

# Iowa Board of Dental Examiners

*Electronic Newsletter for the Iowa Board of Dental Examiners*



## **Expanded Functions Information is Available!**

The Board has posted information regarding approved courses for expanded functions on its website. You can find that information at <http://www.state.ia.us/dentalboard/xfinfo1.htm>

## **Upcoming 2004 Board Meetings\***

May 20-21

July 22-23

October 14-15

\*subject to change, see website

## Tips for Meeting Continuing Education Requirements

Board rules require dentists and dental hygienists to complete thirty hours of continuing education and dental assistants to complete twenty hours of continuing education prior to renewal. The Board would like to make some suggestions in an attempt to make completing continuing education requirements a little easier. Courses are readily available, even in rural areas.

Board rules state that “ ‘*continuing dental education*’ consists of education[al] activities designed to review existing concepts and techniques and to update knowledge on advances in dental and medical sciences. The objective is to improve the knowledge, skills, and ability of the individual to deliver the highest quality of service to the public and professions.” Continuing education activities, as a rule, should have application in the areas of clinical dentistry and patient care. Courses that focus on office management, insurance

filling, or other fields not grounded in patient care typically are not eligible for continuing education credit. Keep these things in mind when selecting courses. For further information regarding continuing education guidelines, please refer to chapter 25 of the Board rules. *The following suggestions are made based on the understanding that course content meets continuing education guidelines.*

Board rules allow a licensee to claim up to twelve hours of continuing education credit for self-study activities per biennium. Self-study allows licensees and registrants to meet a large portion of the continuing education requirement without traveling great distances. This is particularly useful for practitioners in rural areas where courses and seminars may be offered less frequently. Chapter 25 of IAC 650 states that self-study activities “may include television viewing,

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## Temporary Permits Available

Last year the Board adopted new rules for the issuance of temporary practice permits authorizing the permit holder to practice dentistry or dental hygiene on a short-term basis in Iowa at a specific location to fulfill an urgent need or to serve an educational purpose. Temporary permits are a new option to assist practitioners with meeting practice challenges due to special circumstances or as a unique way to provide clinical education to Iowa licensees.

For example, the Board recently issued a tem-

porary permit to an oral surgeon from North Carolina who had expertise in a special surgical technique so the oral surgeon could assist an Iowa dentist with a difficult surgery. The Iowa patient benefited from the dentist’s unique skills and the Iowa dentist benefited by being able to draw on additional expertise in a difficult case.

A temporary permit is not meant as a way to practice before a permanent license is granted or as a means to practice because

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## Tips for Meeting Continuing Education Requirements (cont'd)

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video programs, correspondence work or research or computer CD-ROM programs that are interactive and require branching, navigation, participation and decision making on the part of the viewer.” Articles from professional journals are also a good source of self-study continuing education credit.

Licensees can also claim up to three hours of continuing education credit each biennium for CPR recertification. Licensees should be able to obtain CPR recertification training locally. If you are unsure where to obtain training, contact your local hospital, clinic, local Red Cross organization (if available), and nearby community colleges for courses or other information that they may have about CPR recertification.

The Department of Human Services requires training in the identification and reporting of child and/or dependant adult abuse once every five years. However, licensees can complete this training and apply credit towards continuing education requirements once per biennium. The Department of Human Services requires *all* health care professionals to complete this training. If you are unsure where to obtain this training, contact your local hospital or clinics, as they may make this training available. If this option is unavailable to you, please contact the Board office for further information about courses regarding abuse identification and reporting training.

Licensees can also claim three hours of continuing education credit for attendance at a multi-day convention, such as the annual associations meetings in May. The three hours of credit is *in addition* to any credit received for attending courses and seminars offered at the convention. However, there is a maximum of six credit hours for attendance per

## Temporary Permits Available (cont'd)

the applicant does not fulfill the requirements for permanent licensure. A request for a temporary permit must specifically identify the urgent need or the educational purpose of the permit. A temporary permit authorizes the permit holder to practice at a specific location or locations in Iowa for up to three months. When the permit expires, the practitioner must obtain a new temporary permit or a permanent license in order to practice dentistry or dental hygiene in Iowa.

To be eligible for a temporary permit, a practitioner must make application on a board approved form and include the

biennium.

OSHA updates and all training in expanded functions are eligible for continuing education credit hours as well. This training can take place locally, in the dental office. For further information regarding expanded function training, please refer to the Board website, <http://www.state.ia.us/dentalboard/xinfo1.htm>. The Board will post additional information about expanded function courses on the Board website as it becomes available.

The Board would also like to remind all licensees and registrants that the Board website is a good source of information regarding continuing education. You can also view Board rules at the website. Chapter 25 of Board rules may be especially helpful as it specifically addresses continuing education requirements. The Board website also provides contact information for approved sponsors. You can contact approved sponsors directly and ask to be put on a mailing list, if available, to receive information about upcoming courses. Some sponsors, like the dental college and community colleges, offer courses through the Iowa Communications Network (ICN) statewide. If you still have questions after visiting the Board website, please contact the Board office.



following:

- Satisfactory evidence of graduation with a DDS or DMD degree for applicants seeking a temporary permit to practice dentistry or satisfactory evidence of graduation from a dental hygiene school for applicants seeking a temporary permit to practice dental hygiene.
- Evidence of current CPR certification.

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## Temporary Permits Available (cont'd)

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- Evidence of an active, permanent license to practice in at least one United States jurisdiction and evidence that no formal disciplinary action is pending or has ever been taken.
- A license verification from each jurisdiction in which the applicant has ever held a license. At least one license must be issued on the basis of clinical examination.
- A request for the temporary permit from those individuals or organizations seeking the applicant's services that establishes the justification

for the temporary permit, the dates the applicant's services are needed, and the location(s) where those services will be delivered.

If the need changes or if the permit holder wishes to continue in short-term assignments in other Iowa locations, a permit holder is expected to seek permanent licensure. A person may be issued not more than three temporary permits. The application fee for a temporary permit is \$100.

For more information about temporary permits, please contact the Board office.

## Licensure of International Dental Graduates

The Board recently finalized a rule that establishes a pathway for graduates of foreign dental schools to obtain licensure in Iowa. To be eligible, graduates of foreign dental schools must complete two years of undergraduate education at an accredited dental school. While the graduate of a foreign dental school does not need to be awarded a DDS or DMD degree, the dean of the undergraduate dental education program must verify that the applicant has achieved the same level of didactic and clinical education as a graduate of the dental college. A diploma, degree or certificate must be awarded to the applicant upon successful completion of the program.

According to the American Dental Association, there are approximately seven U.S. dental schools that offer the type of education program described in the Board's rules. These programs are designed specifically for international dentists and differ from "advanced standing" programs. The seven dental schools with specific international dental programs are as follows: University of California, Los Angeles; University of California, San Francisco; Loma Linda University in Loma Linda, California; University of the Pacific in San Francisco, California; University of Florida in Gainesville, Florida; University of Illinois at Chicago; and Tufts University School of Dental Medicine in Boston, Massachusetts. In addition to these programs, about half of the accredited U.S. dental schools consider graduates of foreign dental schools for advanced standing admission – meaning the graduate may be eligible to be admitted to the regular dental degree program as a second or third year student. For more information about any of these programs, contact the dental school directly.

In addition to two years of undergraduate dental education at an accredited school, to be eligible for licensure in Iowa graduates of foreign dental schools must also provide verification that they were licensed or eligible for license in their home country and must also demonstrate English proficiency. The graduate must also meet all other requirements for licensure, including completion of the National Board examination and a clinical licensing examination.

To see a complete copy of the new rule for licensure of foreign dental graduates, visit the Board's website. Under "Board Rules" click on the link for Chapter 11 and review rule 650—11.4(153). The rule became effective on March 10, 2004.

For more information about licensure of graduates of foreign dental schools in other states, visit the website of the American Dental Association (ADA). The ADA publishes an excellent resource for international graduates called *United States Licensure for International Dentists, 2003*. This document includes information on admission to the United States, dental licensure, basic dental education and advanced dental education, licensure information for each state, as well as contact information for all of the international programs mentioned above. The document is available on the ADA's website at: <http://www.ada.org/prof/prac/licensure/us.asp>.

## Reminder— License and Renewal Display

The Iowa Board of Dental Examiners would like to remind all licensees and registrants that Iowa law requires you to prominently display your license and current renewal at each permanent practice location. In addition, dental hygienists with a local anesthesia permit and dentists with a permit for general anesthesia or conscious sedation should also display the anesthesia permit and current renewal.

Common mistakes found with the display requirement include failing to display the license (it shouldn't be in a drawer in the office), displaying a photocopy of the license or renewal, or forgetting to also display the current renewal card. Although commonly referred to as a wallet card, the blue card sent by the Board office is actually a renewal card showing the expiration date of your license. It should not be carried in your wallet or purse, but must be displayed in conjunction with the original license.

If you practice at more than one location, additional certificates and renewal cards can be obtained from the board office. The Board needs a written request for the duplicate certificate or renewal card that indicates the reason for the request. A fee of \$10 for a duplicate certificate must also be

included. The fee for a duplicate renewal is \$10. If you need both a duplicate certificate and renewal, the fee is \$20.

License and registration certificates are issued in your current legal name at the time you apply for a license or registration. The Board does not issue a new certificate if you subsequently have a name change. However, the current renewal card will reflect the name change after you submit written proof of the name change to the Board office.

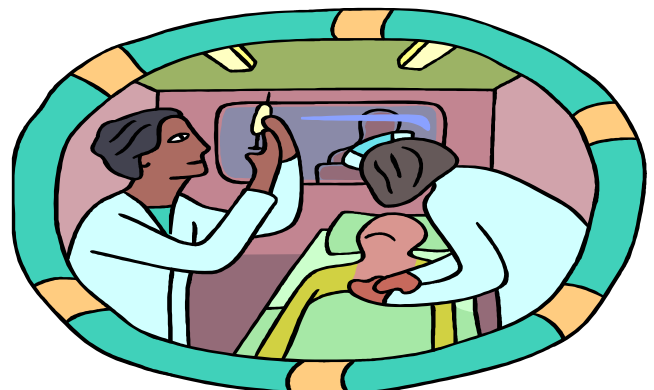
The Board encourages all licensees to audit their own office to ensure compliance with the license display requirements. Is there a current renewal and license certificate displayed for each dentist in the office? Is there a current renewal and license certificate displayed for each dental hygienist in the office? Are anesthesia permits displayed with the current renewal? Is there a current renewal and registration certificate or trainee verification displayed for each dental assistant in the office?

## Reminder— CPR is Required of Everyone at Renewal

As a reminder, ALL dentists and dental hygienists are now required to show proof of current certification in cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) to renew their license. CPR certification should be obtained through a "nationally recognized course," such as the Red Cross or American Heart Association courses. The CPR course does **not** need to be a health care provider course or any other special type of course as long as it is taken through a nationally recognized provider. (Although dentists with general anesthesia or conscious sedation permits are required to have current Advanced Cardiac Life Support (ACLS) certification for renewal of these permits.)

Licensees are required to keep the CPR current for each year of their renewal cycle. Some CPR courses are valid for one year, while others have a two-year renewal cycle. Licensees should pay attention to the expiration date on the CPR card. To renew your license, your CPR card must be current.

CPR requires practice to maintain skills, so stay current. Licensees can obtain a maximum of three hours of continuing education credit for taking a CPR or ACLS course. Watch for your license renewal form sometime in April. All dental and dental hygiene licenses must be renewed by June 30, 2004.





## ***We want your ideas!***

The Iowa Board of Dental Examiners created this newsletter to provide useful information to licensees and registrants in the state of Iowa. The Board welcomes all suggestions for possible inclusion in future newsletters. The Board wants to provide you with the information that you need. If you have any thoughts or ideas, please feel free to contact us with your comments and suggestions.

### ***Electronic Newsletter for the Iowa Board of Dental Examiners***

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Find us on the Internet:  
<http://www.state.ia.us/dentalboard>

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### **Change of Address**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ License/Registration # \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Work Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Work Fax: \_\_\_\_\_

Submit form to: Iowa Board of Dental Examiners, 400 SW 8th St., Suite D, Des Moines, IA 50309 Fax: (515) 281- 7969, Email: IBDE@bon.state.ia.us

\*\*If you also wish to change your name with our office, please submit a notarized copy of your marriage certificate, marriage license, or divorce decree noting name change.