

MISSISSIPPI STATE BOARD OF DENTAL EXAMINERS

Post Office Box 1960, Clinton, MS 39056
Phone: 601-924-9622

Important Information for Applicants for Dental Hygiene Licensure

Please read the following instructions and requirements carefully. Most of your questions concerning application and examination should be answered in these instructions. However, if you have further questions, please contact the Board office at the above address and phone number.

The examination will be held June 8-9, 1983, at the University of Mississippi School of Dentistry located on the campus of University Medical Center, 2500 North State Street, Jackson, Mississippi. The Mississippi State Board of Dental Examiners conducts one examination annually.

The Mississippi State Board of Dental Examiners grants licenses to practice dental hygiene in the State of Mississippi on the basis of examination only. Mississippi does not engage in reciprocity agreements with other states, and no temporary licenses or permits are issued or special examinations given.

General Requirements for Application:

An applicant for examination for dental hygiene licensure shall be a citizen of the United States, be of good moral character, be possessed of a high school education, and have attained the age of eighteen (18) years. Applicant must also hold a degree from an accredited dental hygiene program in the United States.

Application should be made to the Secretary of the Board by certified mail with return receipt requested. Application, fees, and all supporting documentation must be received by the Board at least thirty (30) days before the announced date of the examination.

Board fees and clinic fees must be paid in two separate amounts by certified check or money order. No personal checks will be accepted for fees. Examination fees are refunded only if the candidate's application is not accepted by the Board. In the event of illness or an emergency, fees will be applied to the next scheduled Mississippi Board for Licensure providing the Board office is notified no later than three (3) days prior to the examination.

Applicants who are unsuccessful on the examination may re-apply for a future examination and be considered as new applicants

General Information for Preparing for the Examination:

APPLICANTS MUST FURNISH THEIR OWN PATIENTS AND MUST BE RESPONSIBLE FOR THEIR APPEARANCE ON SCHEDULE. All patient records, x-rays, models, etc. become the property of the Board and will not be released to candidates or patients under any circumstances.

Applicants should present themselves well-groomed and properly attired for the examination. No name plates or monograms denoting the name of the applicant or the school attended may be worn. Each applicant will be assigned a candidate number at the orientation session, and this number must be displayed on the candidate's operatory cubicle and worn on his/her right lapel.

DENTAL HYGIENE CANDIDATES FOR LICENSURE WILL BE REQUIRED TO COMPLETE THE FOLLOWING WRITTEN EXAMINATIONS AND CLINICAL PROCEDURES: (These procedures will not necessarily be done in the order in which they are listed due to availability of facilities such as x-ray equipment.)

1. All candidates are required to PASS a written examination in jurisprudence based on "The Mississippi Laws Pertaining to the State Board of Dental Examiners." Candidates who fail the jurisprudence examination will not be allowed to continue the Board.
2. All candidates will be required to take a short written examination on general knowledge of standard dental hygiene theory and clinical procedures.
3. A brief, but comprehensive, medical and dental history on the patient to be treated must be completed by the candidate on a form provided by the Board. This history should note any condition that might be pertinent to the treatment planned during the examination.
4. PREVENTION (Patient Education) - should be done first for effective staining.
5. FULL MOUTH X-RAYS - except pre-operative and post-operative B.W.'s may be done at any time. NO RE-TAKES WILL BE ALLOWED. (The x-ray equipment at the dental school is set for long cone exposure. The equipment may not be adjusted for another setting.)
6. CHARTING (including periodontal) - for best results should be done after x-rays and polishing.
7. SCALING - may be done any time after prevention.
8. POLISHING - may be done any time after scaling.

General Information for Completing Clinical Portion of the Examination:

Patient selection: Candidate must provide pre-operative B.W. x-rays taken within the past ten (10) days preferably exhibiting demonstrable calculus. Patient must also have clinically demonstrable calculus and stain on anterior and posterior teeth. PATIENT WILL NOT BE ACCEPTABLE IF THERE IS INADEQUATE CALCULUS AND STAIN. The number of missing teeth will also be a consideration in determining whether or not the patient is acceptable.

YOUR APPLICATION WILL BE COMPLETE UPON RECEIPT OF THE FOLLOWING:

1. TYPED application form filled out completely and properly signed and notarized.
2. Certified check or money order in the amount of \$100.00 made payable to the Mississippi State Board of Dental Examiners. The amount is your Board application fee.
3. Certified check or money order in the amount of \$25.00 made payable to the University of Mississippi School of Dentistry. This amount covers your clinic fees such as necessary materials, anesthetics, and x-ray film.
4. Notarized signatures of two (2) reputable citizens of the state in which the applicant is a resident. (See application form for further information.)
5. Copy of National Board Examination Grade Card.
6. Copies of official transcripts for each high school, college, and dental hygiene school attended. These transcripts must be mailed directly to the Board office by the schools. Transcripts will not be accepted from the candidate.
7. For those candidates who are still in dental hygiene school at the time of application but who expect to graduate prior to the examination, a letter is required from the dental hygiene dean stating that the applicant is expected to graduate. (Final transcript awarding degree must be received before license may be issued.)
8. Certified statement from the Secretary of the Board of Dental Examiners in each state in which applicant is currently licensed verifying license status and good standing. In states where applicant has been previously licensed, the Secretary of the Board must notify this office as to the reason for license expiration or revocation.

IMPORTANT

CANDIDATES MUST BRING THEIR OWN INSTRUMENTS

A small number of prophylaxis handpieces are available at the School of Dentistry. You may reserve a handpiece for the examination by calling Mr. Albert Pleasant, 601-987-5980. The school will furnish all expendables. A locker will also be furnished, but candidates must furnish their own locks.

Before Requesting a Starting Check: Candidates should have patients seated in their assigned cubicle at the appropriate starting time for the clinical examination. The completed patient history, diagnostic charts, instruments, and other materials and supplies needed for the examination procedures should be available for inspection by the Examiner.

APPLICANTS MUST RECEIVE A STARTING CHECK FROM AN EXAMINER BEFORE ANY PROCEDURES ARE PERFORMED.

Starting check will consist of the following: Determination by the examiner as to whether or not the patient selected is acceptable for the procedures to be demonstrated including a brief discussion concerning the patient's general health and dental condition. Classification of the patient by the examiner and assignment of procedures to be completed by the candidate.

NOTE: If it is determined that local anesthesia or other medications are indicated for the assigned procedure, they may be administered by an examiner at this time or after the full mouth x-rays have been made.

After the candidate has received a starting check and an assignment of the procedures to be completed, he/she may proceed with the clinical examination.

Grading - Candidate's overall grade on the examination will consist of the following: National Board grade; written examination grade; patient selection; prevention; x-rays; charting; scaling; polishing; and patient management. A grade of 70 or above will be required to pass any particular part of the examination, and an average grade of 70 or above will be required to pass the Board. X-rays, charting, scaling, and polishing may be graded at one sitting at the discretion of the examiner. More than one examiner may grade any or all procedures. ZERO GRADES will be recorded for: Patient mismanagement or deceit; presenting patient not meeting requirements; undue or excessive trauma or lacerations of the soft tissues; or unprofessional behavior or attitude.

Each applicant will be expected to complete the assigned procedures during the allotted time which will be announced. However, the Board places more emphasis on accuracy, thoroughness, and concern for the patient than the speed at which you may "finish" with your patient.

EXAMINATION SCHEDULE

Depending on the number of applicants for dental hygiene examination, the candidates may be randomly divided into two groups. If it is necessary to divide the candidates into two groups, you will be notified no less than fourteen days prior to the examination as to which day you should be present. Schedules will be as follows:

Wednesday, June 8, 1983, or

Thursday, June 9, 1983	8:00 am	Orientation - Lecture Room D113 Jurisprudence written examination Dental Hygiene written examination
	10:00 - 5:00 pm	Clinical examinations - 3rd floor clinics

Patient Waiting Area: 3rd floor

Radiology Clinic: 2nd floor

Locker Rooms: Female Candidates - Room D-105
Male Candidates - Room D-115