

New Graduate Temporary Dental Hygiene Licensure Guidelines and Requirements

- (1) Per Executive Order 08.15.20.01, effective August 16, 2020, new graduate dental hygiene applicants may apply for a temporary dental hygiene license. This is not a provisional or an unrestricted dental hygiene license. **No applications for a temporary dental hygiene license will be accepted or considered after the expiration of the Public Health State of Emergency or December 31, 2020, whichever comes first.**
- (2) The following requirements and restrictions, including but not limited to, will apply to those new graduates approved for temporary dental hygiene licensure:
 - (a) Only applications from 2020 graduates of accredited dental hygiene schools, accepted by the Board, that have been impacted by the SARS-CoV-2 (COVID) pandemic will be considered for a temporary dental hygiene license.
 - (b) All sections of the regular application for Licensure by Examination, as described in Rules 150-5-.02 will apply except for Rule 150-5-.02(2) and (5)(b).
 - (c) In place of Rule 150-5-.02(5)(b), the applicant will submit a letter from the Dean of the graduate's dental hygiene school stating that the applicant has attained a level of competency that would provide for the safe delivery of dental hygiene care to patients in the State of Georgia following the accepted, prevailing standards of care accepted by the Georgia Board of Dentistry and the graduate's dental hygiene school as well as proof that the applicant was previously registered to take the CRDTS exam and that the scheduled exam has been postponed.
- (3) In addition to the above requirements, the applicant will also submit a letter from a Georgia licensed supervising dentist(s) who will accept responsibility for the applicant's dental hygiene care delivery and care of patients under his/her supervision.
 - (a) Required qualifications for a supervising dentist shall include, but not be limited to, an unencumbered, unrestricted Georgia dental license in good standing with 5 years of full-time active practice immediately preceding the date of application.
 - (b) The supervising dentist shall have no history of sanctions that reference quality of care, violations of moral turpitude or deviation from the standards of dental care as accepted by the Board.
 - (c) Dental hygiene graduates practicing under a temporary dental hygiene license shall be under the direct supervision of the supervising dentist whenever dental hygiene care is being provided in an office or facility setting.
 - (d) If the temporary licensee has a change of employment, he/she must immediately notify the Board and upon new employment must submit a letter from his/her new supervising dentist(s).
- (4) The term of the temporary dental hygiene license will be determined at the discretion of the Georgia Board of Dentistry pending the resumed administration of the next available live patient clinical licensure examination approved and accepted by the Board.
 - (a) All temporary licensees must provide the Board with proof of registration for the next available live patient clinical licensure examination approved and accepted by the Board.

- (5) When results of successful performance on a live patient clinical licensure examination, approved by the Board, have been received, an unrestricted dental hygiene license may be issued in place of the temporary dental hygiene license. The temporary dental hygiene license would be superceded by the unrestricted license.
- (a) **Failure to pass the live patient clinical licensure examination, approved by the Board, shall result in the immediate voiding of the temporary dental hygiene license.**
- (6) A temporary dental hygiene license shall be revoked upon failure to follow any of the above listed provisions.