
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE BILL

No. 1173 Session of
2022

INTRODUCED BY MARTIN, MENSCH, BAKER, HUTCHINSON, FONTANA,
COLLETT AND J. WARD, APRIL 1, 2022

REFERRED TO CONSUMER PROTECTION AND PROFESSIONAL LICENSURE,
APRIL 1, 2022

AN ACT

1 Amending the act of May 1, 1933 (P.L.216, No.76), entitled "An
2 act relating to dentistry; defining and providing for the
3 licensing and registration of dentists and dental hygienists,
4 and for the revocation and suspension of such licenses and
5 registrations, subject to appeal, and for their
6 reinstatement; defining the powers and duties of the State
7 Dental Council and Examining Board and the Department of
8 Public Instruction; providing penalties; and repealing
9 existing laws," further providing for general powers of the
10 State Board of Dentistry.

11 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
12 hereby enacts as follows:

13 Section 1. Section 3(j.2) of the act of May 1, 1933
14 (P.L.216, No.76), known as The Dental Law, is amended to read:

15 Section 3. General Powers of the State Board of Dentistry.--
16 The State Board of Dentistry (hereinafter called the board)
17 shall have the following powers and duties:

18 * * *

19 (j.2) (1) To adopt, promulgate and enforce rules and
20 regulations establishing requirements for continuing dental
21 education to be met by persons licensed or certified under this

1 act. The board shall approve sponsors of continuing education
2 courses within one year of the effective date of regulations
3 adopted to enforce this subsection. No credit may be given for
4 courses in office management or practice building. The board may
5 waive all or part of the continuing education requirement to a
6 licensee who shows to the satisfaction of the board that he or
7 she was unable to complete the requirement due to illness,
8 emergency or hardship.

9 (2) The following requirements shall be satisfactorily
10 completed in accordance with board regulations as a precedent to
11 biennial renewal of a license or certification:

12 (i) Thirty credit hours for a person licensed to practice
13 dentistry, including an individual licensed to practice
14 dentistry under a restricted faculty license.

15 (ii) Twenty credit hours for a person licensed to practice
16 dental hygiene. For a public health dental hygiene practitioner,
17 five hours shall be public health-related courses.

18 (iii) Ten credit hours for a person certified to practice
19 expanded function dental assisting.

20 (2.1) Up to three hours of volunteer dental, hygiene or
21 dental assisting practice at a clinic or health center, or at an
22 event or program offered by a charitable entity, may be credited
23 toward a licensee or certificate holder's continuing education
24 program under paragraph (2). The clinic, health center or
25 charitable entity must validate the dates and hours of volunteer
26 practice performed by the licensee or certificate holder to the
27 board during the applicable license renewal period.

28 (3) For the purposes of this subsection, one credit hour
29 shall be defined as one clock hour of instruction.

30 (4) As used in this subsection, the following words and

1 phrases shall have the meanings given to them in this paragraph
2 unless the context clearly indicates otherwise:

3 "Clinic, health center or charitable entity." A clinic,
4 health center or charitable entity for which a licensee or
5 certificate holder provides dental, hygiene or dental assisting
6 services at no cost to patients.

7 "Volunteer dental, hygiene or dental assisting practice."
8 Uncompensated time spent in the actual delivery of oral health
9 care or in direct support of the delivery of oral health care.
10 The term does not include time spent on administrative duties.

11 * * *

12 Section 2. This act shall take effect in 60 days.