

**NOTICE OF INTENT TO AMEND RULE OF THE GEORGIA STATE BOARD OF
DENTISTRY
RULE 150-7-.05 DENTAL HYGIENE PROVISIONAL LICENSE BY CREDENTIALS AND
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING.**

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS AND PARTIES:

Notice is hereby given that pursuant to the authority set forth below, the Georgia State Board of Dentistry (hereinafter "Board") proposes amendments to Georgia Board of Dentistry Rule 150-7-.05 DENTAL HYGIENE PROVISIONAL LICENSE BY CREDENTIALS (hereinafter "proposed amendments").

This notice, together with an exact copy of the rule including the proposed amendments and a synopsis of the rule including the proposed amendments, is being forwarded to all persons who have requested, in writing, that they be placed on an interested parties list. A copy of this notice, an exact copy of the rule including the proposed amendments, and a synopsis of the rule including the proposed amendments may be reviewed during normal business hours of 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday, except official State holidays, at the Department of Community Health at 2 Peachtree Street, NW., Atlanta, Georgia, 30303. These documents will also be available for review on the Georgia State Board of Dentistry's web page at <http://gbd.georgia.gov/>.

A public hearing is scheduled to begin at 10:00 AM on September 15, 2017 at the Department of Community Health at 2 Peachtree Street, NW., Atlanta, Georgia, 30303 to provide the public an opportunity to comment upon and provide input into the proposed amendments. At the public hearing, anyone may present data, make a statement, comment or offer a viewpoint or argument whether orally or in writing. Lengthy statements or statements of a considerable technical or economic nature, as well as previously recorded messages, must be submitted for the official record. Oral statements should be concise and will be limited to 5 minutes per person. Additional comments should be presented in writing. Written comments are welcome. To ensure their consideration, written comments must be received prior to September 8, 2017. Written comments should be addressed to Executive Director of the Georgia State Board of Dentistry at 2 Peachtree Street NW., Atlanta, Georgia 30303 FAX:678-717-6435. You may email your comments to tbattle@dch.ga.gov.

The proposed rule amendments will be considered by the Georgia State Board of Dentistry at its meeting scheduled to begin at 10:05 AM on September 15, 2017 at the Department of Community Health at 2 Peachtree Street, NW., Atlanta, Georgia, 30303. According to the Department of Law, State of Georgia, the Georgia State Board of Dentistry has the authority to adopt the proposed rule amendments pursuant to authority contained in O.C.G.A §§ 43-11-2.1, 43-11-7 to 43-11-9, 43-11-71, 43-11-71.1 and 50-36-1.

At its meeting on July 7, 2017, the Board voted that the formulation and adoption of these amendments do not impose excessive regulatory cost on any licensee and any cost to comply with the proposed amendments cannot be reduced by a less expensive alternative that fully accomplishes the objectives of O.C.G.A §§ 43-11-2.1, 43-11-7, 43-11-40 to 43-11-42, 50-36-1. At its meeting on 7/7/2017, the Board also voted that it is not legal or feasible to meet the objectives of O.C.G.A §§ 43-11-2.1, 43-11-7 to 43-11-9, 43-11-71, 43-11-71.1 and 50-36-1 to adopt or implement differing actions for businesses as listed at O.C.G.A § 50-13-4(a)(3)(A), (B), (C) and (D). The formulation and adoption of these amendments will impact every licensee in the same manner, and each licensee is independently licensed, owned and operated and dominant in the field of dentistry.

For further information, contact the Board office at 404-651-8000.

This notice is given in compliance with O.C.G.A. §50-13-4.

**SYNOPSIS OF PROPOSED AMENDMENTS OF THE
GEORGIA STATE BOARD OF DENTISTRY
150-7-.05 Dental Hygiene Provisional Licensure by Credentials.**

Purpose of rule: The purpose of this rule is to set forth requirements for dental hygiene by credentials.

Main Features: The main feature of this rule is to provide clarification regarding practice and other requirements.

**DIFFERENCES OF PROPOSED AMENDMENTS OF THE
GEORGIA STATE BOARD OF DENTISTRY
150-7-.05 Dental Hygiene Provisional Licensure by Credentials.**

NOTE: Struck through text is proposed to be deleted. Underlined text is proposed to be added.

150-7-.05 Dental Hygiene Provisional Licensure by Credentials.

(1) For purposes of this rule,:

(a) "State" includes Washington D.C. and all U.S. territories.

~~(2)~~(b) "Provisional Licensure by Credentials" means a license to practice dental hygiene in the State of Georgia granted to individuals licensed to practice dental hygiene in another state who have not met all of the requirements for a ~~regular~~ dental hygiene license by examination but who have met equivalent requirements for the practice of dental hygiene as set forth in O.C.G.A. § 43-11-71.1 and by board rule.

~~(3)~~(c) "Full Time Clinical Practice" means a minimum of 1,000 hours for each twelve (12) month period immediately preceding the date of the application in the hands-on treatment of patients.

~~(4)~~(d) "Active Dental Hygiene License" is defined as an ~~unnumbered~~ license to practice dental hygiene held by an individual ~~without restrictions~~.

~~(5)~~(e) "Full Time Clinical Faculty" means a minimum of 1,000 hours per year in the teaching of clinical dental hygiene skills at an ADA-accredited dental hygiene school/program.

~~(6)~~(2) Only those applicants licensed and currently engaged in full-time clinical practice as defined in sub-section ~~(3)~~(1)~~(c)~~ of this rule in a state that has a credentialing law similar to the licensure by credentials law in Georgia will be considered by the board for a provisional license by credentials. Applicants from states not issuing licenses by credentials are ineligible.

~~(7) The board may, in its discretion, grant a provisional license by credentials to dental hygienists licensed in another state.~~

~~(8)~~(3) In addition to the requirements set forth in O.C.G.A. § 43-11-71.1, an applicant for a provisional license by credentials must also meet the following requirements:

(a) Must have an active ~~unrestricted~~ dental hygiene license in good standing from another state.

(b) Must have received a dental hygiene degree from a dental hygiene college or school approved by the board and accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation of the American Dental Association (A.D.A.) or its successor agency, if any.

(c) ~~Applicants m~~Must have been in full time clinical practice, as defined in sub-section ~~(3)~~(1)~~(c)~~ of this rule; full-time clinical faculty as defined in sub-section ~~(5)~~(1)~~(e)~~ of this rule; or a combination of both for each of the two years immediately preceding the date of the application.

~~(d) Candidates with any felony convictions are not eligible. Candidates convicted of a misdemeanor involving moral turpitude or dealing with the administering, dispensing or taking of drugs, including but not limited to controlled substances, are not eligible.~~

~~(e)(d) The applicant must meet all requirements for licensure set forth in Board Rules 150-5.02, 150-5-.03, 150-5-.04, and 150-5-.05.~~

~~(f)(e) Furnish a background check. The applicant shall be responsible for all fees associated with the performance of a background check.~~

~~(g) Within the first two (2) years of being granted a provisional license by credentials, an applicant must establish full-time dental hygiene clinical practice which is defined in subsection (3) of this rule or the license will be automatically revoked.~~

~~(h)(f) All applicants must show passage of all sections with a score of 75 or higher, or its equivalent score, on a clinical examination administered by the board or testing agency designated and approved by the board and a jurisprudence examination on the laws and rules governing the practice of dental hygiene in the State of Georgia. Such examinations shall be administered in the English language.~~

~~(i) After a fourth (4th) attempt of one or more sections of any clinical examination, no further attempts will be recognized by the board for licensure by credentials in Georgia.~~

~~(9)(4) Active duty military dental hygienists on federal installations are exempt from the state of practice requirement as contained in subsection (6)(2) of this rule as long the applicant has an active license in an acceptable state and meets all other requirements as set forth in this rule.~~

~~(10)(5) Contract employees on Georgia federal installations are exempt from the state of practice requirement as contained in subsection (6)(2) of this rule as long the applicant has an active license in an acceptable state and meets all other requirements as set forth in this rule.~~

~~(11)(6) These exempt applicants An active duty military dental hygienist or contract employee on a Georgia federal installation who applies for licensure by credentials must provide a letter from the supervising authority/commanding officer at the federal installation. Such letter must include but not be limited to the applicants's general service record, any complaint or disciplinary action as well as continuing education that the credentialing candidate may have obtained.~~

~~(12) For the first five biennial renewal periods, the holder of a dental hygiene provisional license by credentials must attest to the fact that he or she has maintained full-time clinical practice in the State of Georgia as defined in subsection (3) of this rule.~~

~~(13)(7) The Board shall have the authority to refuse to grant a provisional license by credentials to an applicant, or to revoke the provisional license by credentials to a dental hygienist licensed by the Board, or to discipline a dental hygienist holding a provisional license by credentials in accordance with the provisions of O.C.G.A. §43-11-72.~~

~~(8) Upon receipt of license, the applicant by credentials must establish active practice in this State within two years of receiving such license or the license shall be automatically revoked. "Active practice" shall mean a minimum of 500 hours for each full twelve (12) month period of licensure in the hands-on treatment of patients.~~

Authority: O.C.G.A. §§43-11-7 to 43-11-9, 43-11-71, 43-11-71.1 and 50-36-1.