

**LOUISIANA STATE BOARD OF DENTISTRY  
SUMMER UPDATE  
SEPTEMBER 2008**

Dear Licensees:

This update is intended to apprise you of the various changes that have occurred with the Louisiana State Board of Dentistry and the Dental Practice Act over the past year. **Please read this update carefully as some of the changes may have an impact on you and your practice.** If you have any questions, please contact the board office at our toll free number 877.467.4488 or visit our website at [www.lsbdb.org](http://www.lsbdb.org) where you can find numerous applications as well as the Dental Practice Act itself. As you know we no longer print the Dental Practice Act, but copies may be purchased for \$25.00 unbound and \$35.00 bound.

Presently sitting on the Louisiana State Board of Dentistry are: Dr. Sam A. Trinca, President (Northeast), Dr. Lynn Philippe, Vice-President (Baton Rouge), Dr. Charles T. McCabe, Secretary-Treasurer (NODA), Christine Guillaume, R.D.H., Dr. H.O. Blackwood, III (Northwest), Dr. Pamela Daniel (At Large—Baton Rouge), Dr. Dean Manning (Southwest), Dr. Wilton Guillory (CENLA), Dr. Marija LaSalle (Northlake), Dr. Romell J. Madison (At Large—New Orleans), Dr. David L. Melancon (Bayou), and Dr. Sam S. Vinci (At Large—St. Francisville). Although appointed by Governor Kathleen Blanco, Drs. Aubrey Baudean and James Pearce were not submitted to the Senate for confirmation. As such, the board has conducted nominating meetings in those districts and are awaiting their successors to be appointed. The board is very sorry to have lost the services of Drs. Baudean and Pearce. They have been dedicated members throughout their tenure and will surely be missed. We look forward to working with whomever Governor Jindal replaces them.

We will soon be conducting nominating meetings in Monroe and Alexandria as those terms will be ending December 31 of this year. The Pelican Association will also vote by ballot which will be mailed out soon to vote for their nominees for their at large member to sit on the board.

The board conducted its first examinations with the Council of Interstate Testing Agencies (CITA). Furthermore, the board is presently accepting all regional examinations for licensure in Louisiana. However, this may change soon. The board is presently reevaluating some of the agencies' scoring methodologies and the board may decide not to accept candidates taking the Western Regional Examining Board.

The clinical examinations went smoothly. The only problems we continue to have are mainly obtaining criminal background checks due to poorly taken fingerprints. We are trying to adjust so as to avoid inconvenience to our young applicants seeking licensure. Please note that applicants for licensure must first obtain CITA status. In order to do that they must provide CITA as well as our board with their national board scores. There are two separate fees. There is a fee paid to CITA for the taking of the examination and a fee paid to the board to conduct background checks and process the application for Louisiana licensure. All young applicants should make absolutely certain that they have taken care of all details for it is impossible to issue a license unless all of the requirements have been met.

This update is being written while we are in the middle of hurricane season. Hurricane Gustav just passed and our board office was spared. Unfortunately, the LDA's office suffered more damage than ours and we extend our cooperation and assistance to the LDA in any way possible. We are presently keeping a close watch on Hurricane Ike as we may have to evacuate again.

We have some good news for you. The board is preparing to revise its continuing education rules to allow for appropriate nutrition courses to serve as clinical continuing dental and dental hygiene education. These have been denied in the past, but the board has reversed itself and will now accept these courses.

How would you like to obtain some continuing education credits, get paid for it, and give something back to the profession? The board is also revising the continuing education rules to allow Louisiana dentists and dental hygienists to obtain continuing education credit by serving as examiners for a CITA examination. You will find this experience to be rewarding and a great way to keep up on your own skills. CITA will pay your expenses and a per diem if you serve as an examiner. How can you beat that?

If you are interested in participating as an examiner for a CITA examination, please contact the CITA office via phone (919.678.9792), email ([info@citaexam.com](mailto:info@citaexam.com)) or by visiting its website at [www.citaexam.com](http://www.citaexam.com) "Grader Info."

The Prescription Monitoring Program hopes to be up and running sometime this year. It will be operated by the Board of Pharmacy and will be an invaluable tool to all doctors who wish to access the database in order to determine if a patient is a doctor shopper for drugs. You will be able to go into the computer database and see the prescribing history of the patient in question. All dispensers of controlled substances must report all dispensations. If you are dispensing from your office, it is imperative that you notify the Louisiana State Board of Dentistry so that you can receive the necessary information from the Board of Pharmacy regarding your rights and responsibilities. We caution you to keep your access to this information to yourselves. If information is taken from the Prescription Monitoring Program for an illegal or unauthorized purpose, there are severe monetary fines which can

be levied by the Board of Pharmacy. While working on the program, the Louisiana State Board of Dentistry and the LDA were able to work out an exception for oral surgeons to dispense a quantity of controlled substances that will provide comfort for no more than 48 hours.

The board has been very low-key in its changes to the Dental Practice Act this year. With the assistance of the LDA we were able to pass Act 906 which is somewhat mundane. It is printed for you below and it only made three changes. It increased the time frame from one to three years for an applicant to seek a license in Louisiana via outside examination. It also gave us a minimum and maximum fee for expanded duty dental assistant certificate confirmations. Further, it allows for the board to charge a fee for the expungement of first time advertising violations. Those two fees are enclosed in the rules below. I will explain the reason for those fees below as well.

### ACT 906—EFFECTIVE AUGUST 15, 2008

#### §761. Requirements of applicants for dental license

C. An applicant who has successfully completed any national, regional, or independent third-party clinical dental licensing examination approved by the board that shall include procedures performed on human subjects as part of the assessment of restorative clinical competencies and who otherwise satisfies all requirements for a dental license, including satisfactory completion of an examination in jurisprudence and a background check, may be granted a license by examination by applying for licensure in Louisiana within ~~one year~~ **three years** following the successful completion of such clinical licensing examination.

#### §764. Dental hygienist; application for license

D. An applicant who has successfully completed any national, regional, or independent third-party clinical dental hygiene licensing examination approved by the board that shall include procedures performed on human subjects as part of the assessment of clinical competencies and who otherwise satisfies all requirements for a dental hygiene license, including satisfactory completion of an examination in jurisprudence and a background check, may be granted a license by examination by applying for licensure in Louisiana within ~~one year~~ **three years** following the successful completion of such clinical licensing examination.

#### §795. Fees and costs

B. Notwithstanding any other provision of this Chapter, the fees and costs established by the board shall be not less nor more than the range created by the following schedule:

(1) Miscellaneous fees and costs	Minimum	Maximum
<b>(m) Expanded Duty Dental certificate confirmation</b>	<b>\$100</b>	<b>\$200</b>
(2) Licenses, permits, and examinations for dentists		
<b>(u) Expungement of first time advertisement violations</b>	<b>\$500</b>	<b>\$1000</b>

### RULES WHICH BECAME EFFECTIVE DECEMBER 20, 2007

#### §120. Temporary Licenses

A. Under R.S. 37:760(6), the board is authorized to issue licenses in conformity with the Louisiana Dental Practice Act. However, under R.S. 37:752(8), dentists and dental hygienists may obtain a temporary license without satisfying all licensing requirements of the Louisiana Dental Practice Act provided the applicant applies for a full license by providing satisfactory documentation that the applicant is duly licensed in another state in good standing and applies for licensure by credentials for the nearest scheduled board meeting. In order to protect the public and to avoid abuses of this exemption, the board shall not award a temporary license to any dentist under the provisions of R.S. 37:752(8). Under no circumstances shall a temporary license awarded to a dental hygienist be in effect for any period longer than 5 months. This section does not prohibit the awarding of temporary licenses to dentists who are seeking exemptions under R.S. 37:752(4).

- This clarifies how a temporary license may be awarded in the state of Louisiana. This is intended to clarify problems which we have incurred in the past.

#### §306. Requirements of Applicants for Licensure by Credentials

A. 1.-10. . . .

11. If deemed necessary, has appeared for a personal interview before the board;

12.-20. . . .

- This allows for a dentist to obtain a license via credentials without the necessity of undergoing a personal interview with the board unless there are problems with the application.

**§322. Expungement of disciplinary actions**

- A. A dentist may apply for the expungement of a first time advertising violation provided:
1. A period of three years has elapsed from the date the consent decree was executed by the board president or order issued after a disciplinary hearing.
  2. The dentist has not had any subsequent disciplinary actions of any kind taken against him by the board or any other licensing or certifying agency since the initial advertising violation in question.
  3. Has no disciplinary actions or investigations pending at the time of request.
  4. Successfully completes an examination in the jurisprudence of the Dental Practice Act.
  5. The board will retain all records relative to the first advertising violation, and it may use same in connection with future disciplinary proceedings, if any.
- This will allow dentists who have been sanctioned only one time for an advertising violation to clear their records. This may assist them in obtaining licenses in other states.

**§505. Expanded Duty Dental Assistant Certificate Confirmation Fee and Reconfirmations; Display of Certificate**

- A. . . .
- B. All expanded duty dental assistants are required to display their certificate confirmations in a conspicuous place to be seen by all patients seen by the expanded duty dental assistant.
- This is to make certain that the public is aware that an EDDA is working on them and not a regular dental assistant. This is necessary because expanded duty dental assistants can perform more functions than a regular dental assistant.

**§706. Requirements of Applicants for Licensure by Credentials (Hygienists)**

- A. 1.-10. . . .
11. If deemed necessary, has appeared for a personal interview before the board;
- 12.-19. . . .
- This allows for a dental hygienist to obtain a license via credentials without the necessity of undergoing a personal interview with the board unless there are problems with the application.

**§1505. Conscious Sedation with Parenteral Drugs**

- A.-B. . . .
- C. In addition to the requirements of Subsection B of this Part the dentist must provide proof of current certification in cardiopulmonary resuscitation course “Advanced Cardiac Life Support” as defined by the American Heart Association, or its equivalent.
- D. Provide proof of current certification in Pediatric Advanced Life Support (PALS) when administering sedation to patients under the age of thirteen.
- This clarifies the requirement for parenteral permits which the board issues. It requires Advanced Cardiac Life Support for adult patients and Pediatric Advanced Life Support for pediatric patients under the age of 13.

**§1506. Conscious Sedation with Enteral Drugs**

- A.-D. . . .
- E. For adult patients, the licensee must provide proof of current certification in Advanced Cardiac Life Support as defined by the American Heart Association or is equivalent. For pediatric patients, the licensee must provide proof of current certification in Pediatric Advanced Life Support (PALS), or its equivalent.
- This clarifies the requirement for enteral permits which the board issues. It requires Advanced Cardiac Life Support for adult patients and Pediatric Advanced Life Support for pediatric patients under the age of 13.

**§1507. General Anesthesia/Deep Sedation**

- A. When general anesthesia or deep sedation are administered, the provisions of this Subsection apply:
- 1.-2.b. . . .
- c. provide proof of current certification in Pediatric Advanced Life Support (PALS) when administering sedation to patients under the age of thirteen.
- This clarifies the requirement for general anesthesia/deep sedation permits that the board issues. It requires Pediatric Life Support for pediatric patients under the age of 13.

**§1703 Candidate's Manual for the Dental Licensure Examination of the Louisiana State Board of Dentistry**

Repealed

- The board no longer conducts its own clinical dental licensure examination.

**§1705 Candidate's Manual for the Dental Hygiene Licensure Examination of the Louisiana State Board of Dentistry**

Repealed

- The board no longer conducts its own clinical dental hygiene licensure examination.

**§1709. Examination of Dentists**

- A. Any person desiring to be licensed as a dentist shall apply to the Council of Interstate Testing Agencies and shall verify the information required on the application by oath. The application shall include two recent photographs. There shall be an application fee set by the Council of Interstate Testing Agencies. There shall also be an examination fee set by the Louisiana State University School of Dentistry.
  - B. . . .
  - C. To be licensed as a dentist in this state, an applicant must successfully complete the clinical licensing examination as administered by the Council of Interstate Testing Agencies (CITA), Central Regional Dental Testing Service (CRDTS), Northeast Regional Board (NERB), Southern Regional Testing Agency (SRTA), American Dental Examination (ADEX), or Western Regional Examining Board (WREB).
  - D. The board is expressly authorized to utilize the services of other licensed dentists to facilitate the examination.
- This sets forth those regional clinical examinations which are acceptable to the Louisiana State Board of Dentistry. It also authorizes the board to utilize services of dentists licensed in other states to participate in the CITA examination in New Orleans. However, effective December 2008, WREB will not be accepted (see following rule changes).

**§1711. Examination of Dental Hygienists**

- A. Any person desiring to be licensed as a dental hygienist shall apply to the Council of Interstate Testing Agencies and shall verify the information required on the application by oath. The application shall include two recent photographs of the applicant. There shall be a nonrefundable application fee set by the Council of Interstate Testing Agencies, and a clinical fee payable to the Louisiana State University School of Dentistry which shall not exceed \$100 and which may be refundable if the applicant is found ineligible to take the examination.
  - B. . . .
  - C. To be licensed as a dental hygienist in this state, an applicant must successfully complete the following:
    1. a written examination on the jurisprudence and ethics of the state regulating the practice of dental hygiene;
    2. a practical or clinical examination as administered by the Council of Interstate Testing Agencies (CITA), Central Regional Dental Testing Service (CRDTS), Northeast Regional Board (NERB), Southern Regional Testing Agency (SRTA), American Dental Examination (ADEX), or Western Regional Examining Board (WREB) which shall test the competency of the applicant's ability.
- This sets forth those regional clinical examinations which are acceptable to the Louisiana State Board of Dentistry. However, effective December 2008, WREB will not be accepted (see following rule changes).

**§1713. Examination Application Deadlines**

Repealed

- The board no longer conducts its own clinical licensure examinations.

**RULES WHICH WILL BECOME EFFECTIVE DECEMBER 20, 2008**

**§306. Requirements of Applicants for Licensure by Credentials**

- A. 1.-4. . . .
5. has never been convicted of a felony or a misdemeanor involving moral turpitude including, but not limited to, driving while under the influence of alcohol or drugs;
6. has no pending criminal charges against him/her;
7. has never been charged with and found guilty of or entered into a consent agreement with any State Board of Dentistry to any charge affecting his ability to practice dentistry or showing evidence of unprofessional conduct;
8. has paid all costs and fees (nonrefundable);
9. has fully completed required application form with all supporting data and certification of competency and good character;

10. If deemed necessary, has appeared for a personal interview before the board;
  11. has submitted Drug Enforcement Administration registration certificate number and state narcotics license number in all states wherein same are held or have been held;
  12. has submitted two recent passport type color photographs;
  13. has all units of time accounted for;
  14. has provided true copy of diploma(s) and/or national board examination grades;
  15. has furnished three current letters of recommendation from professional associates, i.e. associations, boards, or prior employers listed on application for licensure on letterhead stationery from said organization;
  16. possesses a current certificate in Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation Course "C", Basic Life Support for Health Care Providers as defined by the American Heart Association or the Red Cross Professional Rescue Course;
  17. is a citizen or permanent resident of the United States unless otherwise prohibited by the North American Free Trade Agreement;
  18. is free of any communicable or contagious disease, including but not limited to Human Immunodeficiency Virus, Hepatitis B Virus, and Hepatitis C Virus, and provide a notarized certificate of health from a medical doctor relative to his physical and mental condition; and
  19. has completed continuing education equivalent to the state of Louisiana's for the two years prior to applying for licensure by credentials.
- This deletes the requirement that an applicant not have failed the Louisiana clinical licensing examination within the last ten years because the board no longer administers its own examinations.

**§415 Licenses, Permits, and Examinations (Dentists)**

- A. 1.-3. . . .
- |   |          |
|---|----------|
| 4. Biennial renewal fee for dental license          | \$500.00 |
| 5.-22. . . .  |          |
| 23. Expungement of first-time advertising violation | \$500.00 |

- The renewal fee for dentists is being raised by \$50 per year bringing the biennial renewal fee to \$500. The board has not raised its renewal fees in almost ten years and this increase is necessitated by rising costs. It is the only fiscally responsible way of maintaining our current level of service. This also provides a fee of \$500 to expunge first time advertising violations. This will allow persons to clear their record if they have only one advertising violation which may help them if they seek a license in another state.

**§419. Licenses, Permits and Examinations (Dental Hygienists)**

- A. 1.-2. . . .
- |  |          |
|--|----------|
| 3. Biennial renewal fee for dental hygienist license | \$200.00 |
| 4.-11. . . .   |          |

- The renewal fee for dental hygienists is being raised by \$25 per year bringing the biennial renewal fee to \$200 or \$100 per year. This also was necessitated by fiscal responsibility.

**§420. Certificate Confirmation and Reconfirmation Fees**

- A. For processing applications for certificate confirmations, the following fees shall be payable in advance to the board:
- |   |          |
|---|----------|
| 1. Initial certificate confirmation fee | \$100.00 |
| 2. . . .                                |          |

- The board has been inundated with requests for certificate confirmations of expanded duty dental assistants. This will hopefully cover our administrative costs for issuing these confirmations.

**§706. Requirements of Applicants for Licensure by Credentials (Hygienists)**

- A. 1.-4. . . .
5. has never been convicted of a felony or a misdemeanor involving moral turpitude including, but not limited to, driving while under the influence of alcohol or drugs;
  6. has no pending criminal charges against him/her;
  7. has never been charged with and found guilty of or entered into a consent decree with any state board of dentistry within the previous five years before applying for licensure by credentials to any charge affecting his/her ability to practice dental hygiene or showing evidence of unprofessional conduct;
  8. has paid all costs and fees (nonrefundable);
  9. has fully completed required application form with all supporting data and certification of competency and good character;

10. If deemed necessary, has appeared for a personal interview before the board;
  11. has submitted two recent passport type color photographs;
  12. has all units of time accounted for;
  13. has provided true copy of diploma(s) and/or national board examination grades and transcript of dental hygiene school grades;
  14. has furnished three current letters of recommendation from professional associates, i.e., associations, boards, or prior employers listed on application for licensure on letterhead stationery from said organization;
  15. possesses a current certificate in Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation Course "C", Basic Life Support for Health Care Providers as defined by the American Heart Association or the Red Cross Professional Rescue Course;
  16. is a citizen or permanent resident of the United States unless otherwise prohibited by the North American Free Trade Agreement;
  17. is free of any communicable or contagious disease, including but not limited to Human Immunodeficiency Virus, Hepatitis B Virus, and Hepatitis C Virus, and provide a notarized certificate of health from a medical doctor relative to his/her physical and mental condition;
  18. has completed continuing education equivalent to the state of Louisiana's for the two years prior to applying for licensure by credentials.
- This deletes the requirement that an applicant not have failed the Louisiana clinical licensing examination within the last ten years because the board no longer administers its own examinations.

**§1709. Examination of Dentists**

- A.-B.(4) . . .
- C. To be licensed as a dentist in this state, an applicant must successfully complete the clinical licensing examination as administered by the Council of Interstate Testing Agencies (CITA), Central Regional Dental Testing Service (CRDTS), Northeast Regional Board (NERB), Southern Regional Testing Agency (SRTA), or American Dental Examination (ADEX).
- D. . . .
- At its August 15, 2008 meeting, the board determined that the scoring methodology utilized by the Western Regional Examining Board is inadequate to protect the citizens of Louisiana. WREB uses a conjunctive compensatory scoring system which allows an applicant to successfully complete the examination even if they have done poorly in one section, but if they have done well in another section they may pass. The board is uncomfortable with this because it feels that the applicant should meet a minimum threshold level in all areas of dentistry before being given a license to practice on the public.

**§1711. Examination of Dental Hygienists**

- A.-B.(4) . . .
- C. 1. . . .
2. a practical or clinical examination as administered by the Council of Interstate Testing Agencies (CITA), Central Regional Dental Testing Service (CRDTS), Northeast Regional Board (NERB), Southern Regional Testing Agency (SRTA), or American Dental Examination (ADEX), which shall test the competency of the applicant's ability.
- At its August 15, 2008 meeting, the board determined that the scoring methodology utilized by the Western Regional Examining Board is inadequate to protect the citizens of Louisiana. WREB uses a conjunctive compensatory scoring system which allows an applicant to successfully complete the examination even if they have done poorly in one section, but if they have done well in another section they may pass. The board is uncomfortable with this because it feels that the applicant should meet a minimum threshold level in all areas of dental hygiene before being given a license to practice on the public.