

1 AN ACT concerning regulation.

2 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,**  
3 **represented in the General Assembly:**

4 Section 5. The Illinois Dental Practice Act is amended by  
5 changing Sections 9, 13, and 17.1 as follows:

6 (225 ILCS 25/9) (from Ch. 111, par. 2309)

7 (Section scheduled to be repealed on January 1, 2031)

8 Sec. 9. Qualifications of applicants for dental licenses.

9 The Department shall require that each applicant for a license  
10 to practice dentistry shall:

11 (a) (Blank).

12 (b) Be at least 21 years of age and of good moral  
13 character.

14 (c) (1) Present satisfactory evidence of completion of  
15 dental education by graduation from a dental college or  
16 school in the United States or Canada approved by the  
17 Department. The Department shall not approve any dental  
18 college or school which does not require at least (A) 60  
19 semester hours of collegiate credit or the equivalent in  
20 acceptable subjects from a college or university before  
21 admission, and (B) completion of at least 4 academic years  
22 of instruction or the equivalent in an approved dental  
23 college or school that is accredited by the Commission on

1 Dental Accreditation of the American Dental Association;  
2 or

3 (2) Present satisfactory evidence of completion of  
4 dental education by graduation from a dental college or  
5 school outside the United States or Canada and provide  
6 satisfactory evidence that the applicant has: (A)  
7 completed a minimum of 2 academic years of general dental  
8 clinical training and obtained a doctorate of dental  
9 surgery (DDS) or doctorate of dental medicine (DMD) at a  
10 dental college or school in the United States or Canada  
11 approved by the Department; or (B) met the program  
12 requirements approved by rule by the Department.

13 Nothing in this Act shall be construed to prevent  
14 either the Department or any dental college or school from  
15 establishing higher standards than specified in this Act.

16 (d) (Blank).

17 (e) Present satisfactory evidence that the applicant  
18 has passed the integrated National Board Dental  
19 Examination administered by the Joint Commission on  
20 National Dental Examinations and has successfully  
21 completed an examination conducted by ~~one of the following~~  
22 ~~regional testing services:~~ the Central Regional Dental  
23 Testing Service, Inc. (CRDTS) or the American Board of  
24 Dental Examiners (ADEX). ~~, the Southern Regional Testing~~  
25 ~~Agency, Inc. (SRTA), the Western Regional Examining Board~~  
26 ~~(WREB), the Commission on Dental Competency Assessments~~

1 ~~(CDCA), or the Council of Interstate Testing Agencies~~  
2 ~~(CITA).~~ An applicant who has passed the integrated  
3 National Board Dental Examination and who has, prior to  
4 January 1, 2026, successfully completed an examination  
5 conducted by the States Resources for Testing and  
6 Assessments, Inc. (SRTA) (formerly, Southern Regional  
7 Testing Agency, Inc.), the Western Regional Examining  
8 Board (WREB), the Commission on Dental Competency  
9 Assessments (CDCA), or the North East Regional Board of  
10 Dental Examiners (NERB) shall be eligible to apply for  
11 licensure. For purposes of this Section, "successfully  
12 completed" means ~~successful completion shall mean~~ that the  
13 applicant has achieved a minimum passing score as  
14 determined by the applicable regional testing service. The  
15 Secretary may suspend a regional testing service under  
16 this subsection (e) if, after proper notice and hearing,  
17 it is established that (i) the integrity of the  
18 examination has been breached so as to make future test  
19 results unreliable or (ii) the test is fundamentally  
20 deficient in testing clinical competency.

21 In determining professional capacity under this Section,  
22 any individual who has not been actively engaged in the  
23 practice of dentistry, has not been a dental student, or has  
24 not been engaged in a formal program of dental education  
25 during the 5 years immediately preceding the filing of an  
26 application may be required to complete such additional

1 testing, training, or remedial education as the Board may deem  
2 necessary in order to establish the applicant's present  
3 capacity to practice dentistry with reasonable judgment,  
4 skill, and safety.

5 (Source: P.A. 102-93, eff. 1-1-22.)

6 (225 ILCS 25/13) (from Ch. 111, par. 2313)

7 (Section scheduled to be repealed on January 1, 2031)

8 Sec. 13. Qualifications of applicants for dental hygienist  
9 licenses ~~hygienists~~. Every person who desires to obtain a  
10 license as a dental hygienist shall apply to the Department in  
11 writing, upon forms prepared and furnished by the Department.  
12 Each application shall contain proof of the particular  
13 qualifications required of the applicant, shall be verified by  
14 the applicant, under oath, and shall be accompanied by the  
15 required examination fee.

16 The Department shall require that every applicant for a  
17 license as a dental hygienist shall:

18 (1) (Blank).

19 (2) Be a graduate of high school or its equivalent.

20 (3) Present satisfactory evidence of having  
21 successfully completed 2 academic years of credit at a  
22 dental hygiene program accredited by the Commission on  
23 Dental Accreditation of the American Dental Association.

24 (4) Submit evidence that the applicant holds a  
25 currently valid certification to perform cardiopulmonary

1 resuscitation. The Department shall adopt rules  
2 establishing criteria for certification in cardiopulmonary  
3 resuscitation. The rules of the Department shall provide  
4 for variances only in instances where the applicant is a  
5 person with a physical disability and therefore unable to  
6 secure such certification.

7 (5) (Blank).

8 (6) Present satisfactory evidence that the applicant  
9 has passed the National Board Dental Hygiene Examination  
10 administered by the Joint Commission on National Dental  
11 Examinations and has successfully completed an examination  
12 conducted by ~~one of the following regional testing~~  
13 ~~services:~~ the Central Regional Dental Testing Service,  
14 Inc. (CRDTS) or the American Board of Dental Examiners  
15 (ADEX). ~~, the Southern Regional Testing Agency, Inc.~~  
16 ~~(SRTA), the Western Regional Examining Board (WREB), or~~  
17 ~~the North East Regional Board (NERB).~~ An applicant who has  
18 passed the National Board Dental Hygiene Examination  
19 administered by the Joint Commission on National Dental  
20 Examinations and who has, prior to January 1, 2026,  
21 successfully completed an examination conducted by the  
22 States Resources for Testing and Assessments, Inc. (SRTA)  
23 (formerly, Southern Regional Testing Agency, Inc.), the  
24 Western Regional Examining Board (WREB), the Commission on  
25 Dental Competency Assessments (CDCA), or the North East  
26 Regional Board (NERB) shall be eligible to apply for

1        licensure. For the purposes of this Section, "successfully  
2        completed" means ~~successful completion shall mean~~ that the  
3        applicant has achieved a minimum passing score as  
4        determined by the applicable regional testing service. The  
5        Secretary may suspend a regional testing service under  
6        this item (6) if, after proper notice and hearing, it is  
7        established that (i) the integrity of the examination has  
8        been breached so as to make future test results unreliable  
9        or (ii) the examination is fundamentally deficient in  
10       testing clinical competency.

11       (Source: P.A. 104-151, eff. 1-1-26.)

12       (225 ILCS 25/17.1)

13       (Section scheduled to be repealed on January 1, 2031)

14       Sec. 17.1. Expanded function dental assistants.

15       (a) A dental assistant who has completed training as  
16       provided in subsection (b) of this Section in all of the  
17       following areas may hold himself or herself out as an expanded  
18       function dental assistant:

19                (1) Taking material or digital scans for final  
20                impressions after completing a training program that  
21                includes either didactic objectives or clinical skills and  
22                functions that demonstrate competency.

23                (2) Performing pulp vitality test after completing a  
24                training program that includes either didactic objectives  
25                or clinical skills and functions that demonstrate

1 competency.

2 (3) Placing, carving, and finishing of amalgam  
3 restorations and placing, packing, and finishing composite  
4 restorations as allowed under Section 17.

5 (3.5) Coronal scaling as allowed under Section 17.

6 (4) Starting the flow of oxygen and monitoring of  
7 nitrous oxide-oxygen analgesia as allowed under Section  
8 17.

9 (5) Coronal polishing and pit and fissure sealants as  
10 allowed under Section 17.

11 (6) Intracoronaral temporization of a tooth.

12 All procedures listed in paragraphs (1) through (6) for  
13 dental assistants must be performed under the supervision of a  
14 dentist, requiring the dentist authorizes the procedure,  
15 remains in the dental facility while the procedure is  
16 performed, and approves the work performed by the dental  
17 assistant before dismissal of the patient, but the dentist is  
18 not required to be present at all times in the treatment room.

19 A dental assistant may perform any of the services listed  
20 in paragraphs (1) through (6) if the dental assistant has  
21 completed the training requirements for the service or  
22 services.

23 After the completion of training as provided in subsection  
24 (b) of this Section, an expanded function dental assistant may  
25 perform any of the services listed in this subsection (a)  
26 pursuant to the limitations of this Act.

1           (b) Certification and training as an expanded function  
2 dental assistant must be obtained from one of the following  
3 sources: (i) an approved continuing education sponsor; (ii) a  
4 dental assistant training program approved by the Commission  
5 on Dental Accreditation of the American Dental Association; or  
6 (iii) a training program approved by the Department.

7           Training required under this subsection (b) must also  
8 include Basic Life Support certification, as described in  
9 Section 16 of this Act. Proof of current certification shall  
10 be kept on file with the supervising dentist.

11           (c) Any procedures listed in subsection (a) that are  
12 performed by an expanded function dental assistant must be  
13 approved by the supervising dentist and examined prior to  
14 dismissal of the patient. The supervising dentist shall be  
15 responsible for all dental services or procedures performed by  
16 the dental assistant.

17           (d) Nothing in this Section shall be construed to alter  
18 the number of dental assistants that a dentist may supervise  
19 under paragraph (g) of Section 17 of this Act.

20           (e) Nothing in this Act shall: (1) require a dental  
21 assistant to be certified as an expanded function dental  
22 assistant or (2) prevent a dentist from training dental  
23 assistants in accordance with the provisions of Section 17 or  
24 17.1 of this Act or rules pertaining to dental assistant  
25 duties.

26           (Source: P.A. 101-162, eff. 7-26-19; 102-936, eff. 1-1-23.)

1           Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect on July  
2    1, 2026.