

1 AN ACT concerning regulation.

2 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,**
3 **represented in the General Assembly:**

4 Section 5. The Illinois Dental Practice Act is amended by
5 changing Sections 11, 17, and 17.1 as follows:

6 (225 ILCS 25/11) (from Ch. 111, par. 2311)

7 (Section scheduled to be repealed on January 1, 2026)

8 Sec. 11. Types of dental licenses. The Department shall
9 have the authority to issue the following types of licenses:

10 (a) General licenses. The Department shall issue a license
11 authorizing practice as a dentist to any person who qualifies
12 for a license under this Act.

13 (b) Specialty licenses. The Department shall issue a
14 license authorizing practice as a specialist in any particular
15 branch of dentistry to any dentist who has complied with the
16 requirements established for that particular branch of
17 dentistry at the time of making application. The Department
18 shall establish additional requirements of any dentist who
19 announces or holds himself or herself out to the public as a
20 specialist or as being specially qualified in any particular
21 branch of dentistry.

22 No dentist shall announce or hold himself or herself out to
23 the public as a specialist or as being specially qualified in

1 any particular branch of dentistry unless he or she is licensed
2 to practice in that specialty of dentistry.

3 The fact that any dentist shall announce by card,
4 letterhead or any other form of communication using terms as
5 "Specialist," "Practice Limited To" or "Limited to Specialty
6 of" with the name of the branch of dentistry practiced as a
7 specialty, or shall use equivalent words or phrases to announce
8 the same, shall be prima facie evidence that the dentist is
9 holding himself or herself out to the public as a specialist.

10 (c) Temporary training licenses. Persons who wish to pursue
11 specialty or other advanced clinical educational programs in an
12 approved dental school or a hospital situated in this State, or
13 persons who wish to pursue programs of specialty training in
14 dental public health in public agencies in this State, may
15 receive without examination, in the discretion of the
16 Department, a temporary training license. In order to receive a
17 temporary training license under this subsection, an applicant
18 shall furnish satisfactory proof to the Department that:

19 (1) The applicant is at least 21 years of age and is of
20 good moral character. In determining moral character under
21 this Section, the Department may take into consideration
22 any felony conviction of the applicant, but such a
23 conviction shall not operate as bar to licensure;

24 (2) The applicant has been accepted or appointed for
25 specialty or residency training by an approved hospital
26 situated in this State, by an approved dental school

1 situated in this State, or by a public health agency in
2 this State the training programs of which are recognized
3 and approved by the Department. The applicant shall
4 indicate the beginning and ending dates of the period for
5 which he or she has been accepted or appointed;

6 (3) The applicant is a graduate of a dental school or
7 college approved and in good standing in the judgment of
8 the Department. The Department may consider diplomas or
9 certifications of education, or both, accompanied by
10 transcripts of course work and credits awarded to determine
11 if an applicant has graduated from a dental school or
12 college approved and in good standing. The Department may
13 also consider diplomas or certifications of education, or
14 both, accompanied by transcripts of course work and credits
15 awarded in determining whether a dental school or college
16 is approved and in good standing.

17 Temporary training licenses issued under this Section
18 shall be valid only for the duration of the period of residency
19 or specialty training and may be extended or renewed as
20 prescribed by rule. The holder of a valid temporary training
21 license shall be entitled thereby to perform acts as may be
22 prescribed by and incidental to his or her program of residency
23 or specialty training; but he or she shall not be entitled to
24 engage in the practice of dentistry in this State.

25 A temporary training license may be revoked by the
26 Department upon proof that the holder has engaged in the

1 practice of dentistry in this State outside of his or her
2 program of residency or specialty training, or if the holder
3 shall fail to supply the Department, within 10 days of its
4 request, with information as to his or her current status and
5 activities in his or her specialty training program.

6 (d) Faculty limited ~~Restricted faculty~~ licenses. Persons
7 who have received full-time appointments to teach dentistry at
8 an approved dental school or hospital situated in this State
9 may receive without examination, in the discretion of the
10 Department, a ~~restricted~~ faculty limited license. In order to
11 receive a ~~restricted~~ faculty limited license an applicant shall
12 furnish satisfactory proof to the Department that:

13 (1) The applicant is at least 21 years of age, is of
14 good moral character and is licensed to practice dentistry
15 in another state or country; and

16 (2) The applicant has a full-time appointment to teach
17 dentistry at an approved dental school or hospital situated
18 in this State.

19 Faculty limited ~~Restricted faculty~~ licenses issued under
20 this Section shall be valid for a period of 3 years and may be
21 extended or renewed. The holder of a valid ~~restricted~~ faculty
22 limited license may perform acts as may be required by his or
23 her teaching of dentistry. In addition, the holder of a
24 ~~restricted~~ faculty limited license may practice general
25 dentistry or in his or her area of specialty, but only in a
26 clinic or office affiliated with the dental school. Any

1 ~~restricted~~ faculty limited license issued to a faculty member
2 under this Section shall terminate immediately and
3 automatically, without any further action by the Department, if
4 the holder ceases to be a faculty member at an approved dental
5 school or hospital in this State.

6 The Department may revoke a ~~restricted~~ faculty limited
7 license for a violation of this Act or its rules, or if the
8 holder fails to supply the Department, within 10 days of its
9 request, with information as to his current status and
10 activities in his teaching program.

11 (e) Inactive status. Any person who holds one of the
12 licenses under subsection (a) or (b) of Section 11 or under
13 Section 12 of this Act may elect, upon payment of the required
14 fee, to place his or her license on an inactive status and
15 shall, subject to the rules of the Department, be excused from
16 the payment of renewal fees until he or she notifies the
17 Department in writing of his or her desire to resume active
18 status.

19 Any licensee requesting restoration from inactive status
20 shall be required to pay the current renewal fee and upon
21 payment the Department shall be required to restore his or her
22 license, as provided in Section 16 of this Act.

23 Any licensee whose license is in an inactive status shall
24 not practice in the State of Illinois.

25 (f) Certificates of Identification. In addition to the
26 licenses authorized by this Section, the Department shall

1 deliver to each dentist a certificate of identification in a
2 form specified by the Department.

3 (Source: P.A. 94-409, eff. 12-31-05.)

4 (225 ILCS 25/17) (from Ch. 111, par. 2317)

5 (Section scheduled to be repealed on January 1, 2026)

6 Sec. 17. Acts constituting the practice of dentistry. A
7 person practices dentistry, within the meaning of this Act:

8 (1) Who represents himself or herself as being able to
9 diagnose or diagnoses, treats, prescribes, or operates for
10 any disease, pain, deformity, deficiency, injury, or
11 physical condition of the human tooth, teeth, alveolar
12 process, gums or jaw; or

13 (2) Who is a manager, proprietor, operator or conductor
14 of a business where dental operations are performed; or

15 (3) Who performs dental operations of any kind; or

16 (4) Who uses an X-Ray machine or X-Ray films for dental
17 diagnostic purposes; or

18 (5) Who extracts a human tooth or teeth, or corrects or
19 attempts to correct malpositions of the human teeth or
20 jaws; or

21 (6) Who offers or undertakes, by any means or method,
22 to diagnose, treat or remove stains, calculus, and bonding
23 materials from human teeth or jaws; or

24 (7) Who uses or administers local or general
25 anesthetics in the treatment of dental or oral diseases or

1 in any preparation incident to a dental operation of any
2 kind or character; or

3 (8) Who takes material or digital scans for final
4 impressions of the human tooth, teeth, or jaws or performs
5 any phase of any operation incident to the replacement of a
6 part of a tooth, a tooth, teeth or associated tissues by
7 means of a filling, crown, a bridge, a denture or other
8 appliance; or

9 (9) Who offers to furnish, supply, construct,
10 reproduce or repair, or who furnishes, supplies,
11 constructs, reproduces or repairs, prosthetic dentures,
12 bridges or other substitutes for natural teeth, to the user
13 or prospective user thereof; or

14 (10) Who instructs students on clinical matters or
15 performs any clinical operation included in the curricula
16 of recognized dental schools and colleges; or

17 (11) Who takes material or digital scans for final
18 impressions of human teeth or places his or her hands in
19 the mouth of any person for the purpose of applying teeth
20 whitening materials, or who takes impressions of human
21 teeth or places his or her hands in the mouth of any person
22 for the purpose of assisting in the application of teeth
23 whitening materials. A person does not practice dentistry
24 when he or she discloses to the consumer that he or she is
25 not licensed as a dentist under this Act and (i) discusses
26 the use of teeth whitening materials with a consumer

1 purchasing these materials; (ii) provides instruction on
2 the use of teeth whitening materials with a consumer
3 purchasing these materials; or (iii) provides appropriate
4 equipment on-site to the consumer for the consumer to
5 self-apply teeth whitening materials.

6 The fact that any person engages in or performs, or offers
7 to engage in or perform, any of the practices, acts, or
8 operations set forth in this Section, shall be prima facie
9 evidence that such person is engaged in the practice of
10 dentistry.

11 The following practices, acts, and operations, however,
12 are exempt from the operation of this Act:

13 (a) The rendering of dental relief in emergency cases
14 in the practice of his or her profession by a physician or
15 surgeon, licensed as such under the laws of this State,
16 unless he or she undertakes to reproduce or reproduces lost
17 parts of the human teeth in the mouth or to restore or
18 replace lost or missing teeth in the mouth; or

19 (b) The practice of dentistry in the discharge of their
20 official duties by dentists in any branch of the Armed
21 Services of the United States, the United States Public
22 Health Service, or the United States Veterans
23 Administration; or

24 (c) The practice of dentistry by students in their
25 course of study in dental schools or colleges approved by
26 the Department, when acting under the direction and

1 supervision of dentists acting as instructors; or

2 (d) The practice of dentistry by clinical instructors
3 in the course of their teaching duties in dental schools or
4 colleges approved by the Department:

5 (i) when acting under the direction and
6 supervision of dentists, provided that such clinical
7 instructors have instructed continuously in this State
8 since January 1, 1986; or

9 (ii) when holding the rank of full professor at
10 such approved dental school or college and possessing a
11 current valid license or authorization to practice
12 dentistry in another country; or

13 (e) The practice of dentistry by licensed dentists of
14 other states or countries at meetings of the Illinois State
15 Dental Society or component parts thereof, alumni meetings
16 of dental colleges, or any other like dental organizations,
17 while appearing as clinicians; or

18 (f) The use of X-Ray machines for exposing X-Ray films
19 of dental or oral tissues by dental hygienists or dental
20 assistants; or

21 (g) The performance of any dental service by a dental
22 assistant, if such service is performed under the
23 supervision and full responsibility of a dentist. In
24 addition, after being authorized by a dentist, a dental
25 assistant may, for the purpose of eliminating pain or
26 discomfort, remove loose, broken, or irritating

1 orthodontic appliances on a patient of record.

2 For purposes of this paragraph (g), "dental service" is
3 defined to mean any intraoral procedure or act which shall
4 be prescribed by rule or regulation of the Department.
5 Dental service, however, shall not include:

6 (1) Any and all diagnosis of or prescription for
7 treatment of disease, pain, deformity, deficiency,
8 injury or physical condition of the human teeth or
9 jaws, or adjacent structures.

10 (2) Removal of, or restoration of, or addition to
11 the hard or soft tissues of the oral cavity, except for
12 the placing, carving, and finishing of amalgam
13 restorations and placing, packing, and finishing
14 composite restorations by dental assistants who have
15 had additional formal education and certification ~~as~~
16 ~~determined by the Department.~~

17 A dental assistant may place, carve, and finish
18 amalgam restorations, place, pack, and finish
19 composite restorations, and place interim restorations
20 if he or she has at least 4,000 hours of direct
21 clinical patient care experience and has successfully
22 completed a structured training program provided by:
23 (A) an educational institution accredited by the
24 Commission on Dental Accreditation, such as a dental
25 school or dental hygiene or dental assistant program,
26 or (B) a statewide dental association, approved by the

1 Department to provide continuing education, that has
2 developed and conducted training programs for expanded
3 functions for dental assistants or hygienists. The
4 training program must: (i) include a minimum of 16
5 hours of didactic study and 14 hours of clinical
6 manikin instruction; all training programs shall
7 include areas of study in nomenclature, caries
8 classifications, oral anatomy, periodontium, basic
9 occlusion, instrumentations, pulp protection liners
10 and bases, dental materials, matrix and wedge
11 techniques, amalgam placement and carving, rubber dam
12 clamp placement, and rubber dam placement and removal;
13 (ii) include an outcome assessment examination that
14 demonstrates competency; (iii) require the supervising
15 dentist to observe and approve the completion of 8
16 amalgam or composite restorations; and (iv) issue a
17 certificate of completion of the training program,
18 which must be kept on file at the dental office and be
19 made available to the Department upon request. A dental
20 assistant must have successfully completed an approved
21 coronal polishing and dental sealant course prior to
22 taking the amalgam and composite restoration course.

23 A dentist utilizing dental assistants shall not
24 supervise more than 4 dental assistants at any one time
25 for placing, carving, and finishing of amalgam
26 restorations or for placing, packing, and finishing

1 composite restorations.

2 (3) Any and all correction of malformation of teeth
3 or of the jaws.

4 (4) Administration of anesthetics, except for
5 monitoring of nitrous oxide, conscious sedation, deep
6 sedation, and general anesthetic as provided in
7 Section 8.1 of this Act, that may be performed only
8 after successful completion of a training program
9 approved by the Department. A dentist utilizing dental
10 assistants shall not supervise more than 4 dental
11 assistants at any one time for the monitoring of
12 nitrous oxide.

13 (5) Removal of calculus from human teeth.

14 (6) Taking of material or digital scans for final
15 impressions for the fabrication of prosthetic
16 appliances, crowns, bridges, inlays, onlays, or other
17 restorative or replacement dentistry.

18 (7) The operative procedure of dental hygiene
19 consisting of oral prophylactic procedures, except for
20 coronal polishing and pit and fissure sealants, which
21 may be performed by a dental assistant who has
22 successfully completed a training program approved by
23 the Department. Dental assistants may perform coronal
24 polishing under the following circumstances: (i) the
25 coronal polishing shall be limited to polishing the
26 clinical crown of the tooth and existing restorations,

1 supragingivally; (ii) the dental assistant performing
2 the coronal polishing shall be limited to the use of
3 rotary instruments using a rubber cup or brush
4 polishing method (air polishing is not permitted); and
5 (iii) the supervising dentist shall not supervise more
6 than 4 dental assistants at any one time for the task
7 of coronal polishing or pit and fissure sealants.

8 In addition to coronal polishing and pit and
9 fissure sealants as described in this item (7), a
10 dental assistant who has at least 2,000 hours of direct
11 clinical patient care experience and who has
12 successfully completed a structured training program
13 provided by (1) an educational institution such as a
14 dental school or dental hygiene or dental assistant
15 program, or (2) by a statewide dental or dental
16 hygienist association, approved by the Department on
17 or before the effective date of this amendatory Act of
18 the 99th General Assembly, that has developed and
19 conducted a training program for expanded functions
20 for dental assistants or hygienists may perform: (A)
21 coronal scaling above the gum line, supragingivally,
22 on the clinical crown of the tooth only on patients 12
23 years of age or younger who have an absence of
24 periodontal disease and who are not medically
25 compromised or individuals with special needs and (B)
26 intracoronal temporization of a tooth. The training

1 program must: (I) include a minimum of 16 hours of
2 instruction in both didactic and clinical manikin or
3 human subject instruction; all training programs shall
4 include areas of study in dental anatomy, public health
5 dentistry, medical history, dental emergencies, and
6 managing the pediatric patient; (II) include an
7 outcome assessment examination that demonstrates
8 competency; (III) require the supervising dentist to
9 observe and approve the completion of 6 full mouth
10 supragingival scaling procedures; and (IV) issue a
11 certificate of completion of the training program,
12 which must be kept on file at the dental office and be
13 made available to the Department upon request. A dental
14 assistant must have successfully completed an approved
15 coronal polishing course prior to taking the coronal
16 scaling course. A dental assistant performing these
17 functions shall be limited to the use of hand
18 instruments only. In addition, coronal scaling as
19 described in this paragraph shall only be utilized on
20 patients who are eligible for Medicaid or who are
21 uninsured and whose household income is not greater
22 than 200% of the federal poverty level. A dentist may
23 not supervise more than 2 dental assistants at any one
24 time for the task of coronal scaling. This paragraph is
25 inoperative on and after January 1, 2021.

26 The limitations on the number of dental assistants a

1 dentist may supervise contained in items (2), (4), and (7)
2 of this paragraph (g) mean a limit of 4 total dental
3 assistants or dental hygienists doing expanded functions
4 covered by these Sections being supervised by one dentist.

5 (h) The practice of dentistry by an individual who:

6 (i) has applied in writing to the Department, in
7 form and substance satisfactory to the Department, for
8 a general dental license and has complied with all
9 provisions of Section 9 of this Act, except for the
10 passage of the examination specified in subsection (e)
11 of Section 9 of this Act; or

12 (ii) has applied in writing to the Department, in
13 form and substance satisfactory to the Department, for
14 a temporary dental license and has complied with all
15 provisions of subsection (c) of Section 11 of this Act;
16 and

17 (iii) has been accepted or appointed for specialty
18 or residency training by a hospital situated in this
19 State; or

20 (iv) has been accepted or appointed for specialty
21 training in an approved dental program situated in this
22 State; or

23 (v) has been accepted or appointed for specialty
24 training in a dental public health agency situated in
25 this State.

26 The applicant shall be permitted to practice dentistry

1 for a period of 3 months from the starting date of the
2 program, unless authorized in writing by the Department to
3 continue such practice for a period specified in writing by
4 the Department.

5 The applicant shall only be entitled to perform such
6 acts as may be prescribed by and incidental to his or her
7 program of residency or specialty training and shall not
8 otherwise engage in the practice of dentistry in this
9 State.

10 The authority to practice shall terminate immediately
11 upon:

12 (1) the decision of the Department that the
13 applicant has failed the examination; or

14 (2) denial of licensure by the Department; or

15 (3) withdrawal of the application.

16 (Source: P.A. 99-492, eff. 12-31-15; 99-680, eff. 1-1-17;
17 100-215, eff. 1-1-18.)

18 (225 ILCS 25/17.1)

19 (Section scheduled to be repealed on January 1, 2026)

20 Sec. 17.1. Expanded function dental assistants.

21 (a) A dental assistant who has completed training as
22 provided in subsection (b) of this Section in all of the
23 following areas may hold himself or herself out as an expanded
24 function dental assistant:

25 (1) Taking material or digital scans for final

1 impressions after completing a training program that
2 includes either didactic objectives or clinical skills and
3 functions that demonstrate competency.

4 (2) Performing pulp vitality test after completing a
5 training program that includes either didactic objectives
6 or clinical skills and functions that demonstrate
7 competency.

8 (3) Placing, carving, and finishing of amalgam
9 restorations and placing, packing, and finishing composite
10 restorations as allowed under Section 17.

11 (4) Starting the flow of oxygen and monitoring of
12 nitrous oxide-oxygen analgesia as allowed under Section
13 17.

14 (5) Coronal polishing and pit and fissure sealants, as
15 ~~currently~~ allowed under Section 17 ~~by law.~~

16 All procedures listed in paragraphs (1) through (5) for
17 dental assistants must be performed under the supervision of a
18 dentist, requiring the dentist authorizes the procedure,
19 remains in the dental facility while the procedure is
20 performed, and approves the work performed by the dental
21 assistant before dismissal of the patient, but the dentist is
22 not required to be present at all times in the treatment room.

23 After the completion of training as provided in subsection
24 (b) of this Section, an expanded function dental assistant may
25 perform any of the services listed in this subsection (a)
26 pursuant to the limitations of this Act.

1 (b) Certification and training as an expanded function
2 dental assistant must be obtained from one of the following
3 sources: (i) an approved continuing education sponsor; (ii) a
4 dental assistant training program approved by the Commission on
5 Dental Accreditation of the American Dental Association; or
6 (iii) a training program approved by the Department.

7 Training required under this subsection (b) must also
8 include Basic Life Support certification, as described in
9 Section 16 of this Act. Proof of current certification shall be
10 kept on file with the supervising dentist.

11 (c) Any procedures listed in subsection (a) that are
12 performed by an expanded function dental assistant must be
13 approved by the supervising dentist and examined prior to
14 dismissal of the patient. The supervising dentist shall be
15 responsible for all dental services or procedures performed by
16 the dental assistant.

17 (d) Nothing in this Section shall be construed to alter the
18 number of dental assistants that a dentist may supervise under
19 paragraph (g) of Section 17 of this Act.

20 (e) Nothing in this Act shall: (1) require a dental
21 assistant to be certified as an expanded function dental
22 assistant or (2) prevent a dentist from training dental
23 assistants in accordance with the provisions of Section 17 of
24 this Act or rules pertaining to dental assistant duties.

25 (Source: P.A. 100-215, eff. 1-1-18.)

1 (225 ILCS 25/18) (from Ch. 111, par. 2318)

2 (Section scheduled to be repealed on January 1, 2026)

3 Sec. 18. Acts constituting the practice of dental hygiene;
4 limitations.

5 (a) A person practices dental hygiene within the meaning of
6 this Act when he or she performs the following acts under the
7 supervision of a dentist:

8 (i) the operative procedure of dental hygiene,
9 consisting of oral prophylactic procedures;

10 (ii) the exposure and processing of X-Ray films of
11 the teeth and surrounding structures;

12 (iii) the application to the surfaces of the teeth
13 or gums of chemical compounds designed to be
14 desensitizing agents or effective agents in the
15 prevention of dental caries or periodontal disease;

16 (iv) all services which may be performed by a
17 dental assistant as specified by rule pursuant to
18 Section 17, and a dental hygienist may engage in the
19 placing, carving, and finishing of amalgam
20 restorations only after obtaining formal education and
21 certification as determined by the Department;

22 (v) administration and monitoring of nitrous oxide
23 upon successful completion of a training program
24 approved by the Department;

25 (vi) administration of local anesthetics upon
26 successful completion of a training program approved

1 by the Department; and

2 (vii) such other procedures and acts as shall be
3 prescribed by rule or regulation of the Department.

4 (b) A dental hygienist may be employed or engaged only:

5 (1) by a dentist;

6 (2) by a federal, State, county, or municipal agency or
7 institution;

8 (3) by a public or private school; or

9 (4) by a public clinic operating under the direction of
10 a hospital or federal, State, county, municipal, or other
11 public agency or institution.

12 (c) When employed or engaged in the office of a dentist, a
13 dental hygienist may perform, under general supervision, those
14 procedures found in items (i) through (iv) of subsection (a) of
15 this Section, provided the patient has been examined by the
16 dentist within one year of the provision of dental hygiene
17 services, the dentist has approved the dental hygiene services
18 by a notation in the patient's record and the patient has been
19 notified that the dentist may be out of the office during the
20 provision of dental hygiene services.

21 (d) If a patient of record is unable to travel to a dental
22 office because of illness, infirmity, or imprisonment, a dental
23 hygienist may perform, under the general supervision of a
24 dentist, those procedures found in items (i) through (iv) of
25 subsection (a) of this Section, provided the patient is located
26 in a long-term care facility licensed by the State of Illinois,

1 a mental health or developmental disability facility, or a
2 State or federal prison. The dentist shall personally examine
3 and diagnose the patient and determine which services are
4 necessary to be performed, which shall be contained in an order
5 to the hygienist and a notation in the patient's record. Such
6 order must be implemented within 120 days of its issuance, and
7 an updated medical history and observation of oral conditions
8 must be performed by the hygienist immediately prior to
9 beginning the procedures to ensure that the patient's health
10 has not changed in any manner to warrant a reexamination by the
11 dentist.

12 (e) School-based oral health care, consisting of and
13 limited to oral prophylactic procedures, sealants, and
14 fluoride treatments, may be provided by a dental hygienist
15 under the general supervision of a dentist. A dental hygienist
16 may not provide other dental hygiene treatment in a
17 school-based setting, including but not limited to
18 administration or monitoring of nitrous oxide or
19 administration of local anesthetics. The school-based
20 procedures may be performed provided the patient is located at
21 a public or private school and the program is being conducted
22 by a State, county or local public health department initiative
23 or in conjunction with a dental school or dental hygiene
24 program. The dentist shall personally examine and diagnose the
25 patient and determine which services are necessary to be
26 performed, which shall be contained in an order to the

1 hygienist and a notation in the patient's record. Any such
2 order for sealants must be implemented within 120 days after
3 its issuance. Any such order for oral prophylactic procedures
4 or fluoride treatments must be implemented within 180 days
5 after its issuance. An updated medical history and observation
6 of oral conditions must be performed by the hygienist
7 immediately prior to beginning the procedures to ensure that
8 the patient's health has not changed in any manner to warrant a
9 reexamination by the dentist.

10 (f) Without the supervision of a dentist, a dental
11 hygienist may perform dental health education functions and may
12 record case histories and oral conditions observed.

13 (g) The number of dental hygienists practicing in a dental
14 office shall not exceed, at any one time, 4 times the number of
15 dentists practicing in the office at the time.

16 (h) A dental hygienist who is certified as a public health
17 dental hygienist may provide services to patients: (1) who are
18 eligible for Medicaid or (2) who are uninsured and whose
19 household income is not greater than 200% of the federal
20 poverty level. A public health dental hygienist may perform
21 oral assessments, perform screenings, and provide educational
22 and preventative services as provided in subsection (b) of
23 Section 18.1 of this Act. The public health dental hygienist
24 may not administer local anesthesia or nitrous oxide, or place,
25 carve, or finish amalgam restorations or provide periodontal
26 therapy under this exception. Each patient must sign a consent

1 form that acknowledges that the care received does not take the
2 place of a regular dental examination. The public health dental
3 hygienist must provide the patient or guardian a written
4 referral to a dentist for assessment of the need for further
5 dental care at the time of treatment. Any indication or
6 observation of a condition that could warrant the need for
7 urgent attention must be reported immediately to the
8 supervising dentist for appropriate assessment and treatment.

9 This subsection (h) is inoperative on and after January 1,
10 2021.

11 (i) A dental hygienist performing procedures listed in
12 paragraphs (1) through (4) of subsection (a) of Section 17.1
13 must be under the supervision of a dentist, requiring the
14 dentist authorizes the procedure, remains in the dental
15 facility while the procedure is performed, and approves the
16 work performed by the dental hygienist before dismissal of the
17 patient, but the dentist is not required to be present at all
18 times in the treatment room.

19 (j) A dental hygienist may perform actions described in
20 paragraph (5) of subsection (a) of Section 17.1 under the
21 general supervision of a dentist as described in this Section.

22 (Source: P.A. 99-492, eff. 12-31-15.)