

BOARD REGULATION NUMBER 25--RADIOLOGY PERMITS

Purpose: The 1985 Mississippi Dental Practice Act (Miss. Code Ann. §§ 73-9-1, et. seq., [Supp. 1985]) requires the Mississippi State Board of Dental Examiners to carry out the purposes and provisions of the laws pertaining to the practice of dentistry and dental hygiene in Mississippi. Section 73-9-5 of the Dental Practice Act provides that the Board may prohibit any auxiliary personnel from rendering service that it feels is not in the best interest of public welfare. It is the purpose of this Board regulation to (a) provide for the establishment of minimum standards for the issuance of permits to such persons who are found to be qualified to administer dental radiologic procedures; and (b) ensure that the administration of dental radiologic procedures by dental auxiliaries is consistent with the Board's duty to protect the interest of public welfare.

1. General Provisions:

Anyone other than a licensed dentist who desires to use ionizing radiation procedures in dentistry must obtain a radiology permit from the Board or be exempt as provided below:

- a. Dental hygienists who are currently licensed in the State of Mississippi are considered to have satisfied the requirements of this regulation and will not be required to obtain a radiology permit. Dental hygienists who are not licensed in this State and who have graduated from a dental hygiene program accredited by the American Dental Association Commission on Dental Accreditation (ADA) will be required to apply for a radiology permit; however, these dental hygienists will not be required to successfully complete a Board-approved radiology seminar prior to making application for a radiology permit.
- b. Dental auxiliaries currently certified by the Dental Assisting National Board, Inc. (DANB) will be required to apply for a radiology permit; however, these dental auxiliaries will not be required to successfully complete a Board-approved radiology seminar prior to making application for a radiology permit.
- c. Dental auxiliaries currently certified by the Dental Assisting National Board, Inc. (DANB) and who also are graduates of ADA-accredited dental assisting programs will be required to apply for a radiology permit; however, these dental auxiliaries are considered to have satisfied the requirements of this regulation and will not be required to successfully complete a Board-approved radiology seminar prior to making application for a radiology permit. (See Sections 1.d. and 1.e. for requirements concerning dental auxiliaries who only are graduates of ADA-accredited dental assisting programs.)
- d. Dental auxiliaries not currently certified by DANB who have graduated from ADA-accredited dental assisting programs within twelve (12) months prior to making application for a radiology permit will be required to apply for a radiology permit; however, these dental auxiliaries will not be required to

successfully complete a Board-approved radiology seminar prior to making application for a radiology permit.

- e. Dental auxiliaries not currently certified by DANB who have graduated from ADA-accredited dental assisting programs more than twelve (12) months prior to making application for a radiology permit will not be required to successfully complete a Board-approved radiology seminar prior to making application for a radiology permit provided the individual supplies sworn statements from all employers over the past five (5) years, or part thereof depending on the dental auxiliary's date of graduation, certifying as to (1) the dental auxiliary's period of employment; and (2) whether the dental auxiliary administered radiographs as part of his/her dental assisting duties. This documentation must be provided with the dental auxiliary's application for a radiology permit; otherwise, the dental auxiliary will be required to successfully complete a Board-approved radiology seminar prior to making application for a radiology permit.
- f. Dental auxiliaries not otherwise qualified to apply for a radiology permit pursuant to Sections 1.a. through 1.e. shall, upon successful completion of a Board-approved radiology seminar, be eligible to make application for a radiology permit.
- g. Dental students, dental hygiene students, and dental assisting students actively enrolled in Mississippi ADA-accredited dental, dental hygiene, or dental assisting programs do not need to make application for a radiology permit to administer radiographs in dental offices or other entities lawfully authorized to provide dental services while attending the above-referenced programs. However, the Board must receive a letter from the dental, dental hygiene, or dental assisting dean or program head certifying as to a student's successful completion of the program's radiology coursework prior to that student administering radiographs in dental offices or other entities lawfully authorized to provide dental services while attending the above-referenced programs.

2. Board-Approved Radiology Seminars and Issuance of Radiology Permits:

- a. All radiology seminars must be approved in advance by the Board and include a clinical component which adequately tests the dental auxiliary's ability to administer radiographs.
- b. All radiology seminars must be a minimum of eight (8) hours in length.
- c. All radiology seminars must include a written examination at the conclusion of the seminar.
- d. To make application for a radiology permit, a dental auxiliary must submit proof of successful completion of a Board-approved radiology seminar and the proper credentials as outlined hereafter to the Board within ninety (90)

days following completion of the radiology seminar. If the dental auxiliary does not submit such proof on a timely basis, the dental auxiliary shall be required to receive a passing grade on a radiology examination administered by the Board or attend and successfully complete another Board-approved radiology seminar and afterwards submit the proper credentials within ninety (90) days as outlined hereafter.

- e. To apply for a radiology permit, an applicant must submit the following:
 - (1) Fully completed and signed application for a radiology permit;
 - (2) Certified check or money order to cover the application fee and first year's renewal fee; and
 - (3) Proof of compliance with the appropriate requirements set forth in Section 1.

3. Re-Issuance of Expired Permits:

A person who previously has held a permit to administer radiographs in this state but has not kept the permit current will be required to complete all requirements as set out herein for original applicants.

4. Renewal of Radiology Permits:

- a. The State Board of Dental Examiners shall maintain a compiled list of names and post office addresses for all persons who have applied for and been issued a radiology permit. Every person holding a radiology permit shall promptly keep the Board advised of any change of mailing address, home telephone number, employer, and office telephone number.
- b. Every person who holds a radiology permit shall, together with the required information and specified renewal fee, apply for renewal of such permit in accordance with the renewal requirements stipulated in Board Regulation 37. Any permit not renewed by the deadlines set forth in Board Regulation 37 will be voided for a failure to re-register.
- c. If the payment of the renewal fee is not received by the Board on or before the deadline stipulated in Board Regulation 37, the Board may enact and enforce a penalty for the delinquent payment of the renewal fee, such penalty to be established by Board Regulation 37.
- d. Refer to Board Regulation 37 for the current fee schedule for applications for radiology permits, renewal of radiology permits, and penalties for delinquent renewal of radiology permits.

5. Enforcement:

Licensed dentists who allow dental auxiliaries to expose radiographs without complying with this regulation shall be considered in violation of Section 73-9-61 of the Mississippi Code of 1972, Annotated, and may, at the Board's discretion, be subject to license revocation, suspension, or other action thereon.

Regulation Twenty-Five adopted by the Mississippi State Board of Dental Examiners June 4, 1985; amended September 13, 1991; amended September 25, 1992; amended December 2, 1994; amended June 12, 1996; amended August 23, 1996; amended October 4, 1996; amended June 27, 1997; amended July 25, 1997; amended August 29, 1997; amended September 26, 1997; amended September 13, 2002; amended November 1, 2002.