
HOUSE BILL 1287

State of Washington

68th Legislature

2023 Regular Session

By Representatives Thai, Caldier, Graham, Riccelli, Macri, Reed, Pollet, and Leavitt

Read first time 01/13/23. Referred to Committee on Postsecondary Education & Workforce.

1 AN ACT Relating to dental hygienists; and amending RCW 18.29.190.

2 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

3 **Sec. 1.** RCW 18.29.190 and 2019 c 111 s 3 are each amended to
4 read as follows:

5 (1) The department shall issue an initial limited license without
6 the examination required by this chapter to any applicant who, as
7 determined by the secretary:

8 (a) Holds a valid license in another state or Canadian province
9 that allows a substantively equivalent scope of practice in
10 subsection (3)(a) through (j) of this section;

11 (b) ~~((Is currently engaged in active practice in another state or
12 Canadian province. For the purposes of this section, "active
13 practice" means five hundred sixty hours of practice in the preceding
14 twenty-four months;~~

15 ~~(e))~~ Files with the secretary documentation certifying that the
16 applicant:

17 (i) Has graduated from an accredited dental hygiene school
18 approved by the secretary;

19 (ii) Has successfully completed the dental hygiene national board
20 examination; and

1 (iii) Is licensed to practice in another state or Canadian
2 province;

3 ~~((d))~~ (c) Provides information as the secretary deems necessary
4 pertaining to the conditions and criteria of the uniform disciplinary
5 act, chapter 18.130 RCW;

6 ~~((e))~~ (d) Demonstrates to the secretary a knowledge of
7 Washington state law pertaining to the practice of dental hygiene,
8 including the administration of legend drugs;

9 ~~((f))~~ (e) Pays any required fees; and
10 ~~((g))~~ (f) Meets requirements for AIDS education.

11 (2) The term of the initial limited license issued under this
12 section is ~~((eighteen))~~ 18 months and it is renewable upon:

13 (a) Demonstration of successful passage of a substantively
14 equivalent dental hygiene patient evaluation/prophylaxis examination;

15 (b) Demonstration of successful passage of a substantively
16 equivalent local anesthesia examination;

17 (c) Demonstration of didactic and clinical competency in the
18 administration of nitrous oxide analgesia; and

19 (d) Demonstration of successful passage of an educational program
20 on the administration of local anesthesia and nitrous oxide
21 analgesia.

22 (3) A person practicing with an initial limited license granted
23 under this section has the authority to perform hygiene procedures
24 that are limited to:

25 (a) Oral inspection and measuring of periodontal pockets;

26 (b) Patient education in oral hygiene;

27 (c) Taking intra-oral and extra-oral radiographs;

28 (d) Applying topical preventive or prophylactic agents;

29 (e) Polishing and smoothing restorations;

30 (f) Oral prophylaxis and removal of deposits and stains from the
31 surface of the teeth;

32 (g) Recording health histories;

33 (h) Taking and recording blood pressure and vital signs;

34 (i) Performing subgingival and supragingival scaling; and

35 (j) Performing root planing.

36 (4) (a) A person practicing with an initial limited license
37 granted under this section may not perform the following dental
38 hygiene procedures unless authorized in (b) or (c) of this
39 subsection:

40 (i) Give injections of local anesthetic;

1 (ii) Place restorations into the cavity prepared by a licensed
2 dentist and afterwards carve, contour, and adjust contacts and
3 occlusion of the restoration;

4 (iii) Soft tissue curettage; or

5 (iv) Administer nitrous oxide/oxygen analgesia.

6 (b) A person licensed in another state or Canadian province who
7 can demonstrate substantively equivalent licensing standards in the
8 administration of local anesthetic may receive a temporary
9 endorsement to administer local anesthesia. For purposes of the
10 renewed limited license, this endorsement demonstrates the successful
11 passage of the local anesthesia examination.

12 (c) A person licensed in another state or Canadian province who
13 can demonstrate substantively equivalent licensing standards in
14 restorative procedures may receive a temporary endorsement for
15 restorative procedures.

16 (d) A person licensed in another state or Canadian province who
17 can demonstrate substantively equivalent licensing standards in
18 administering nitrous oxide analgesia may receive a temporary
19 endorsement to administer nitrous oxide analgesia.

20 (5) (a) A person practicing with a renewed limited license granted
21 under this section may:

22 (i) Perform hygiene procedures as provided under subsection (3)
23 of this section;

24 (ii) Give injections of local anesthetic;

25 (iii) Perform soft tissue curettage; and

26 (iv) Administer nitrous oxide/oxygen analgesia.

27 (b) A person practicing with a renewed limited license granted
28 under this section may not place restorations into the cavity
29 prepared by a licensed dentist and afterwards carve, contour, and
30 adjust contacts and occlusion of the restoration.

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