

# FINAL BILL REPORT

## SHB 1411

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Synopsis as Enacted

**Brief Description:** Concerning dental licensure through completion of a residency program.

**Sponsors:** House Committee on Health Care & Wellness (originally sponsored by Representatives Cody, DeBolt, Riccelli, Caldier, Jinkins and Appleton).

**House Committee on Health Care & Wellness**  
**Senate Committee on Health Care**

### **Background:**

Dentists are licensed and disciplined by the Dental Quality Assurance Commission (DQAC). In order to be licensed, a dentist must:

- submit proof of graduation from a dental college, school, or dental department of an institution approved by the DQAC;
- submit a recent picture; and
- pass an examination.

An applicant for licensure as a dentist may forego the examination requirement if he or she completes a postdoctoral dental residency program accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation of the American Dental Association (Commission) and the DQAC. The residency must:

- last from one to three years;
- be located in a community health clinic that serves predominantly low-income patients or that is located in a dental care health professional shortage area; and
- include an outcome assessment evaluation that assesses the resident's competence to practice dentistry.

The DQAC must develop criteria, consistent with the standards of the Commission, for community clinics to use when sponsoring students in a residency program.

### **Summary:**

An applicant for licensure as a dentist may forego the examination requirement if he or she completes a general practice, pediatric, or advanced education in a general dentistry residency program in Washington, instead of a postdoctoral dental residency program. The

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requirement that the residency program be approved by the Dental Quality Assurance Commission (DQAC) is eliminated.

The program must be at least one year long, instead of between one and three years long. The program must serve predominantly low-income patients, but no longer must be located in a community health clinic or a dental care health professional shortage area. The requirement that the program include an outcome assessment evaluation is eliminated. The requirement that the DQAC develop criteria for community clinics is eliminated.

**Votes on Final Passage:**

House	96	0
Senate	49	0

**Effective:** July 23, 2017