

NOTICE OF INTENT

Department of Health and Hospitals Board of Dentistry

Licensure Examination
(LAC 46:XXXIII.1709, .1711, and .1713)

In accordance with the applicable provisions of the Administrative Procedure Act, R.S. 49:950, et seq., the Dental Practice Act, R.S. 37:751, et seq., and particularly R.S. 37:760 (8), notice is hereby given that the Department of Health and Hospitals, Board of Dentistry intends to amend LAC 46:XXXIII.1709, .1711, and .1713.

The Louisiana State Board of Dentistry is updating licensure examination rules to align with current practice. LAC 46:XXXIII.1709, Examination of Dentists, is amended to clarify that the Board now only accepts the American Board of Dental Examiners (ADEX) exam for initial licensure by examination for dentists. LAC 46:XXXIII.1711, Examination of Dental Hygienists, is amended to specify that the Board now only accepts the ADEX exam for initial licensure by examination for dental hygienists. LAC 46:XXXIII.1713, Board Approved Regional or National Independent Third Party Clinical Examinations, is repealed, as it is no longer necessary given that ADEX is the sole accepted examination moving forward.

Title 46 PROFESSIONAL AND OCCUPATIONAL STANDARDS Part XXXIII. Dental Health Profession Chapter 17. Licensure Examination

§1709. Examination of Dentists

A. – B.2. ...

C. Examination scores are valid for initial licensure for five years following the candidate's successful completion of an accepted licensing examination. The ~~examinations~~ examination accepted by the Board of Dentistry for initial licensure by examination ~~are as follows: is~~

1. ~~examinations conducted prior to January 1, 2012, by Council of Interstate Testing Agencies (CITA), Central Regional Dental Testing Service (CRDTS), Northeast Regional Examining Board (NERB), Southern Regional Testing Agency (SRTA), and Western Regional Examining Board (WREB);~~

2. ~~examinations conducted after January 1, 2012, by Council of Interstate Testing Agencies (CITA);~~

3. ~~the American Board of Dental Examiners (ADEX) dental examination.~~

D. – F.2. ...

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 37:760(1) and (8).

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Health and Hospitals, Board of Dentistry, LR 24:1119 (June 1998), amended LR 28:2513 (December 2002), LR 33:2654 (December 2007), LR 37:1407 (May

2011), LR 37:2151 (July 2011), LR 37:3516 (December 2011), repromulgated LR 38:356 (February 2012), amended LR 38:1959 (August 2012), LR 39:86 (January 2013), LR 39:1282 (May 2013), LR 40:783 (April 2014), amended by the Board of Dentistry, LR 42:1622 (October 2016), amended by the Department of Health, Board of Dentistry, LR 44:48 (January 2018), LR 49:1383 (August 2023), LR 51:788 (June 2025), LR

§1711. Examination of Dental Hygienists

A. – B.2. ...

C. Examination scores are valid for initial licensure for three years following the candidate's successful completion of an accepted licensing examination. The ~~examinations~~ examination accepted by the Louisiana state Board of Dentistry for initial licensure by examination ~~are as follows:~~ is

1. ~~examinations conducted by Council of Interstate Testing Agencies (CITA);~~
2. ~~the American Board of Dental Examiners (ADEX) dental hygiene examination.~~

D. – F. ...

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 37:760(1) and (8).

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Health and Hospitals, Board of Dentistry, LR 24:1119 (June 1998), amended LR 28:1779 (August 2002), LR 33:2654 (December 2007), LR 37:1407 (May 2011), LR 37:2151 (July 2011), LR 37:3516 (December 2011), repromulgated LR 38:356 (February 2012), amended LR 38:1960 (August 2012). amended by the Department of Health, Board of Dentistry, LR 42:1662 (October 2016), amended by the Department of Health, Board of Dentistry, LR 44:48 (January 2018), LR 51:788 (June 2025), LR

REPEALED

~~§1713. Board Approved Regional or National Independent Third Party Clinical Examinations~~

~~A. The board may accept passing scores from board approved testing agencies which administer reliable, accurate, and valid examinations and in which the board has the option of representation on both the board of directors and the examination review committee or equivalent committees and allow for the board's input into the examination development and administration.~~

~~B.1. The clinical examination shall include procedures performed on human subjects as part of the assessment of restorative and periodontal clinical competencies and shall have included evaluations in at least four of the following subject matter areas:~~

- ~~a. periodontics, clinical abilities testing;~~
- ~~b. endodontics, clinical abilities testing;~~
- ~~c. amalgam preparation and restoration;~~
- ~~d. anterior composite preparation and restoration;~~
- ~~e. posterior ceramic or composite preparation and restoration;~~
- ~~f. cast gold, clinical abilities testing;~~
- ~~g. prosthetics, written or clinical abilities testing;~~

~~h. oral diagnosis, written or clinical abilities testing; or~~

~~i. oral surgery, written or clinical abilities testing.~~

~~2. In addition to the foregoing requirements, the examination shall include:~~

~~a. anonymity between candidates and examination raters;~~

~~b. standardization and calibration of raters; and~~

~~c. a mechanism for post examination analysis.~~

~~3. The board shall accept scores upon such examination for a period of three years following the date of such examinations. Each applicant shall arrange for and ensure the submission to the board office the applicant's scores.~~

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 37:760(8).

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Health and Hospitals, Board of Dentistry, LR 36:63 (January 2010), amended LR 36:2039 (September 2010), repealed LR

Family Impact Statement

There will be no family impact in regard to issues set forth in R.S. 49:972.

Poverty Statement

The proposed rulemaking will have no impact on poverty as described in R.S. 49:973. In particular, there should be no known or foreseeable effect on:

1. the effect on household income, assets, and financial security;
2. the effect on early childhood development and preschool through postsecondary education development;
3. the effect on employment and workforce development;
4. the effect on taxes and tax credits;
5. the effect on child and dependent care, housing, health care, nutrition, transportation, and utilities assistance.

Small Business Analysis

In compliance with Act 820 of the 2008 Regular Session of the Louisiana Legislature, the economic impact of this proposed Rule on small businesses has been considered. It is anticipated that this proposed Rule will have no impact on small businesses, as described in R.S. 49:965.2 et seq.

Provider Impact Statement

The proposed rulemaking should not have any know or foreseeable impact on providers as defined by HCR 170 of 2014 Regular Legislative Session. In particular, there should be no known or foreseeable effect on:

1. the effect on the staffing level requirements or qualifications required to provide the same level of service;
2. the total direct and indirect effect of the cost to the providers to provide the same level of service; or
3. the overall effect on the ability of the provider to provide the same level of service.

Public Comment

Interested persons may submit written comments on these proposed rule changes to Arthur Hickham, Jr., Executive Director, Louisiana State Board of Dentistry, P.O. Box 5256, Baton Rouge, Louisiana, 70821. Written comments must be submitted to and received by the Board by 4:30 p.m. on October 10, 2025. A request pursuant to R.S. 49:953 (A)(2) for oral presentation, argument, or public hearing must be made in writing and received by the Board by 4:30 p.m. on October 10, 2025.

Arthur Hickham, Jr.
Executive Director

FISCAL AND ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT FOR ADMINISTRATIVE RULES RULE TITLES: Chapter 17. Examination of Dentists

I. ESTIMATED IMPLEMENTATION COSTS (SAVINGS) TO STATE OR LOCAL GOVERNMENTAL UNITS (Summary)

Other than the cost of rulemaking, there are no estimated implementation costs or savings for state or local government units resulting from the promulgation of the proposed rule change. The cost for the Louisiana State Board of Dentistry (LSBD) is approximately \$500 in FY 26 for the notice and rule publication in the *Louisiana Register*. The proposed rule change updates licensure requirements to align with current practices.

II. ESTIMATED EFFECT ON REVENUE COLLECTIONS OF STATE OR LOCAL GOVERNMENTAL UNITS (Summary)

The proposed rule changes are not anticipated to impact the revenue collections of state or local governmental units.

III. ESTIMATED COSTS AND/OR ECONOMIC BENEFITS TO DIRECTLY AFFECTED PERSONS, SMALL BUSINESSES, OR NON-GOVERNMENTAL GROUPS (Summary)

There are no estimated costs and/or economic benefits to directly affected persons, small businesses or non-governmental groups due to the rule proposed for initial adoption.

IV. ESTIMATED EFFECT ON COMPETITION AND EMPLOYMENT (Summary)

The proposed rule change will have no effect on competition or employment.

Arthur Hickham, Jr.
Executive Director