examining Board-The Council of Interstate Testing Agencies (CDCA-WREB-CITA) and Central Regional Dental Testing Services-States Resources for Testing and Assessments (CRDTS-SRTA); (13) American Academy of Dental Hygiene; (14) American Dental Education Association; (15) American Heart Association; (16) Texas Dental Hygiene Educators' Association; (17) Dental Laboratory Association of Texas; (18) Dental Assisting National Board; (19) American Dental Assistants Association and its constituent organizations; (20) The Compliance Division, LLC; (21) Dental Compliance Specialists, LLC; and (22) Other entities approved by the Board as shown in the attached graphic for this section. Attached Graphic **RULE §104.4 Penalties** (a) Each licensee and registrant shall attest during the annual renewal process that he/she is in compliance with the statutory requirements for continuing education. (b) Falsification of a continuing education attestation is a violation of the Dental Practice Act and such false certification or the failure to attend and complete the required number of continuing education hours shall subject the licensee/registrant to disciplinary action. (c) If it appears that the licensee/registrant has falsified the attestation, that matter will be referred to the Director of Enforcement of the State Board of Dental Examiners for proceeding as set forth in §107.100 of this title, §107.101 of this title and the Dental Practice Act. **RULE §104.5 Auditable Documentation** (a) Each licensee shall maintain in his/her possession auditable documentation of continuing education hours completed for a minimum of three years. (b) Documentation shall confirm completion as evidenced by certificates of attendance, contact hours certificates, academic transcripts, gradeslips, or other documents furnished by the course provider. (c) Documentation shall include records of courses taken, the dates and locations and number of hours for such courses, or course notes or materials. (d) Copies of documentation shall be submitted to the State Board of Dental Examiners upon audit. **RULE §104.6 Audits** (a) All licensees are subject to audit by the State Board of Dental Examiners for purposes of ensuring compliance with the continuing education requirements as outlined in this chapter (Continuing Education) and any other rules. (b) Board staff will randomly audit 5% of all licensees for compliance with the continuing education requirements as outlined in this chapter and other rules. (c) Licensees who have been selected for a renewal-based audit will be notified at least 90 days prior to the expiration of their license. A licensee selected for audit may not renew their license until they have submitted proof of compliance with the continuing education requirements. Extensions may be granted at the discretion of the Executive Director only in extraordinary

	circumstances, such as demonstrated health issues that prevent a licensee from completing the audit requirements. (d) Licensees may be selected at any time for a random audit of their compliance with the continuing education requirements outlined in this chapter and other rules.

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