

AUGUST 2025

MISSISSIPPI STATE BOARD OF
DENTAL EXAMINERS



THE DENTAL DIGEST



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IMPORTANT MESSAGE

In May 2025, the Board transitioned to a new licensing system. All licensees will need to create an account in the new system.

Read More on our website:
<https://www.dentalboard.ms.gov/>

2025 Calender

September 1st - Biennial renewal cycle for all Dental Licenses begins

September 5th - Public Hearing regarding Regulation 13 Temporary Rule amendment

October 31st – End of the biennial renewal cycle without penalties

November 1st - Begins the 60-day biennial renewal with penalties

November 7th - MSBDE Board Meeting

December 31st - Last day to renew dental license

2025–2027 Dental License Renewal Fees

Dental License	\$400.00
Impaired Practitioner	<u>\$ 50.00</u>
TOTAL ALL DENTISTS	\$450.00

Dental Specialty + \$250.00

Class I, II, or III
Anesthesia Permit + \$300.00

LATE RENEWAL period
11/1/25 - 11/30/25 + \$ 50.00
(per license/permit)

LATE RENEWAL period
12/1/25 - 12/31/25 + \$100.00
(per license/permit)

2025 Dental License Renewals

Beginning September 1st, the renewal option for all dental licenses and, if applicable, dental specialty license and advanced anesthesia permits will be available through the Board's licensing system. The renewal period will end October 31, 2025.

Beginning November 1st and ending December 31st, renewals will be permitted, but a late renewal penalty will be assessed for each license or permit renewed after October 31st.

Critical items to note prior to the beginning of the 2025-2027 Dental License Renewal season:

- The Board has transitioned to a new licensing system. ALL providers will have to create a new account in the licensing system. This may be done at any time. Here is the link: [Licensure Gateway](#).
- All dental licenses and permits not renewed by December 31, 2025, will be VOIDED on January 1, 2026.
- Licenses and permits VOIDED on January 1, 2026, will require an application for reinstatement which must be approved by the Board.
- Once you create an account in the Board's licensing system, update your contact information and your staff information if needed.
- If you hold a Class I, II, or III advanced anesthesia permit and your office has not had an onsite facility inspection by August 31st, you will not be able to continue offering sedation services in an unpermitted facility until a Board inspection has been completed. New permit holders may apply for and receive a temporary facility permit.
- All renewal payments must be made in the Board's online licensing system.
- If you have an active license to practice in Mississippi, but you note on your renewal that you have practiced for less than three months in 2024 and three months in 2025, your license(s) will be set to inactive status ("not actively practicing") after you renew. For more information about Active status, please review [MSBDE Regulation 49](#).

The Board staff are available at (601) 944-9622 or by email at dental@dentalboard.ms.gov to assist with renewals.

CPR

MSBDE Regulation 45 states, “All dentists and dental hygienists licensed by the State of Mississippi and holding active licenses shall be **currently** certified in Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation.”

During the 2025-2027 renewal, verification of an CPR certification must be provided with your renewal application.

Resources

Links to Board Resources:

- [Board's Online Portal](#)
- [Continuing Education Requirements](#)
- [General Supervision Requirements](#)
- [CPR](#)
- [Public Hearing Guidelines](#)
- [Facility Inspections](#)
- [Laws and Regulations](#)



Mark D. Williams, D.M.D.

Dr. Mark Williams, D.M.D. has served as the District III representative on the Board since January 2020. He has served in the role of Board President since April 2024. Dr. Williams will continue to serve until October 31, 2025. Beginning November 1st, Dr. Mark Donald, D.M.D. will join the MSBDE as the appointed representative for Dental District III.

General Supervision

During the 2025 Legislative session, HB1062 was enacted, amending Miss. Code section 73-9-5. This law now allows Mississippi Licensed Dental Hygienists to operate under the general supervision of a Mississippi Licensed Dentist, subject to specific restrictions. The new requirements took effect on July 1, 2025.

The Mississippi State Board of Dental Examiners has established a **Resource Page** on our website to assist dental hygienists in registering their eligibility to practice under general supervision. It also provides guidance for dentists on how to authorize eligible hygienists to work under his or her supervision. You can access this [page here](#). Additionally, MSBDE has submitted a Temporary Rule amendment to Regulation 13, outlining the registration and authorization guidelines.

Registration and Authorization Process

The process comprises two steps:

- **STEP ONE:** Eligible Dental Hygienists must apply to the Board for registration of their eligibility.
- **STEP TWO:** After determining eligibility, a Mississippi Licensed Dentist must submit an application to authorize the eligible hygienist to practice under his or her general supervision.

Detailed instructions for this process are available on the [Resource Page](#).

A public hearing will be held on September 5, 2025, starting at 8:30 AM for all interested parties who wish to provide feedback on the Temporary amendment to Board Regulation 13. This public hearing will take place at the Board's office which is located at:
715 Pear Orchard Road, Suite 200, Ridgeland, MS 39157

The guidelines for presentations at the public hearing may be found [here](#).

CONTACT US and Stay Informed:

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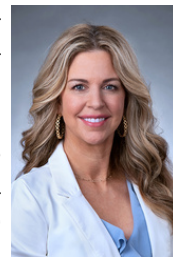
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As the Dental Hygienist representative on the Mississippi State Board of Dental Examiners, it is my privilege to represent all Mississippi Licensed Dental Hygienists. Below are a few of the questions that I am often asked. I hope you find these FAQ's helpful! Thank you all for being amazing oral healthcare providers and continuing to serve your communities with excellence!



Haley Harrison-Birmingham, RDH

Dental Hygiene FAQ's

Continuing Education (CE) Courses

- Continuing education (CE) courses can all be completed online.
- However, CPR certification must be obtained in person; online CPR training is not acceptable.

Finding CE Opportunities

- CE courses are offered through:
 - Mississippi Dental Hygienists' Association (MDHA)
 - Mississippi Dental Association (MDA)
 - Mississippi Dental Society (MDS)
 - Other sources found in Regulation 41

General Supervision Requirement

- Practicing under general supervision requires you to complete a **Medical Emergencies CE course**.
- Colgate provides **free online CE courses** in medical emergencies, which is particularly beneficial for hygienists seeking eligibility to practice under general supervision.

Local Anesthesia Certification

Local Anesthesia classes are currently available at:

- University of Mississippi Medical Center (UMMC) School of Dentistry
- Northeast Mississippi Community College

Upon completion of one of these courses, a dental hygienist must apply for a permit with the Board in order to administer local anesthesia.

License Renewals

Mississippi dental hygiene licenses must be renewed **biennially** in every **even**-numbered year. The next renewal cycle will commence on **September 1, 2026**. Licenses not renewed by December 31, 2026 will be voided.

REGULATION SPOTLIGHT

Are You Registered?

Overview of MSBDE Regulation 35

MSBDE Regulation 35 stipulates: “Effective July 1, 2017, every dentist licensed by the Mississippi State Board of Dental Examiners who prescribes, administers, or dispenses any controlled substance within the State of Mississippi, or who plans to engage in such practices, **must register with the Mississippi Prescription Monitoring Program (PMP)**... Once registered, dentists must comply with all guidelines, protocols, and restrictions established by the PMP. Non-compliance may result in disciplinary measures against the dentist.”

Additional Requirements Under Regulation 35:**Prescription Limitations:**

- Schedule II medications shall not be prescribed or dispensed for acute noncancer pain for more than **seven (7) days**.

Patient Status Check:

- Before prescribing, administering, or dispensing more than a **one (1) day** supply of Schedule II medications, dentists are **required** to query the Mississippi Prescription Monitoring Program to confirm the patient's current prescription status.

Documentation:

- The patient's treatment record must clearly indicate that the dentist conducted a query of the Mississippi Prescription Monitoring Program prior to prescribing, administering, or dispensing more than a one (1) day supply (4 dosage units) of any Schedule II medications.

Continuing Education:

- All licensed dentists involved in prescribing, administering, or dispensing any controlled substance in Mississippi or proposes to do so, must complete three (3) hours of Board-approved CEs per biennial renewal period regarding the prescribing of opioids.

Compliance Investigation:

- Any investigation conducted by the Board, its staff, or its members will include a query of the Mississippi Prescription Monitoring Program to ensure compliance with this Regulation.
- Neglecting these requirements may result in disciplinary action against the licensed dentist.

If you have not yet registered with the Mississippi Prescription Monitoring Program, it is mandated that you begin this process. Registration instructions can be found on the [Mississippi Board of Pharmacy's website](#).

CE Audit

The 2026 continuing education audit will include a random selection of 10% of all Mississippi Licensed Dentists who are on active status.

The new licensing system will notify you during the renewal your license if you have been selected for the 2026 CE audit. You will have until December 31, 2025 to come into compliance with the 40.0 hours required.

The review period for the audit will be January 1, 2024 to December 31, 2025.

If you hold a **Sedation permit**, you will need to ensure that you have taken the required eight (8) hours of CEs in the subject areas listed in [MSBDE Regulation 30](#) for Continued Competency. In addition, all dentists with active DEA permits should have three (3) hours related to the prescribing of opioids

A Message from PHN

Professionals Health Network, Inc

The Mississippi Professionals Health Network, Inc (PHN) is a 501c3 organization that works closely with Mississippi State Board of Dental Examiners (Board) to assist the dental community, including dentists, dental hygienists, and dental assistants, with potentially impairing illnesses such as those involving addiction, mental health and, occasionally, physical health problems such as brain injury. PHN exists under a Memorandum of Understanding with the Dental Board and is, in most cases, an alternative to the Board's disciplinary process for those who seek and/or are motivated to accept our help.

The PHN Committee includes dentists, addictionologists, psychiatrists, and psychiatric nurse practitioners who donate their time and skills for the well-being of the dental community. Some members of the committee are themselves active in their own programs of recovery, which provides valuable insights and experience as we work with colleagues who may be struggling.

PHN accepts referrals from any source, including the Board, practice partners, concerned practice employees, pharmacist, and others, as well as the affected individuals. When we become aware of a concern, we discretely gather needed collateral information, then chosen members of the PHN Committee meet with the dental professional to discuss the concerns. If there is sufficient reason for ongoing concern, a referral is made for appropriate clinical assessments. Some conditions may be assessed by a local physician. In more nuanced or complicated cases, there may be a referral to a specialized healthcare facility for a multi-disciplinary evaluation and recommendations. PHN reviews these evaluations and recommendations very carefully. When treatment is indicated, PHN monitors the process. Upon completion of needed treatment, the dental professional enters into a contract with PHN that provides ongoing support, monitoring, toxicology (if warranted), and earned advocacy on the professional's behalf with their Board and/or appropriate others such as the practice group.

Dental professionals referred by the Dental Board are known to the Board. Those referred by other parties are confidential and known to the Board only by number unless they fail to comply with the PHN program.

PHN is a member of the Federation of State Physician Health Programs and remains on the cutting edge of strategies that promote success for the professionals we assist. For example, if a member of the general population has addiction and goes to treatment, studies show that only 36% are sober at 1 year follow-up. Studies conducted with earned advocacy professionals' programs such as PHN demonstrate that 78% are sober without relapsing at 5 years. Including those who relapse and undergo further assistance, 90% are sober and engaged in their profession at 7 years.

Years ago, Boards had only the disciplinary option when mental health and/or addiction issues came to light, and many talented and dedicated professionals were lost. Today, thankfully, things are very different, and dental professionals can get help without adverse disciplinary measures. It is our privilege to work with your community and our reward is to see health restored, practices thrive, and families return to health and happiness.

If you need help or you know a colleague who does, please do not hesitate to reach out to us. We are here to help. PHN can be reached at 601-261-9899 or cell 601-516-0382.

-Dr. Gary D. Carr, M.D., PHN Medical Director & Dr. Deborah V. Gross, M.D., PHN Vice-President