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**VOL. 1 ISSUE 2**  
**SPRING 2023**



# THE DENTAL DIGEST

## MSBDE SEES TWO NEW BOARD APPOINTMENTS

The Honorable Tate Reeves, Governor of Mississippi, has appointed two new Board members representing District 1 and District 6. Dr. David K. Curtis a pediatric dentist in Columbus was appointed to fill the position formerly held by Dr. Steven Porter. Additionally, Dr. John Carlton, a general dentist in Natchez, was appointed to the District 6 seat previously held by Dr. Delton Moore.

The Mississippi Board of Dental Examiners welcomes Dr. Carlton and Dr. Curtis to the Board and appreciate the service of Dr. Porter and Dr. Moore.

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## SPOTLIGHT: Regulation 13

The Occupational Licensing Review Commission (OLRC) met April 18th, 2023, to consider the Board's proposed changes to Board Regulations 13 & 37 regarding the administration of local anesthesia by dental hygienists. The OLRC voted to approve the changes, paving the way for dental hygienists in Mississippi to administer local anesthesia. These changes are not yet effective, as some administrative requirements remain. The Board will provide notification once the changes become effective. Once effective, dental hygienists licensed in Mississippi may apply for a certification to administer local anesthesia. Dental hygienists licensed in Mississippi may only administer local anesthesia in compliance with the Mississippi Dental Practice Act and Board Regulations and upon Board-issuance of a dental hygienist certification to administer local anesthesia.

## Mississippi State Board of Dental Examiners

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## BOARD MEMBERS

HALEY BIRMINGHAM, R.D.H.  
JOHN B. CARLTON, D.M.D.  
DAVID K. CURTIS, D.M.D.  
M. LEWIS GRUBBS, D.M.D.  
(SECRETARY ELECT)  
ALEXA LAMPKIN, D.M.D.  
ROBERT L. SMITH, D.D.S.  
(PRESIDENT ELECT)  
MARK WILLIAMS, D.M.D.  
(VICE-PRESIDENT ELECT)  
JEFF ZIMMERMAN, D.D.S.

## 2023 Calendar

**May 1st** - CE Audit

**June 30th** - last day to submit CE Hours in response to the audit

**July 14th** - Board Meeting

**Sept. 1st** - Dental License Renewals Open

**October 27th** - Board Meeting

**October 31st** - Dental License renewals ends

**November 1st** - Dental License renewals with penalties begin

**December 31st** - Last day to renew a Dental License with penalties

### Did You Know?

In 2019, the Board amended **Regulation 35**. Dentists who prescribe schedule II medications are required to access the Mississippi Prescription Monitoring Program (PMP) and query the patient's prescription history PRIOR to prescribing more than a **One (1)** day supply of the schedule II medication.

### We want to hear from you

The purpose of this Newsletter is to provide relevant information to you and your practice in the State of Mississippi.

If there is information that you would like to see reported in *The Dental Digest*, please email the Executive Director - Denny Hydrick at [denny@dentalboard.ms.gov](mailto:denny@dentalboard.ms.gov).

In addition, if you have relevant information related to the practice of Dentistry in our State and would like to submit information for consideration of being published, please send the information to Denny Hydrick.

### Is Your Contact Information Current?

All licensees must keep their contact information and practice locations updated with the Board. Contact information should be updated within 30 days of the change. You can update your information through the [Online Portal](#) on the MSBDE website or by contacting the MSBDE office. Information which is required to be current with the Board:

- Home and Office addresses
- Practice location(s)
- Personal and Office phone numbers
- Email addresses
- Employee list for Dentists
- Practice locations -all licensees/permit holder
- Dental Hygienist & All Permit Holders - associated Mississippi Dentists

## Current Licenses and Permits

Mississippi License Type	LicenseCount
DENTAL	1694
DENTAL PROVISIONAL	67
DENTAL PROVISIONAL FELLOWSHIP	23
DENTAL PROVISIONAL TEACHING	38
ENTERAL CONSCIOUS SEDATION	30
GENERAL ANESTHESIA	62
HYGIENIST	1652
HYGIENIST PROVISIONAL	10
HYGIENIST PROVISIONAL TEACHING	3
LIMITED PARENTERAL CONSCIOUS SEDATION	5
MOBILE DENTAL UNIT	15
PARENTERAL CONSCIOUS SEDATION	102
RADIOLOGY PERMIT	3768
SPECIALTY DENTAL LICENSES	320

## MSBDE Recognized Dental Specialties

MSBDE Regulation 7 identifies the currently recognized dental specialties as defined by the National Commission on Recognition of Dental Specialties and Certifying Boards. These specialties are:

- Dental Anesthesiology
- Dental Public Health
- Endodontics
- Oral & Maxillofacial Pathology
- Oral & Maxillofacial Radiology
- Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery
- Oral Medicine
- Orofacial Pain
- Orthodontics & Dentofacial Orthopedics
- Pediatric Dentistry
- Periodontics
- Prosthodontics

## Mississippi Jurisprudence Exam

All dental and dental hygiene licensure applicants in the State of Mississippi are required to pass the Mississippi Jurisprudence Exam. Exam questions come from the Mississippi Dental Practice Act, Board Regulations, and the Code of Ethics of the American Dental Association and the American Dental Hygiene Association.

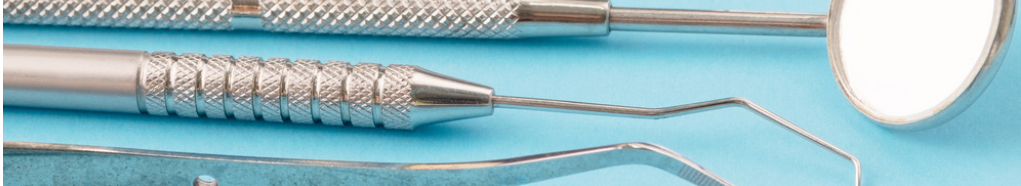
This exam has historically been given by each Dental or Dental Hygiene School to students completing their respective program and sent to the Board for grading and approval. Out-of-state applicants were required to travel to the Board's office to take the Exam.

At the April 2023 Board meeting, the Board approved an online platform for issuing the Mississippi Jurisprudence Exam electronically. This system is now being used, and applicants are able to securely take the times exam at a time of their choosing. This will allow enhanced processes for both in-state and out-of-state professionals requesting licensure in Mississippi to meet the requirement of taking the Mississippi Jurisprudence Exam without the expense and time to travel to the Board's office.

## Medical Cannabis and Dentistry



The Mississippi Medical Cannabis Act, which went into effect in 2022, may impact the healthcare decisions of dentists and their patients. Though Dentists are **not permitted** to certify patients for Medical Cannabis use, it is important that Dentists consider updating the healthcare information history for all patients including current medications and medical cannabis. Also, a new amendment which goes into effect in 2023 will allow topical cannabis to be available to anyone 21 or older to purchase without the need to have a medical cannabis registry card. Dentists should consider the potential use of topical cannabis by their patients when updating each patient's medical history and current medication list for the purpose of treatment planning for oral healthcare, oral surgery and sedation. For more information about the Mississippi Medical Cannabis Program click the link [here](#) for the Mississippi State Department of Health.



# Current Happenings:

## Dental License Renewals

2023 is the year for Dental License renewals. Beginning September 1, 2023, the renewal portal will open for all Dentists. **EARLY** renewal is KEY! This is the first renewal of dental licenses in Mississippi to be performed online. To create a portal account, go to [www.dentalboard.ms.gov](http://www.dentalboard.ms.gov), scroll down, and select the Online Portal "Log In" button. Follow the instructions to create an account by selecting the "Register" button. You can create your account at anytime to review your current license information.

## CE Audit

MSBDE began its annual Continuing Education (CE) audit on May 1, 2023. For complete information regarding Board Regulation 41 - Continuing Education requirements, click [here](#). Originally, the CE audit was initiated on March 1st. Due to unexpected technical issues, the CE audit initiated in March was voided. Those licensees receiving notice of selection for the 2021 - 2022 CE audit have until June 30, 2023 to submit the required documentation.

Please remember that COVID accommodations which allowed for the acceptance of online only CE no longer applies. As of January 1, 2023, a maximum of 25% of the required course work may be computer based, video, audio, reading and/or correspondence/home study courses per two (2) year continuing education reporting period. All other CE requirements must be met by in-person attendance. Online CE options which are interactive and delivered live qualifies as in-person.

Dentists who prescribe controlled substances are required to submit 3.0 hours of continuing education related to the prescribing of controlled substances.

## CPR

CPR renewals require a "hands-on" component. CPR courses completed online without a hands-on component will not be accepted. Regulation 45 states "participation in approved Advanced Cardiac Life Support (ACLS), Pediatric Advanced Life Support (PALS), American Heart Association (AHA) or American Red Cross (ARC) course may be used to fulfill the requirements. All other equivalent courses shall be approved by the Board on a case-by-case basis.

# SPOTLIGHT: Helpful Links

Looking for specific information? Below is a list of some helpful links which may assist you in your search of information related to the Dental profession in Mississippi and/or the work of the Mississippi State Board of Dental Examiners. Just click the link and you will be redirected!

[MSBDE Website](#)

[Licensing Portal](#)

[Meeting Minutes](#)

[Practice Act and Board Regulations](#)

[Submit a Complaint](#)

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