

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 9 as follows:

6 (225 ILCS 25/4) (from Ch. 111, par. 2304)

7 (Section scheduled to be repealed on January 1, 2026)

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 "Department" means the Department of Financial and  
17 Professional Regulation.

18 "Secretary" means the Secretary of Financial and  
19 Professional Regulation.

20 "Board" means the Board of Dentistry.

21 "Dentist" means a person who has received a general  
22 license pursuant to paragraph (a) of Section 11 of this Act and  
23 who may perform any intraoral and extraoral procedure required

1 in the practice of dentistry and to whom is reserved the  
2 responsibilities specified in Section 17.

3 "Dental hygienist" means a person who holds a license  
4 under this Act to perform dental services as authorized by  
5 Section 18.

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

9 "Expanded function dental assistant" means a dental  
10 assistant who has completed the training required by Section  
11 17.1 of this Act.

12 "Dental laboratory" means a person, firm or corporation  
13 which:

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

19 (ii) utilizes or employs a dental technician to  
20 provide such services; and

21 (iii) performs such functions only for a dentist or  
22 dentists.

23 "Supervision" means supervision of a dental hygienist or a  
24 dental assistant requiring that a dentist authorize the  
25 procedure, remain in the dental facility while the procedure  
26 is performed, and approve the work performed by the dental

1     hygienist or dental assistant before dismissal of the patient,  
2     but does not mean that the dentist must be present at all times  
3     in the treatment room.

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

14            "Public member" means a person who is not a health  
15    professional. For purposes of board membership, any person  
16    with a significant financial interest in a health service or  
17    profession is not a public member.

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

22            "Branches of dentistry" means the various specialties of  
23    dentistry which, for purposes of this Act, shall be limited to  
24    the following: endodontics, oral and maxillofacial surgery,  
25    orthodontics and dentofacial orthopedics, pediatric dentistry,  
26    periodontics, prosthodontics, ~~and~~ oral and maxillofacial

1 radiology, and dental anesthesiology.

2 "Specialist" means a dentist who has received a specialty  
3 license pursuant to Section 11(b).

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

10 "Impaired dentist" or "impaired dental hygienist" means a  
11 dentist or dental hygienist who is unable to practice with  
12 reasonable skill and safety because of a physical or mental  
13 disability as evidenced by a written determination or written  
14 consent based on clinical evidence, including deterioration  
15 through the aging process, loss of motor skills, abuse of  
16 drugs or alcohol, or a psychiatric disorder, of sufficient  
17 degree to diminish the person's ability to deliver competent  
18 patient care.

19 "Nurse" means a registered professional nurse, a certified  
20 registered nurse anesthetist licensed as an advanced practice  
21 registered nurse, or a licensed practical nurse licensed under  
22 the Nurse Practice Act.

23 "Patient of record" means a patient for whom the patient's  
24 most recent dentist has obtained a relevant medical and dental  
25 history and on whom the dentist has performed an examination  
26 and evaluated the condition to be treated.

1 "Dental responder" means a dentist or dental hygienist who  
2 is appropriately certified in disaster preparedness,  
3 immunizations, and dental humanitarian medical response  
4 consistent with the Society of Disaster Medicine and Public  
5 Health and training certified by the National Incident  
6 Management System or the National Disaster Life Support  
7 Foundation.

8 "Mobile dental van or portable dental unit" means any  
9 self-contained or portable dental unit in which dentistry is  
10 practiced that can be moved, towed, or transported from one  
11 location to another in order to establish a location where  
12 dental services can be provided.

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

19 "Public health setting" means a federally qualified health  
20 center; a federal, State, or local public health facility;  
21 Head Start; a special supplemental nutrition program for  
22 Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) facility; or a certified  
23 school-based health center or school-based oral health  
24 program.

25 "Public health supervision" means the supervision of a  
26 public health dental hygienist by a licensed dentist who has a

1 written public health supervision agreement with that public  
2 health dental hygienist while working in an approved facility  
3 or program that allows the public health dental hygienist to  
4 treat patients, without a dentist first examining the patient  
5 and being present in the facility during treatment, (1) who  
6 are eligible for Medicaid or (2) who are uninsured and whose  
7 household income is not greater than 200% of the federal  
8 poverty level.

9 "Teledentistry" means the use of telehealth systems and  
10 methodologies in dentistry and includes patient care and  
11 education delivery using synchronous and asynchronous  
12 communications under a dentist's authority as provided under  
13 this Act.

14 (Source: P.A. 100-215, eff. 1-1-18; 100-513, eff. 1-1-18;  
15 100-863, eff. 8-14-18; 101-64, eff. 7-12-19; 101-162, eff.  
16 7-26-19; revised 9-27-19.)

17 (225 ILCS 25/9) (from Ch. 111, par. 2309)

18 (Section scheduled to be repealed on January 1, 2026)

19 Sec. 9. Qualifications of applicants for dental licenses.  
20 The Department shall require that each applicant for a license  
21 to practice dentistry shall:

22 (a) (Blank).

23 (b) Be at least 21 years of age and of good moral  
24 character.

25 (c) (1) Present satisfactory evidence of completion of

1 dental education by graduation from a dental college or  
2 school in the United States or Canada approved by the  
3 Department. The Department shall not approve any dental  
4 college or school which does not require at least (A) 60  
5 semester hours of collegiate credit or the equivalent in  
6 acceptable subjects from a college or university before  
7 admission, and (B) completion of at least 4 academic years  
8 of instruction or the equivalent in an approved dental  
9 college or school that is accredited by the Commission on  
10 Dental Accreditation of the American Dental Association;  
11 or

12 (2) Present satisfactory evidence of completion of  
13 dental education by graduation from a dental college or  
14 school outside the United States or Canada and provide  
15 satisfactory evidence that the applicant has: (A)  
16 completed a minimum of 2 academic years of general dental  
17 clinical training and obtained a doctorate of dental  
18 surgery (DDS) or doctorate of dental medicine (DMD) at a  
19 dental college or school in the United States or Canada  
20 approved by the Department; or (B) met the program  
21 requirements approved by rule by the Department.

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

25 (d) (Blank).

26 (e) Present satisfactory evidence that the applicant

1 has passed the integrated ~~both parts of the~~ National Board  
2 Dental Examination administered by the Joint Commission on  
3 National Dental Examinations and has successfully  
4 completed an examination conducted by one of the following  
5 regional testing services: the Central Regional Dental  
6 Testing Service, Inc. (CRDTS), the Southern Regional  
7 Testing Agency, Inc. (SRTA), the Western Regional  
8 Examining Board (WREB), the Commission on Dental  
9 Competency Assessments (CDCA) ~~North East Regional Board~~  
10 ~~(NERB)~~, or the Council of Interstate Testing Agencies  
11 (CITA). For purposes of this Section, successful  
12 completion shall mean that the applicant has achieved a  
13 minimum passing score as determined by the applicable  
14 regional testing service. The Secretary may suspend a  
15 regional testing service under this subsection (e) if,  
16 after proper notice and hearing, it is established that  
17 (i) the integrity of the examination has been breached so  
18 as to make future test results unreliable or (ii) the test  
19 is fundamentally deficient in testing clinical competency.

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



1 necessary in order to establish the applicant's present  
2 capacity to practice dentistry with reasonable judgment,  
3 skill, and safety.

4 (Source: P.A. 99-366, eff. 1-1-16; 100-215, eff. 1-1-18.)