

## PUBLIC NOTICE

The Arkansas State Board of Dental Examiners is revising its rules. Repealing Article IV complies with Act 42 of 2023 by declaring that the Commission on Dental Accreditation (CODA) is the accrediting entity for a college of dentistry, not the Arkansas State Board of Dental Examiners.

The proposed rule changes are available on our website at:

<https://www.healthy.arkansas.gov/programs-services/topics/arkansas-state-board-of-dental-examiners>

The Board will accept comments on the proposed rule November 12, 2023 to December 12, 2023. Please send comments to:

**Arkansas State Board of Dental Examiners**

101 East Capitol Avenue, Suite 111

Little Rock, AR 72201

Comments can also be submitted via email at [asbde@arkansas.gov](mailto:asbde@arkansas.gov).

## Article IV: **EXCEPTIONS**

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~~Persons excepted from application of the Act. Nothing herein shall be construed to prohibit or to require a license hereunder with respect to any of the following acts:~~

~~The operations by bona fide students of dentistry or dental hygiene in the clinical departments or the laboratory of a reputable dental college or dental hygiene program approved by the Board of Dental Examiners, including operations by unlicensed students while engaged in dental or dental hygiene extension programs which have been approved by a school of dentistry or dental hygiene, and approved by the Board of Dental Examiners, and which are offered by the educational institution comprising the approved school of dentistry or dental hygiene, and which are under the general programmatic and academic supervision of such school of dentistry or dental hygiene.~~

~~Amended 5/14/99.~~

## PUBLIC NOTICE

The Arkansas State Board of Dental Examiners is revising its rules. Updating Article IX complies with Act 137 of 2023 by including the acceptance of national certification when considering an application for initial licensure for certain uniformed service members, veterans and spouses.

The proposed rule changes are available on our website at:

<https://www.healthy.arkansas.gov/programs-services/topics/arkansas-state-board-of-dental-examiners>

The Board will accept comments on the proposed rule from November 12, 2023 to December 12, 2023. Please send comments to:

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## **Article IX: CREDENTIALS REQUIRED IN ISSUING DENTAL OR DENTAL HYGIENE LICENSE**

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- A. By the authority of Ark. Code Ann. §17-82-308, a dentist who desires to practice his profession in the State of Arkansas may apply in writing to the State Board of Dental Examiners for a license by credentials pursuant to the following requirements:
1. Applicant must be a graduate of and received a DDS or DMD from a school accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation (CODA), currently licensed in the state from which he is applying, and must have practiced continuously for a period of five years immediately prior to applying. To be considered as practicing “continuously”, the applicant must have actively practiced dentistry for a minimum of 1000 hours per year for the two calendar years immediately prior to the date of application. The qualifying hours of clinical practice must have been performed in the most current jurisdiction from where the application is being made. The applicant may have participated in a post-graduate dental/medical education program during the five years in order to satisfy the five year practice requirement.
  2. Applicant must file with the Board a completed Arkansas Dental License by Credentials Application approved by the Board.
  3. Applicant must request and authorize schools to provide the Board with an official transcript with school seal from the school of dentistry which issued DDS or DMD degree and have the school send same directly from the school to the Board office.
  4. Applicant must be responsible for verification forms to be submitted by the state Board from every state where licensed whether license is current or not. Such forms should be sent directly from the state Board to this Board office.
  5. Applicant must have National Board Exam Card sent from the Joint Commission on National Dental Examinations office with said exam card reflecting passage of the National Board Exam. Photocopies are not accepted.
  6. Applicant must complete a comprehensive resume' on forms furnished by the Board.
  7. Applicant must have letters submitted to the Board from two licensed dentists, practicing in the same locale of the state from which he is applying, attesting to the applicant's moral character, standing, and ability.
  8. Applicant must have letters from the State and local Dental Association Peer Review Committee (if there is one) submitted setting forth information of record concerning the applicant.
  9. Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) clearance and National Practitioner Data Bank inquiry will be initiated by the Board office.
  10. Applicant must submit to the Board office a copy of a certificate showing current Healthcare Provider Level cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) certificate and last two years history of continuing education.
  11. Each applicant must supply to the Board a signed letter of intention to practice in this State within one year of receiving his or her license.
  12. Applicant must pass the Arkansas Jurisprudence exam with a score of 75% as administered by the Board.
  13. Applicant must submit a fee (to be determined by the Board) to the Board office with the application.
  14. Applicant must provide proof of successfully passing a clinical examination for licensure. Results of the clinical exam must be sent directly to the Board from the state or regional testing agency that administered the examination.

15. Applicant must have continuing education credits at least equal to those required by current Arkansas licensees for the previous two year period.

The application, resume', and all other supporting material shall be reviewed by the Board. The applicant shall present himself or herself before the Board at a time and place designated by the Board for a jurisprudence examination and a personal interview. The Board will review the application, resume', and all supporting material, as well as the result of the Jurisprudence Exam, and will approve or deny the application for licensure.

B. By the authority of Ark. Code Ann. §17-82-308, a dental hygienist who desires to practice his or her profession in the State of Arkansas may apply in writing to the State Board of Dental Examiners for a license by credentials pursuant to the following requirements:

1. Applicant must be a graduate of a school accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation (CODA), currently licensed in the state from which he is applying, and must have practiced continuously for a period of five years immediately prior to applying. The applicant may have participated in a post-graduate dental related education program during the five years in order to satisfy the five-year practice requirement.
2. Applicant must file with the Board a completed Arkansas Dental Hygiene License by Credentials Application approved by the Board.
3. Applicant must request and authorize schools to provide an official transcript with school seal from the school of dental hygiene which issued certificate or degree and have the school send same directly from the school to the Board office.
4. Applicant must be responsible for verification forms to be submitted by the State Board from every state where licensed, whether license is current or not. Such forms should be sent directly from the state Board to this Board office.
5. Applicant must have the National Board Exam Card sent from the Joint Commission on National Dental Examinations to the Board office. Said exam card must reflect passage of the National Board Exam. Photocopies are not accepted.
6. Applicant must complete a comprehensive resume' on forms furnished by the Board.
7. Applicant must have letters submitted to the Board from two licensed dentists, practicing in the same locale of the state from which he is applying, attesting to the applicant's moral character, standing, and ability.
8. Applicant must submit to the Board office a copy of certificate showing current Healthcare Provider Level cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) certificate and last two years history of continuing education.
9. Applicant must supply to the Board a signed letter of intention to practice in this state within one year of receiving his license.
10. Applicant must pass the Jurisprudence Exam with a score of 75% as administered by the Board.
11. Applicant must submit a fee (to be determined by the Board) to the Board office with the application.
12. Applicant must provide proof of successfully passing a clinical examination for licensure. Results of the clinical exam must be sent directly to the Board from the state or regional testing agency that administered the examination.
13. Applicant must have continuing education credits at least equal to those required by current Arkansas licensees for the previous two year period.

The application, resume', and all other supporting material shall be reviewed by the Board. The applicant shall present herself or himself before the Board at a time and place designated by the Board for a jurisprudence examination and a personal interview. The

Board will review the application, resume', and all supporting material, as well as the result of the Jurisprudence Exam, and will approve or deny the application for licensure.

C. Non-Clinical Services:

(a) A person or entity shall not be considered in violation of the Arkansas Dental Practice Act or the Dental Corporation Act if the person or entity contracted to provide the following services for a dentist or dental corporation in a dental practice:

1. Owning or leasing an asset used by a dental practice, including real property, furnishings, equipment, inventory, and other goods, but not including dental patient records;
2. Employing or contracting for the services of personnel other than licensed dentists; or
3. Providing administrative services, financial services, or other business activities of a dental practice that do not include practicing dentistry.

(b) A person or entity that is not licensed to practice dentistry shall not engage in any activity that includes the practice of dentistry or interferes with the professional judgment or clinical decision-making of licensed dentist.

D. This article does not prohibit or require a license for the following acts or practices:

1. The practice of dentistry or dental hygiene for purposes of an employment interview process for no more than four (4) consecutive days per calendar year in the State of Arkansas by an applicant licensed in good standing by another state or the District of Columbia.
2. At least fourteen (14) days before practicing dentistry in Arkansas, the applicant shall provide the board with the following information:
  - (i) The name of the supervising dentist who is licensed in Arkansas and who will be supervising the applicant.
  - (ii) The dates and location where the applicant will practice;
  - (iii) A copy of the license of the applicant from the other jurisdiction;
  - (iv) A copy of the malpractice insurance policy covering the applicant or a certificate of insurance coverage from the underwriting insurer of the policy; and
  - (v)
    - (a) A letter or certificate from the respective licensing entity in the home state of the applicant indicating that the applicant is in good standing.
    - (b) As used in this section, "good standing" means the applicant has an active license without a complaint, investigation, or action against him or her.
3. The board shall be deemed to have approved the applicant to practice to the extent permitted under this section unless the board takes action within ten (10) working days of receiving the information on grounds that:
  - (i) The information provided by the applicant is false, inaccurate, or incomplete; or
  - (ii) The applicant is not qualified to practice in Arkansas.

E. Temporary Charitable License: An applicant seeking a temporary charitable dental license shall submit an application and any application fees required by the board and:

1. The name of the supervising dentist who is licensed in Arkansas.
2. The dates and location where the applicant desires to practice within Arkansas;
3. A copy of the applicant's dental license from another jurisdiction;
4.
  - A. A letter from the respective dental licensing entity in the home state of the applicant indicated that the applicant is in good standing.
  - B. As used in this section, "good standing" means that individual has an active license without a complaint, investigation, or action against him or her.

5. A copy of the malpractice insurance policy covering the applicant or a certificate of insurance coverage from the underwriting insurer of the policy; and
  6. Other pertinent information as determined by the board.
- F. An applicant seeking a temporary charitable dental license issued by the board:
1. Shall provide written authorization to the board to allow the Department of Arkansas State Police to release the results of state and federal criminal history background checks to the board as required under ACA 17-82-801 et seq.
  2. Shall pay the fees associated with the criminal background checks.
    - (i) A dentist shall not practice in Arkansas under this section until the board issues a temporary charitable dental license.
    - (ii) The board may renew a temporary charitable dental license in subsequent years if the dentist submits a renewal form, a renewal fee determined by board, and any other information as determined by the board.
    - (iii) The practice of dentistry without compensation for no more than four (4) consecutive days per calendar year in the State of Arkansas by a dentist licensed in another state or the District of Columbia if the dentist has applied for and received a temporary license from the board.
- G. The issuance of a specialist license does not limit a licensed dentist's ability to practice in any other area of dentistry for which the dentist is qualified, including general dentistry.
- H. A dentist who has been issued a specialist license under this section may announce and hold himself or herself out to the public both as a specialist in the area covered by his or her specialty certificate and as a dentist who provides general dentistry services if the dentist practices his or her specialty at least fifty percent (50%) of the time that he or she practices dentistry during a calendar year.
- I. Licensure for Uniformed Service Members
1. Definitions:

As used in this section, "uniformed service veteran" means a former member of the United States Uniformed Services discharged under circumstances other than dishonorable.
  2. Licensure:
    - a. The Arkansas State Board of Dental Examiners shall expedite the process and procedures for full licensure, certification, or permitting for the following individuals:
      - (1) A uniformed service member stationed in the State of Arkansas;
      - (2) A uniformed service veteran who resides in or establishes residency in the State of Arkansas; or
      - (3) The spouse of:
        - (a) A person under subdivisions 2(a)(1) or (2) of this section;
        - (b) A uniformed service member who is assigned a tour or duty that excludes the uniformed service member's spouse from accompanying the uniformed service member and the spouse relocates to this state; or
        - (c) A uniformed service member who is killed or succumbs to his or her injuries or illness in the line of duty if the spouse establishes residency in the state.
    - b. The Board shall accept relevant and applicable uniformed service education, training, national certification, or service-issued credential toward licensure requirements when considering an application for initial licensure of an individual listed in subsection (a) above. ~~who is:~~
      - ~~(1) A uniformed service member; or~~
      - ~~(2) A uniformed service veteran who makes an application within one (1) year of his or her discharge from uniformed service.~~
    - c. The Board shall grant expedited licensure upon receipt of all of the below:
      - (1) Payment of the applicable fee;

- (2) An application showing the applicant meets all applicable licensure, certification, or permitting requirements;
  - (3) Evidence that the applicant is a qualified applicant under subdivision 2(a) of this section.
3. Military Temporary License
- a. The Board's Director shall issue a temporary license immediately upon receipt of the application and the other documentation required under subdivision 2(c) of this section.
  - b. The temporary license shall be effective for 90 days or until the Board determines whether the application meets the applicable licensure, certification, or permitting requirements.
4. The expiration date of a license for a deployed uniform service member or spouse will be extended for one hundred and eighty (180) days following the date of the uniformed service member's return from deployment.
5. A full exemption from continuing education requirements will be allowed for a deployed uniform service member or spouse until one hundred and eighty (180) days following the date of the uniformed service member's return from deployment.

Adopted 12/10/1993; amended 5/1/2002, 9/26/2003 and 5/12/2006, 3/19/2010, 1/19/2018, 11/16/2018 and January 13, 2023.