
HOUSE BILL 1466

State of Washington

68th Legislature

2023 Regular Session

By Representatives Riccelli, Leavitt, and Morgan

Read first time 01/20/23. Referred to Committee on Health Care & Wellness.

1 AN ACT Relating to currently credentialed dental auxiliaries;
2 amending RCW 18.29.005, 18.29.050, and 18.29.190; adding new sections
3 to chapter 18.29 RCW; and creating a new section.

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

5 **Sec. 1.** RCW 18.29.005 and 1969 c 47 s 6 are each amended to read
6 as follows:

7 ~~((The term "surfaces))~~ The definitions in this section apply
8 throughout this chapter unless the context clearly requires
9 otherwise.

10 (1) "Department" means the department of health.

11 (2) "Secretary" means the secretary of health.

12 (3) "Surfaces of the teeth" ((as used in this chapter)) means the
13 portions of the crown and root surface to which there is no
14 periodontal membrane attached.

15 **Sec. 2.** RCW 18.29.050 and 2015 c 120 s 1 are each amended to
16 read as follows:

17 (1) Any person licensed as a dental hygienist in this state may
18 ~~((remove deposits and stains from the surfaces of the teeth, may~~
19 ~~apply topical preventive or prophylactic agents, may polish and~~
20 ~~smooth restorations, may perform root planing and soft-tissue~~

1 ~~curettage, and may perform other dental operations and services~~
2 ~~delegated to them by a licensed dentist.)~~ perform the following
3 hygiene procedures:

4 (a) Performing oral inspections and measuring of periodontal
5 pockets;

6 (b) Educating patients in oral hygiene;

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

8 (d) Applying topical preventive or prophylactic agents;

9 (e) Polishing and smoothing restorations;

10 (f) Performing oral prophylaxis and removing of deposits and
11 stains from the surface of the teeth;

12 (g) Recording health histories;

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

14 (i) Performing subgingival and supragingival scaling;

15 (j) Performing root planing;

16 (k) Performing soft tissue curettage; and

17 (l) Performing other dental operations and services delegated to
18 them by a licensed dentist.

19 (2) Any person licensed as a dental hygienist in this state with
20 a local anesthesia expanded function endorsement may, in addition to
21 the procedures listed in subsection (1) of this section, perform the
22 following hygiene procedure: Giving injections of local anesthetic.

23 (3) Any person licensed as a dental hygienist in this state with
24 a nitrous sedation expanded function endorsement may, in addition to
25 the procedures listed in subsection (1) of this section, perform the
26 following hygiene procedure: Administration of nitrous oxide/oxygen
27 analgesia.

28 (4) Any person licensed as a dental hygienist in this state with
29 a restorative expanded function endorsement may, in addition to the
30 procedures listed in subsection (1) of this section, perform the
31 following hygiene procedure: Placing restorations into the cavity
32 prepared by a licensed dentist and afterwards carving, contouring,
33 and adjusting contacts and occlusion of the restoration.

34 (5) A person licensed as a dental hygienist in this state can
35 apply for, and the department may issue to such applicant, all
36 expanded function endorsements listed under section 4 of this act.

37 (6) Any person licensed as a dental hygienist in this state may
38 apply topical anesthetic agents under the general supervision, as
39 defined in RCW 18.260.010, of a dentist: PROVIDED HOWEVER, That

1 licensed dental hygienists shall in no event perform the following
2 dental operations or services:

3 ~~((1))~~ (a) Any surgical removal of tissue of the oral cavity;

4 ~~((2))~~ (b) Any prescription of drugs or medications requiring
5 the written order or prescription of a licensed dentist or physician,
6 except that a hygienist may place antimicrobials pursuant to the
7 order of a licensed dentist and under the dentist's required
8 supervision;

9 ~~((3))~~ (c) Any diagnosis for treatment or treatment planning; or

10 ~~((4))~~ (d) The taking of any impression of the teeth or jaw, or
11 the relationships of the teeth or jaws, for the purpose of
12 fabricating any intra-oral restoration, appliance, or prosthesis,
13 except that a dental hygienist may take an impression for any purpose
14 that is either allowed:

15 ~~((a))~~ (i) For a dental assistant registered under chapter
16 18.260 RCW; or

17 ~~((b))~~ (ii) As a delegated duty for dental hygienists pursuant
18 to rules adopted by the dental quality assurance commission.

19 Such licensed dental hygienists may perform dental operations and
20 services only under the supervision of a licensed dentist, and under
21 such supervision may be employed by hospitals, boards of education of
22 public or private schools, county boards, boards of health, or public
23 or charitable institutions, or in dental offices.

24 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** A new section is added to chapter 18.29
25 RCW to read as follows:

26 Beginning January 1, 2024, the department shall issue an expanded
27 function endorsement to any applicant who, as determined by the
28 secretary:

29 (1) Holds a hygiene license or temporary hygiene license in this
30 state;

31 (2) Completes clinical training approved by the secretary,
32 including coursework encompassing the subject areas within the scope
33 of the expanded function endorsement;

34 (3) Performs satisfactorily on an examination, if required by the
35 dental hygiene examining committee; and

36 (4) Completes an application form and pays all application fees
37 required by the dental hygiene examining committee.

1 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** A new section is added to chapter 18.29
2 RCW to read as follows:

3 (1) The department shall adopt requirements that qualify a
4 licensed dental hygienist to be issued the following endorsements:

5 (a) A restorative expanded function endorsement;

6 (b) A local anesthesia expanded function endorsement; and

7 (c) A nitrous sedation expanded function endorsement.

8 (2) A person licensed as a dental hygienist in this state can
9 apply for, and the department may issue to such applicant each or all
10 expanded function endorsements.

11 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 5.** A person who holds a current and active
12 full license as a dental hygienist on January 1, 2024, shall
13 automatically be issued all endorsements listed in section 4(1) of
14 this act.

15 **Sec. 6.** RCW 18.29.190 and 2019 c 111 s 3 are each amended to
16 read as follows:

17 (1) The department shall issue (~~(an initial limited)~~) a temporary
18 license without the examination required by this chapter to any
19 applicant who, as determined by the secretary:

20 (a) Holds a valid license in another state or Canadian province
21 that allows a substantively equivalent scope of practice in
22 subsection (3) (a) through (~~(j)~~) (k) of this section;

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

27 ~~(e)~~) Files with the secretary documentation certifying that the
28 applicant:

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

31 (ii) Has successfully completed the dental hygiene national board
32 examination; and

33 (iii) Is licensed to practice in another state or Canadian
34 province;

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

1 ~~((e))~~ (d) Demonstrates to the secretary a knowledge of
2 Washington state law pertaining to the practice of dental hygiene,
3 including the administration of legend drugs; and

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

6 (2) The term of the ~~((initial limited))~~ temporary license issued
7 under this section is ~~((eighteen))~~ 36 months ~~((and it is renewable~~
8 ~~upon:~~

9 ~~(a) Demonstration of successful passage of a substantively~~
10 ~~equivalent dental hygiene patient evaluation/prophylaxis examination;~~

11 ~~(b) Demonstration of successful passage of a substantively~~
12 ~~equivalent local anesthesia examination;~~

13 ~~(c) Demonstration of didactic and clinical competency in the~~
14 ~~administration of nitrous oxide analgesia; and~~

15 ~~(d) Demonstration of successful passage of an educational program~~
16 ~~on the administration of local anesthesia and nitrous oxide~~
17 ~~analgesia)).~~

18 (3) A person practicing with ~~((an initial limited))~~ a temporary
19 license granted under this section has the authority to perform
20 hygiene procedures that are limited to:

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

22 (b) Patient education in oral hygiene;

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

24 (d) Applying topical preventive or prophylactic agents;

25 (e) Polishing and smoothing restorations;

26 (f) Oral prophylaxis and removal of deposits and stains from the
27 surface of the teeth;

28 (g) Recording health histories;

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

30 (i) Performing subgingival and supragingival scaling; ~~((and))~~

31 (j) Performing root planing; and

32 (k) Performing soft tissue curettage.

33 (4) (a) A person practicing with ~~((an initial limited))~~ a
34 temporary license granted under this section may not perform the
35 following dental hygiene procedures ~~((unless authorized in (b) or (c)~~
36 ~~of this subsection))~~ without obtaining the corresponding endorsements
37 outlined in RCW 18.29.050 (2) through (4):

38 (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; or

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~~) temporary license, this endorsement demonstrates
11 the successful 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~~)
21 temporary license granted 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)) perform hygiene~~
31 procedures as provided in RCW 18.29.050 (1) through (4) if the
32 appropriate endorsement has been issued by the department.

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