



## **What is a Professional Entity?**

A professional entity is a trade name that does not clearly identify the name of the dentist providing the service(s), or any PLLC, LLC, Inc., or PC. Signs on buildings, in advertisements, or on billing statements or anything used to identify the dental practice other than the individual's dentist's name, are considered a Professional Entity.

### **For Example:**

- “Joe Dentist, DDS” is **NOT** a Professional Entity, because it clearly identifies that Joe Dentist, DDS is the only doctor providing treatment.
- If it were “Joe Dentist & Associates,” it **would** need to be registered because it indicates that there could be someone besides “Joe Dentist” providing treatment.
- If Joe Dentist's practice name was “Dentist Family Dentistry,” it **would** need to be registered because it could indicate that the entire “Dentist” family could be providing treatment.
- If Joe Dentist's practice name was Joe Dentist, DDS, Inc., it **would** need to be registered because it is incorporated. Same way for offices that are followed by PLLC, LLC, or PC.
- If Joe Dentist's office was “Exceptional Periodontics” it **would** need to be registered because this does not tell the public who the dentist is.

*If you are the owner of more than one Professional Entity, you are required to register each location, even if they all have the same name. If there are multiple owners, each owner is required to register each location.*

*For any questions on if registration is needed, please call the Board Office.*