

RESOLUTION R-2020-2
OKLAHOMA STATE BOARD OF DENTISTRY
May 1, 2020

A RESOLUTION GIVING GUIDANCE FOR LIVE PATIENT EXAMS FOR DENTAL STUDENTS AND DENTAL HYGIENE STUDENTS DURING THE COVID-19 NATIONAL EMERGENCY AND STATE-WIDE PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY

This is a resolution by the Oklahoma Board of Dentistry.

This resolution is enacted pursuant to
59 O.S. § 328.15(B)(1)ⁱ and 59 O.S. § 328.15(B)(2)ⁱⁱ

This resolution of the Oklahoma Board of Dentistry shall be to advise Dental Students and Dental Hygiene Students seeking licensure from the Board between May 1, 2020 and December 31, 2020 during the COVID-19 declared Federal and State, State of Emergency.

This resolution shall automatically expire on December 31, 2020.

**LIVE PATIENT EXAM REQUIREMENTS AND
ACCEPTANCE THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2020.**

1. The Oklahoma Board of Dentistry has the authority to determine education, training, licensing and oversight of all licensed and permitted individuals in the dental industry pursuant to 59 O.S. § 328 et. seq.;
2. Pursuant to 59 O.S. §328.15 B(1) and B(2), the State Board of Dentistry has the authority to examine and test the qualifications of applicants for a license or permit to be issued by the Board;
3. The State of Oklahoma and the United States of America has been under a health threat emergency due to COVID-19 for the past several weeks. COVID-19 has been determined by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the President's medical advisors to be a highly communicable disease;ⁱⁱⁱ
4. Section 328.21(D)(2), requires a periodontal component on a live patient and 328.21(D)(4), requires an anterior Class III and posterior Class II restorative component on a live patient;
5. Due to the COVID-19 national and state health emergencies, the Regional exams^{iv} have advised the Board that the regularly scheduled live patient exams will be

limited and/or not possible to be completed before October at the earliest and may not be available this calendar year at all as the public health emergency is ongoing;

6. Beginning May 1, 2020, graduating dental students may seek an emergency temporary license pursuant to 59 O.S. §328.23 with a supervising dentist until all required components of the examination are completed not to exceed beyond December 31, 2020.
7. For the period of May 1, 2020 through December 31, 2020, the live patient portion of the Dental licensure examination requirements may be completed by one of the following methods:
 - a. An applicant for Dental licensure may provide written documentation that the procedures in 59 O.S. 328.21(D)(2) and (D)(4), were completed on a live patient during their class studies, clinic or residency at a CODA^v approved school. This documentation shall include a signed statement from the student, the supervising dentist that approved the correctly completed procedures and the Dean of the Dental school; or
 - b. An applicant for Dental licensure may request an emergency temporary license under 59 O.S. § 328.23. The applicant working under the temporary license, upon finding a patient meeting the needs as described in 328.21(D)(2) and (D)(4), may request that the Board assign a designated Board examiner to validate that the treatment was correctly completed by the applicant; or
 - c. Treatment of the listed requirements on a live patient during a Regional exam if possible;
 - d. All other requirements of the exam for dentists shall remain the same.
8. For the period of May 1, 2020 through December 31, 2020, applicants for a Dental Hygiene license may meet the requirements as listed in 59 O.S. § 328.21(D)(b)(1) by providing documentation of:
 - a. Graduation from a CODA approved Dental Hygiene program pursuant to 59 O.S. § 328.21(C)(2), and;
 - b. Documentation that the individual has successfully completed live patient clinical treatments with an evaluation of specific clinic skills listed as requirements in 328.21 (D)(6)(1), as well as the candidate's compliance with

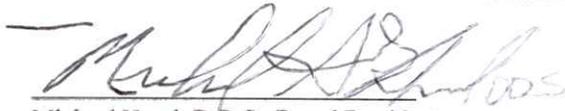
professional standards. This documentation shall include a signed statement from the student and the Director of the Dental Hygiene program; or

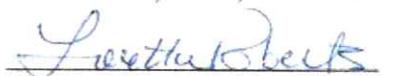
- c. A Dental Hygiene graduating student may request an emergency temporary license under 59 O.S. § 328.23. The applicant working under the temporary license, upon finding a patient with needs as listed in 59 O.S. § 328.21 (D)(b)(1), may request that the Board assign a designated Board examiner to validate that the treatment was correctly completed by the applicant; or
 - d. Completion of a live-patient exam if available;
 - e. An applicant for Dental Hygiene licensure that has not successfully completed all parts of the NBDHE, may request an emergency temporary license under 59 O.S. § 328.23 until the exam may be taken;
 - f. All other portions of the Dental Hygiene exam shall stay the same.
9. All temporary Dental and Dental Hygiene licenses issued pursuant to this resolution shall automatically expire on December 31, 2020.

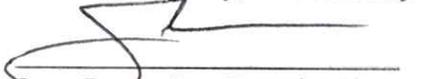
Motion to pass Resolution by: DR. GORE

Second by: DR. JONES

Motion passes Motion Fails


Michael Howl, D.D.S., Board President


Loretta Roberts, Esq., Board Secretary


Susan Rogers, Esq., Executive Director





¹ Section 328.15(B)(1) of the Authority and Powers of the Board allow the Board to "Examine and test the qualifications of applicants for a license or permit to be issued by the Board."

² Section 328.15 (B)(2) of the State Dental Act allows the Board to affiliate by contract or cooperative agreement with another state or combination of states for the purpose of conducting simultaneous regional examinations of applicants for a license to practice dentistry, dental hygiene, or a dental specialty;

³ See <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/cases-updates/summary.html>.

^{iv} Oklahoma is affiliated with several Regional Exams for the purposes of testing pursuant to 59 O.S. §328.15(B)(1) and 59 O.S. §328.15(B)(2). Oklahoma is currently a members state of the Western Regional Examining Board, the Commission on Dental Competency Assessments and the Central Regional Dental Testing Organization. As of November 1, 2019, Oklahoma requires specific components to be completed for the purpose of dental or hygiene examinations.

^v CODA is the Commission on Dental Accreditation.