

1 A bill to be entitled
 2 An act relating to dentistry and dental hygiene
 3 examinations; amending ss. 466.006 and 466.007, F.S.;
 4 authorizing the use of a specified nonpatient dental
 5 device during a licensure examination of a dentist or
 6 dental hygienist in lieu of a live patient; amending
 7 s. 466.0065, F.S.; conforming provisions to changes
 8 made by the act; repealing s. 466.0075, F.S., relating
 9 to required medical malpractice insurance for
 10 applicants for examination; providing an effective
 11 date.

12
 13 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:
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15 Section 1. Paragraph (a) of subsection (5) of section
 16 466.006, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

17 466.006 Examination of dentists.—

18 (5) (a) The practical examination required under subsection
 19 (4) shall be the American Dental Licensing Examination developed
 20 by the American Board of Dental Examiners, Inc., or its
 21 successor entity, if any, provided the board finds that the
 22 successor entity's clinical examination complies with the
 23 provisions of this section, and shall include, at a minimum:

24 1. A comprehensive diagnostic skills examination covering
 25 the full scope of dentistry and an examination on applied

26 | clinical diagnosis and treatment planning in dentistry for
 27 | dental candidates. ~~†~~

28 | 2. Two restorations using the CompeDont DTX manufactured
 29 | tooth approved by the Commission on Dental Competency
 30 | Assessments ~~on a live patient or patients~~. The board by rule
 31 | shall determine the class of such restorations. ~~†~~

32 | 3. A demonstration of periodontal skills using the
 33 | CompeDont DTX manufactured tooth approved by the Commission on
 34 | Dental Competency Assessments. ~~on a live patient;~~

35 | 4. A demonstration of prosthetics and restorative skills
 36 | in complete and partial dentures and crowns and bridges and the
 37 | utilization of practical methods of evaluation, specifically
 38 | including the evaluation by the candidate of completed
 39 | laboratory products such as, but not limited to, crowns and
 40 | inlays filled to prepared model teeth. ~~†~~

41 | 5. A demonstration of restorative skills on a manikin
 42 | ~~mannequin~~ which requires the candidate to complete procedures
 43 | performed in preparation for a cast restoration. ~~†~~

44 | 6. A demonstration of endodontic skills. ~~† and~~

45 | 7. A diagnostic skills examination demonstrating ability
 46 | to diagnose conditions within the human oral cavity and its
 47 | adjacent tissues and structures from photographs, slides,
 48 | radiographs, or models pursuant to rules of the board. If an
 49 | applicant fails to pass the diagnostic skills examination in
 50 | three attempts, the applicant shall not be eligible for

51 reexamination unless she or he completes additional educational
 52 requirements established by the board.

53
 54 The department shall require a mandatory standardization
 55 exercise for all examiners prior to each practical or clinical
 56 examination and shall retain for employment only those dentists
 57 who have substantially adhered to the standard of grading
 58 established at such exercise.

59 Section 2. Subsection (2) of section 466.0065, Florida
 60 Statutes, is amended to read:

61 466.0065 Regional licensure examinations.—

62 (2) Each school of dentistry in this state which is
 63 accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of the American
 64 Dental Association or its successor agency may, upon written
 65 approval by the Board of Dentistry, offer regional licensure
 66 examinations only to dental students in the final year of a
 67 program at an approved dental school, if the board has approved
 68 the hosting school's written plan to comply with the following
 69 conditions:

70 (a) A member of the regional examination body's board of
 71 directors or equivalent thereof must be a member of the American
 72 Association of Dental Examiners.

73 (b) The student must have successfully passed parts I and
 74 II of the National Board of Dental Examiners examination within
 75 2 years before taking the regional examination.

76 ~~(c) The student must possess medical malpractice insurance~~
77 ~~in amounts not less than the amounts required to take the~~
78 ~~Florida licensure examinations.~~

79 (d) At least one of the examination monitors must be a
80 dentist licensed in this state who has completed all necessary
81 standardization exercises required by the regional examination
82 body. Recruitment of examination monitors is the responsibility
83 of the regional examination body.

84 ~~(c) Adequate arrangements, as defined by the regional~~
85 ~~examination body and as otherwise required by law, must be made,~~
86 ~~when necessary, for patients who require followup care as a~~
87 ~~result of procedures performed during the clinical portion of~~
88 ~~the regional examination. The regional examination body must~~
89 ~~inform patients in writing of their right to followup care in~~
90 ~~advance of any procedures performed by a student.~~

91 (f) The board chair or the chair's designee must be
92 allowed to observe testing while it is in progress.

93 (g) Each student, upon being deemed eligible by the dental
94 school to apply to the regional examination body to take the
95 regional examination, must receive written disclosure in at
96 least 12-point boldface type that states: "This examination does
97 not meet the licensure requirements of chapter 466, Florida
98 Statutes, for licensure in the State of Florida. Persons wishing
99 to practice dentistry in Florida must pass the Florida licensure
100 examinations."

101 (h) The student must be enrolled as a dental student in
 102 the student's final year of a program at an approved dental
 103 school that is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of
 104 the American Dental Association or its successor agency.

105 (i) The student must have completed all coursework deemed
 106 necessary by the dental school to prepare the student to perform
 107 all clinical and diagnostic procedures required to pass the
 108 regional examination.

109 ~~(j) The student's academic record must not include any~~
 110 ~~evidence suggesting that the student poses an unreasonable risk~~
 111 ~~to any live patients who are required for the clinical portion~~
 112 ~~of the regional examination. In order to protect the health and~~
 113 ~~safety of the public, the dental school may request additional~~
 114 ~~information and documents pertaining to the candidate's mental~~
 115 ~~and physical health in order to fully assess the candidate's~~
 116 ~~fitness to engage in exercises involving a live patient.~~

117 Section 3. Subsection (4) of section 466.007, Florida
 118 Statutes, is amended to read:

119 466.007 Examination of dental hygienists.—

120 (4) Effective July 1, 2012, to be licensed as a dental
 121 hygienist in this state, an applicant must successfully complete
 122 the following:

123 (a) A written examination on the laws and rules of this
 124 state regulating the practice of dental hygiene.

125 (b) A practical or clinical examination approved by the

126 board. The examination shall be the Dental Hygiene Examination
 127 produced by the American Board of Dental Examiners, Inc., (ADEX)
 128 or its successor entity, if any, if the board finds that the
 129 successor entity's clinical examination meets or exceeds the
 130 provisions of this section. The board shall approve the ADEX
 131 Dental Hygiene Examination if the board has attained and
 132 continues to maintain representation on the ADEX House of
 133 Representatives, the ADEX Dental Hygiene Examination Development
 134 Committee, and such other ADEX Dental Hygiene committees as the
 135 board deems appropriate through rulemaking to ensure that the
 136 standards established in this section are maintained
 137 organizationally. The ADEX Dental Hygiene Examination or the
 138 examination produced by its successor entity is a comprehensive
 139 examination in which an applicant must demonstrate skills within
 140 the dental hygiene scope of practice using the CompeDont DTX
 141 manufactured tooth approved by the Commission on Dental
 142 Competency Assessments ~~on a live patient~~ and any other
 143 components that the board deems necessary for the applicant to
 144 successfully demonstrate competency for the purpose of
 145 licensure.

146 Section 4. Section 466.0075, Florida Statutes, is
 147 repealed.

148 Section 5. This act shall take effect July 1, 2022.