

2022 Regular Session

SENATE BILL NO. 324

BY SENATOR CARTER

DENTISTRY. Provides relative to qualifications for licensure by the Louisiana State Board of Dentistry. (8/1/22)

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 37:761(A)(4) and (C) and 764(A)(2) and (5) and (D) and to
3 repeal R.S. 37:761(D) and 764(E), relative to qualifications for licensure by the
4 Louisiana State Board of Dentistry; to provide for licensing examinations for
5 dentists; to provide for citizenship requirements for dental hygienists; to provide for
6 licensing examinations for dental hygienists; and to provide for related matters.

7 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

8 Section 1. R.S. 37:761(A)(4) and (C) and 764(A)(2) and (5) and (D) are hereby
9 amended and reenacted to read as follows:

10 §761. Requirements of applicants for dental license

11 A. The board shall require that every applicant for a dental license shall:

12 * * *

13 (4) Present satisfactory evidence of having taken **and passed** an examination
14 in the theory and practice of the science of the profession given by the Joint
15 Commission on National Dental Examinations, ~~before being accepted for the regular~~
16 ~~examination given by the board, or pass an examination given by the board in the~~
17 ~~theory and practice of the science of dentistry in addition to the regular examination~~

1 given by the Louisiana State Board of Dentistry. Upon receipt of information that the
2 applicant has passed the examination in the theory and practice of the science of the
3 profession given by the Joint Commission on National Dental Examinations, he may
4 be awarded a dental license, but only when all other requirements for licensure have
5 been met. If the applicant fails the examination given by the Joint Commission on
6 National Dental Examinations, he must successfully retake the Louisiana clinical
7 licensing examination after providing satisfactory evidence of subsequently passing
8 the examination given by the Joint Commission on National Dental Examinations.

9 * * *

10 C. An applicant who has successfully completed any national, regional, or
11 independent third-party clinical dental licensing examination approved by the board
12 that shall include procedures performed on human subjects as part of the assessment
13 of restorative clinical competencies and who otherwise satisfies all requirements for
14 a dental license, including satisfactory completion of an examination in
15 jurisprudence and a background check, may be granted a license by examination by
16 applying for licensure in Louisiana within three years following the successful
17 completion of such clinical licensing examination.

18 * * *

19 §764. Dental hygienist; application for license

20 A. Every applicant to be licensed as a dental hygienist shall:

21 * * *

22 (2) ~~Be a citizen or a permanent resident of the United States unless otherwise~~
23 ~~prohibited by the North American Free Trade Agreement.~~ **Be a citizen or possess**
24 **valid and current legal authority to reside and work in the United States duly**
25 **issued by the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services or its**
26 **successor.**

27 * * *

28 (5) Present satisfactory evidence of having taken **and passed** an examination
29 in the theory and practice of the science of the profession given by the Joint

1 Commission on National Dental Examinations, ~~before being accepted for the regular~~
 2 ~~examination given by the board or pass an examination given by the board in the~~
 3 ~~theory and practice of the science of dental hygiene in addition to the regular~~
 4 ~~examination given by the Louisiana State Board of Dentistry. Upon receipt of~~
 5 ~~information that the applicant has passed the examination in the theory and practice~~
 6 ~~of the science of the profession given by the Joint Commission on National Dental~~
 7 ~~Examinations, he may be awarded a dental hygiene license, but only when all other~~
 8 ~~requirements for licensure have been met. If the applicant fails the examination given~~
 9 ~~by the Joint Commission on National Dental Examinations, he must successfully~~
 10 ~~retake the Louisiana clinical licensing examination after providing satisfactory~~
 11 ~~evidence of subsequently passing the examination given by the Joint Commission~~
 12 ~~on National Dental Examinations.~~

13 * * *

14 D. An applicant who has successfully completed any national, regional, or
 15 independent third-party clinical dental hygiene licensing examination approved by
 16 the board ~~that shall include procedures performed on human subjects as part of the~~
 17 ~~assessment of clinical competencies~~ and who otherwise satisfies all requirements for
 18 a dental hygiene license, including satisfactory completion of an examination in
 19 jurisprudence and a background check, may be granted a license by examination by
 20 applying for licensure in Louisiana within three years following the successful
 21 completion of such clinical licensing examination.

22 Section 2. R.S. 37:761(D) and 764(E) are hereby repealed.

The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part
 of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Brandi Cannon.

DIGEST

SB 324 Original 2022 Regular Session Carter

Present law provides for licensure of dentists and dental hygienists by the La. State Board of Dentistry (LSBD).

Present law provides that applicants for licensure as a dentist or dental hygienist shall present satisfactory evidence of having taken an examination in the theory and practice of the profession given by the Joint Commission on National Dental Examinations before being accepted for the regular examination given by the LSBD, or pass an examination given by

the LSBOD in the theory and practice of the science of profession in addition to the regular examination given by the LSBOD. Proposed law removes the requirement for the applicant to be examined by the LSBOD and provides for the applicant to present satisfactory evidence of having taken and passed an examination in the theory and practice of the profession given by the Joint Commission on National Dental Examinations.

Present law provides for the licensure of an applicant who has successfully completed any national, regional, or independent third-party clinical dental or dental hygienist licensing examination approved by the LSBOD that includes procedures performed on human subjects as part of the assessment of restorative clinical competencies and who satisfies all other requirements. Proposed law removes the requirement for the examination to include procedures performed on human subjects.

Present law requires an applicant for licensure as a dental hygienist to be a citizen or a permanent resident of the United States unless otherwise prohibited by the North American Free Trade Agreement. Proposed law updates the requirement to be consistent with present law requirements for applicants for licensure as a dentist by requiring the dental hygienist be a citizen or possess valid and current legal authority to reside and work in the United States duly issued by the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services or its successor.

Effective August 1, 2022.

(Amends R.S. 37:761(A)(4) and (C) and 764(A)(2) and (5) and (D); repeals R.S. 37:761(D) and 764(E))