



104TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

State of Illinois

2025 and 2026

SB3211

Introduced 2/2/2026, by Sen. Michael E. Hastings

SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

225 ILCS 25/4
225 ILCS 25/17.2

Amends the Illinois Dental Practice Act. In provisions concerning teledentistry, provides that an initial examination for new patients, excluding patients seeking orthodontic treatment, may be conducted through teledentistry if the authorizing dentist establishes a bona fide dentist-patient relationship by reviewing the patient's medical and dental history and verifying both the patient's identity and physical location to ensure that dental care is being administered within the State. Provides that an initial examination for orthodontia treatment shall be performed in person only. Requires an in-person clinical examination to be performed immediately before providing or authorizing services or treatments to patients that are not reversible. Provides that, for ongoing dentist-patient relationships, dentists shall strongly encourage patients to be seen in person at least annually. Makes other changes.

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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 4 and 17.2 as follows:

6 (225 ILCS 25/4)

7 (Section scheduled to be repealed on January 1, 2031)

8 Sec. 4. Definitions. As used in this Act:

9 "Address of record" means the designated address recorded
10 by the Department in the applicant's or licensee's application
11 file or license file as maintained by the Department's
12 licensure maintenance unit. It is the duty of the applicant or
13 licensee to inform the Department of any change of address and
14 those changes must be made either through the Department's
15 website or by contacting the Department.

16 "Email address of record" means the designated email
17 address recorded by the Department in the applicant's
18 application file or the licensee's license file, as maintained
19 by the Department's licensure maintenance unit.

20 "Department" means the Department of Financial and
21 Professional Regulation.

22 "Secretary" means the Secretary of Financial and
23 Professional Regulation.

1 "Board" means the Board of Dentistry.

2 "Dentist" means a person who has received a general
3 license pursuant to subsection (a) of Section 11 of this Act,
4 ~~and~~ who may perform any intraoral and extraoral procedure
5 required in the practice of dentistry, and to whom is reserved
6 the responsibilities specified in Section 17.

7 "Dental hygienist" means a person who holds a license
8 under this Act to perform dental services as authorized by
9 Section 18.

10 "Dental assistant" means an appropriately trained person
11 who, under the supervision of a dentist, provides dental
12 services as authorized by Section 17.

13 "Expanded function dental assistant" means a dental
14 assistant who has completed the training required by Section
15 17.1 of this Act.

16 "Dental laboratory" means a person, firm, or corporation
17 which:

18 (i) engages in making, providing, repairing, or
19 altering dental prosthetic appliances and other artificial
20 materials and devices which are returned to a dentist for
21 insertion into the human oral cavity or which come in
22 contact with its adjacent structures and tissues; ~~and~~

23 (ii) utilizes or employs a dental technician to
24 provide such services; and

25 (iii) performs such functions only for a dentist or
26 dentists.

1 "Supervision" means supervision of a dental hygienist or a
2 dental assistant requiring that a dentist authorize the
3 procedure, remain in the dental facility while the procedure
4 is performed, and approve the work performed by the dental
5 hygienist or dental assistant before dismissal of the patient,
6 but does not mean that the dentist must be present at all times
7 in the treatment room.

8 "General supervision" means supervision of a dental
9 hygienist requiring that the patient be a patient of record,
10 that the dentist examine the patient in accordance with
11 Section 18 prior to treatment by the dental hygienist, and
12 that the dentist authorize the procedures which are being
13 carried out by a notation in the patient's record, but not
14 requiring that a dentist be present when the authorized
15 procedures are being performed. The issuance of a prescription
16 to a dental laboratory by a dentist does not constitute
17 general supervision.

18 "Public member" means a person who is not a health
19 professional. For purposes of board membership, any person
20 with a significant financial interest in a health service or
21 profession is not a public member.

22 "Dentistry" means the healing art which is concerned with
23 the examination, diagnosis, treatment planning, and care of
24 conditions within the human oral cavity and its adjacent
25 tissues and structures, as further specified in Section 17.

26 "Branches of dentistry" means the various specialties of

1 dentistry which, for purposes of this Act, shall be limited to
2 the following: endodontics, oral and maxillofacial surgery,
3 orthodontics and dentofacial orthopedics, pediatric dentistry,
4 periodontics, prosthodontics, oral and maxillofacial
5 radiology, dental anesthesiology, oral and maxillofacial
6 pathology, dental public health, oral medicine, and orofacial
7 pain.

8 "Specialist" means a dentist who has received a specialty
9 license pursuant to subsection (b) of Section 11.

10 "Dental technician" means a person who owns, operates, or
11 is employed by a dental laboratory and engages in making,
12 providing, repairing, or altering dental prosthetic appliances
13 and other artificial materials and devices which are returned
14 to a dentist for insertion into the human oral cavity or which
15 come in contact with its adjacent structures and tissues.

16 "Informed consent" means legally valid consent that is
17 given by a patient or legal guardian, that is recorded in
18 writing or digitally, that authorizes intervention or
19 treatment services from the treating dentist, and that
20 documents agreement to participate in those services and
21 knowledge of the risks, benefits, and alternatives, including
22 the decision to withdraw from or decline treatment.

23 "Impaired dentist" or "impaired dental hygienist" means a
24 dentist or dental hygienist who is unable to practice with
25 reasonable skill and safety because of a physical or mental
26 disability as evidenced by a written determination or written

1 consent based on clinical evidence, including deterioration
2 through the aging process, loss of motor skills, abuse of
3 drugs or alcohol, or a psychiatric disorder, of sufficient
4 degree to diminish the person's ability to deliver competent
5 patient care.

6 "Nurse" means a registered professional nurse, a certified
7 registered nurse anesthetist licensed as an advanced practice
8 registered nurse, or a licensed practical nurse licensed under
9 the Nurse Practice Act.

10 "Patient of record", except as provided in Section 17.2,
11 means a patient for whom the patient's most recent dentist has
12 obtained a relevant medical and dental history and on whom the
13 dentist has performed a physical or teledentistry examination
14 within the last year and evaluated the condition to be
15 treated, including a review of the patient's most recent
16 x-rays.

17 "Dental responder" means a dentist or dental hygienist who
18 is appropriately certified in disaster preparedness,
19 immunizations, and dental humanitarian medical response
20 consistent with the Society of Disaster Medicine and Public
21 Health and training certified by the National Incident
22 Management System or the National Disaster Life Support
23 Foundation.

24 "Mobile dental van or portable dental unit" means any
25 self-contained or portable dental unit in which dentistry is
26 practiced that can be moved, towed, or transported from one

1 location to another in order to establish a location where
2 dental services can be provided.

3 "Public health dental hygienist" means a hygienist who
4 holds a valid license to practice in the State, has 2 years of
5 full-time clinical experience or an equivalent of 4,000 hours
6 of clinical experience, and has completed at least 42 clock
7 hours of additional structured courses in dental education in
8 advanced areas specific to public health dentistry.

9 "Public health setting" means a federally qualified health
10 center; a federal, State, or local public health facility;
11 Head Start; a special supplemental nutrition program for
12 Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) facility; a certified
13 school-based health center or school-based oral health
14 program; a prison; or a long-term care facility.

15 "Public health supervision" means the supervision of a
16 public health dental hygienist by a licensed dentist who has a
17 written public health supervision agreement with that public
18 health dental hygienist while working in an approved facility
19 or program that allows the public health dental hygienist to
20 treat patients, without a dentist first examining the patient
21 and being present in the facility during treatment, (1) who
22 are eligible for Medicaid or (2) who are uninsured or whose
23 household income is not greater than 300% of the federal
24 poverty level.

25 "Teledentistry" means the use of telehealth systems and
26 methodologies in dentistry and includes patient diagnosis,

1 treatment planning, care, and education delivery for a patient
2 of record using synchronous and asynchronous communications
3 under an Illinois licensed dentist's authority as provided
4 under this Act.

5 "Moderate sedation" means a drug-induced depression of
6 consciousness during which: (1) patients respond purposefully
7 to verbal commands, either alone or accompanied by light
8 tactile stimulation; (2) no interventions are required to
9 maintain a patient's airway and spontaneous ventilation is
10 adequate; and (3) cardiovascular function is usually
11 maintained.

12 "Deep sedation" means a drug-induced depression of
13 consciousness during which: (1) patients cannot be easily
14 aroused, but respond purposefully following repeated or
15 painful stimulation; (2) the ability to independently maintain
16 ventilatory function may be impaired; (3) patients may require
17 assistance in maintaining airways and spontaneous ventilation
18 may be inadequate; and (4) cardiovascular function is usually
19 maintained.

20 "General anesthesia" means a drug-induced loss of
21 consciousness during which: (1) patients are not arousable,
22 even by painful stimulation; (2) the ability to independently
23 maintain ventilatory function is often impaired; (3) patients
24 often require assistance in maintaining airways and positive
25 pressure ventilation may be required because of depressed
26 spontaneous ventilation or drug-induced depression of

1 neuromuscular function; and (4) cardiovascular function may be
2 impaired.

3 "Venipuncture" means the puncture of a vein as part of a
4 medical procedure, typically to withdraw a blood sample or for
5 an intravenous catheter for the administration of medication
6 or fluids.

7 "Enteral route of administration" means administration of
8 a drug that is absorbed through the gastrointestinal tract or
9 through oral, rectal, or sublingual mucosa.

10 "Parenteral route of administration" means administration
11 of a drug by which the drug bypasses the gastrointestinal
12 tract through intramuscular, intravenous, intranasal,
13 submucosal, subcutaneous, or intraosseous methods.

14 (Source: P.A. 103-425, eff. 1-1-24; 103-431, eff. 1-1-24;
15 103-605, eff. 7-1-24; 103-628, eff. 7-1-24; 103-902, eff.
16 8-9-24; 104-103, eff. 8-1-25; 104-151, eff. 1-1-26; 104-417,
17 eff. 8-15-25; revised 9-15-25.)

18 (225 ILCS 25/17.2)

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

20 Sec. 17.2. Teledentistry.

21 (a) As used in this Section, "patient of record" means a
22 patient for whom the patient's most recent Illinois-licensed
23 dentist has obtained a relevant medical and dental history and
24 on whom the dentist has (i) performed an ~~a physical~~
25 examination within the last year; (ii) obtained relevant

1 records that are appropriate for the type of teledentistry
2 service being provided ~~from an in-person examination within~~
3 ~~the previous 12 months~~, including a review of the patient's
4 most recent x-rays, if available; or (iii) established a
5 relationship with the patient through an exchange of protected
6 health information for the purpose of providing emergency
7 care, treatment, or services in accordance with subsection
8 (c).

9 (b) A dentist may only practice or utilize teledentistry
10 on a patient of record. A dentist practicing dentistry through
11 teledentistry is subject to the same standard of care and
12 practice standards that are applicable to dental services
13 provided in a clinic or office setting. A dentist may provide
14 and delegate dental services using teledentistry only under
15 the supervision requirements as specified in this Act for
16 in-person care. Prior to providing teledentistry services to a
17 patient, a dentist must obtain informed consent from the
18 patient as to the treatment proposed to be offered through
19 teledentistry by the dentist. A dentist providing
20 teledentistry under this Section shall provide the patient
21 with his or her name, direct telephone number, and physical
22 practice address. It is a violation of this Act for a provider
23 of dental services rendering care through teledentistry to
24 require a patient to sign an agreement that limits in any way
25 the patient's ability to write a review of services received
26 or file a complaint with the Department or other regulatory

1 agency. The Department shall adopt rules to provide for the
2 use of teledentistry in the State of Illinois.

3 (c) A dentist may treat a patient of record to provide
4 emergent care or conduct an initial consultation using
5 teledentistry for the purpose of treating or assessing for
6 acute pain, infection, injury, or any intraoral or perioral
7 condition that presents immediate harm or discomfort to the
8 patient for which treatment cannot be postponed. A provider of
9 dental services rendering emergent care or conducting an
10 initial consultation through teledentistry must direct the
11 patient to receive appropriate in-person care after the
12 provision of teledentistry services.

13 (d) An initial examination for new patients, excluding
14 patients seeking orthodontic treatment, may be conducted
15 through teledentistry if the authorizing dentist establishes a
16 bona fide dentist-patient relationship by reviewing the
17 patient's medical and dental history and verifying both the
18 patient's identity and physical location to ensure that dental
19 care is being administered within the State.

20 An initial examination for orthodontia treatment shall be
21 performed in person only. Additionally, an in-person clinical
22 examination shall be performed immediately before providing or
23 authorizing services or treatments to patients that are not
24 reversible. For ongoing dentist-patient relationships,
25 dentists shall strongly encourage patients to be seen in
26 person at least annually.

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1 (Source: P.A. 103-902, eff. 8-9-24; 104-417, eff. 8-15-25.)