

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 5, 1984 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. An 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:

Candidates must furnish their own patients and must be responsible for their appearance on schedule. Candidates must also furnish their own handpiece (Midwest Type) and instruments including a periodontal probe with 3mm color coded markings and #2 explorer (pigtail or cowhorn).

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 \$35.00 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.

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PATIENT SELECTION: Patient selection is probably the single most important factor in preparation for the examination. Unacceptable patients will be dismissed and another patient must be provided if the candidate is to continue the examination. Therefore, it is advisable to obtain a back-up patient. The patient's acceptability will be evaluated on the basis of health condition, dentition requirements, charting requirements and adequate deposits.

- A. Health Condition: The patient's health must be acceptable for prophylactic treatment. If conditions indicate an alteration in treatment procedures or a need to consult the patient's physician, the candidate must obtain the necessary written clearance before the patient is accepted. There should be no soft tissue lesions that contraindicate dental hygiene instrumentation.

- B. Dentition: The patient must have a minimum of 18 natural teeth with at least 10 posterior teeth. Molars must not be isolated from adjoining teeth.
- C. Dental Charting: The patient must have a minimum of ten chartable items. Examples of chartable items may include restorations, fixed prostheses, missing teeth, defective restorations, and caries.
- D. LIGHT UNACCEPTABLE: Moderate subgingival calculus not present on molars, bicuspids or anteriors in 2 quadrants--too light for testing. LIGHT: Isolated areas of calculus (Spicules or small ledges of subgingival adequate for testing) MODERATE: General small interproximal ledges of moderately tenacious subgingival calculus. HEAVY: Generalized subgingival deposits which may continue through the interproximal and line angles. May also be tenacious sheets. HEAVY-UNACCEPTABLE: Pocket depth prohibitive, number of pockets exceed 6 mm, calculus too heavy and tenacious, tissue condition is prohibitive. Stain is not essential to qualifying a patient as acceptable. However, a patient with minimally acceptable subgingival calculus and moderate to heavy stain on the gingival third of most all surfaces would provide an acceptable patient.

GRADING Pass or fail will be given for charting, patient management and patient education. Zero grades will be given for: (1) Patient mismanagement or deceit; (2) Presenting patient not meeting requirements.

Numerical grades will be given for the following:

1. Radiographs count 25% of the total grade;
2. Prophylaxis counts 60% of the total grade;
3. Written exam counts 10% of the total grade;
4. National Board grade counts 5% of the total grade.

A 70 over-all is needed to pass the examination.

The prophylaxis will be graded according to patient rating, light, moderate or heavy, and the number of errors recorded by examiners on the completed patient.

Radiographs will be graded 5 points off for each film that is: (1) improperly mounted (2) Cone cut (3) Improper film placement (4) Elongation or foreshortening (5) Interproximal overlapping.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR MISSISSIPPI DENTAL HYGIENE EXAMINATION (Please bring this with you for reference on the day of the exam.)

The Board Examination will be given to protect anonymity. All candidates will arrive at 8:00 a.m., June 5th at the University of Mississippi Dental School.

1. Candidates should present themselves with no name plates or monograms denoting the name of the candidate or the school attended. Each candidate will be assigned a candidate number and this number is to be worn on the right lapel after arriving at the corresponding unit number.
2. A written examination in Jurisprudence based on "The Mississippi Laws Pertaining to the State Board of Dental Examiners" will be given.
3. While Jurisprudence is being graded, an instructor will answer any questions you have regarding the radiology portion of the exam. Be prepared at this time to tell the instructor whether you will take an 18-20- or 21 full mouth film series and whether you will need to have additional films for pre-op bite wings.
4. Those who pass the Jurisprudence examination will continue with a short written examination on general knowledge of standard dental hygiene theory and clinical procedures. Those who fail the Jurisprudence portion will be dismissed from the examination at this point.
5. Following the written portion, you may take your patient to the waiting area nearest your assigned unit area. At your unit you will find a manila folder containing dental and medical histories, patient consent form, dental chart, and x-ray film packet and mount. After you have set up your unit you may bring your patient to the unit and take the medical and dental histories. Have the patient sign the consent form. There will be Board members circulating to assist you. These Board members will not be giving grades.
6. When Step 5 is complete, you may then show your patient to the private grading area. The patient should bring with them:
  - A. Sterile mirror;
  - B. #2 Explorer;
  - C. #3 color coded periodontal probe;
  - D. Medical and dental histories and consent form;
  - E. Pre-op bite-wings.
7. Two examiners will rate the patient and send back with the patient the assignment to be completed. These will include:
  - A. Portion assigned to scale if not the full mouth.
  - B. Quadrant to probe for periodontal charting.

8. Full mouth x-rays can be taken at any time after Step 7 is complete except for post-op bite-wings which must be taken after completion of scaling. NO RETAKES WILL BE ALLOWED. The x-ray units at the dental school are set for LONG CONE Exposure and the equipment may not be adjusted for any other setting.
9. When all assignments are complete, the candidate will direct the patient back to the grading area. The patient should bring with them:
  - A. Sterile mirror;
  - B. #2 Explorer;
  - C. #3 color coded periodontal probe;
  - D. Manila folder with all charts and histories;
  - E. Pre-op x-rays and full mouth and post-op bite wings with patient number.
10. When the patient returns to the candidate, he or she should instruct the patient as to any post operative care needed, dismiss the patient, clean up the unit and the candidate is then free to leave.

Each applicant will be expected to complete the assigned procedures by 4:30. The Board places more emphasis on accuracy, thoroughness, and concern for the patient than the speed at which you may "finish" with your patient.

DO NOT, under any circumstances, call the Dental School, the Board Office, or any of the Board Members after the examination for your examination results. You will be notified by mail as soon as possible.

EXAMINATION SCHEDULE

Tuesday, June 5, 1984

8:00 am - 10:00 am

Orientation Session - Room D113

Jurisprudence written examination  
Dental Hygiene written examination

10:00 am - 4:30 pm

Clinical examinations - third floor  
clinics

PATIENT WAITING AREA:

Third floor

RADIOLOGY CLINIC:

Second Floor

LOCKER ROOMS:

Female candidates - Room D-115

Male candidates - Room D-105