
SENATE BILL 5351

State of Washington

65th Legislature

2017 Regular Session

By Senators Rivers and Cleveland; by request of Department of Health

1 AN ACT Relating to dental professions; amending RCW 18.32.0351
2 and 18.260.090; and reenacting and amending RCW 18.32.040.

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

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 18.32.0351 and 2007 c 269 s 16 are each amended to
5 read as follows:

6 The Washington state dental quality assurance commission is
7 established, consisting of ~~((sixteen))~~ seventeen members each
8 appointed by the governor to a four-year term. No member may serve
9 more than two consecutive full terms. In appointing the initial
10 members of the commission, it is the intent of the legislature that,
11 to the extent possible, members of the previous boards and committees
12 regulating these professions be appointed to the commission. Members
13 of the commission hold office until their successors are appointed.
14 The governor may appoint members of the initial commission to
15 staggered terms of from one to four years. Thereafter, all members
16 shall be appointed to full four-year terms. Twelve members of the
17 commission must be dentists, two members must be expanded function
18 dental auxiliaries licensed under chapter 18.260 RCW, and ~~((two))~~
19 three members must be public members.

1 **Sec. 2.** RCW 18.260.090 and 2007 c 269 s 8 are each amended to
2 read as follows:

3 (1) The commission shall issue an initial credential or renewal
4 credential to an applicant who has met the requirements for a
5 credential or deny an initial credential or renewal credential based
6 upon failure to meet the requirements for a credential or
7 unprofessional conduct or impairment governed by chapter 18.130 RCW.

8 (2) The commission may adopt rules for renewal requirements for a
9 credential, including continuing education requirements for expanded
10 function dental auxiliary licenses.

11 **Sec. 3.** RCW 18.32.040 and 2005 c 454 s 2 and 2005 c 274 s 222
12 are each reenacted and amended to read as follows:

13 The commission shall require that every applicant for a license
14 to practice dentistry shall:

15 (1) Present satisfactory evidence of graduation from a dental
16 college, school, or dental department of an institution approved by
17 the commission; and

18 ~~(2) ((Submit, for the files of the commission, a recent picture~~
19 ~~duly identified and attested; and~~

20 ~~(3))~~(a) Pass an examination prepared or approved by and
21 administered under the direction of the commission. The dentistry
22 licensing examination shall consist of practical and written tests
23 upon such subjects and of such scope as the commission determines.
24 The commission shall set the standards for passing the examination.
25 The secretary shall keep on file the examination papers and records
26 of examination for at least one year. This file shall be open for
27 inspection by the applicant or the applicant's agent unless the
28 disclosure will compromise the examination process as determined by
29 the commission or is exempted from disclosure under chapter 42.56
30 RCW.

31 (b) The commission may accept, in lieu of all or part of the
32 written examination required in (a) of this subsection, a certificate
33 granted by a national or regional testing organization approved by
34 the commission.

35 (c) The commission shall accept, in lieu of the practical
36 examination required in (a) of this subsection, proof that an
37 applicant has satisfactorily completed a postdoctoral dental
38 residency program accredited by the commission on dental
39 accreditation of the American dental association and approved by the

1 commission, of one to three year's duration, in a community health
2 clinic that serves predominantly low-income patients or is located in
3 a dental care health professional shortage area in this state, and
4 that includes an outcome assessment evaluation, other than the
5 western regional examining board's clinical examination, assessing
6 the resident's competence to practice dentistry. The commission shall
7 develop criteria, consistent with the standards of the commission on
8 dental accreditation of the American dental association, for
9 community clinics to use when sponsoring students in a residency
10 program under this subsection, including guidelines for the proper
11 supervision of the resident and measuring the resident's competence
12 to practice dentistry.

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