

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 4, 17, 18, and 18.1 as follows:

6 (225 ILCS 25/4) (from Ch. 111, par. 2304)

7 (Section scheduled to be repealed on January 1, 2026)

8 Sec. 4. Definitions. As used in this Act:

9 "Address of record" means the designated address recorded  
10 by the Department in the applicant's or licensee's application  
11 file or license file as maintained by the Department's  
12 licensure maintenance unit. It is the duty of the applicant or  
13 licensee to inform the Department of any change of address and  
14 those changes must be made either through the Department's  
15 website or by contacting the Department.

16 "Department" means the Department of Financial and  
17 Professional Regulation.

18 "Secretary" means the Secretary of Financial and  
19 Professional Regulation.

20 "Board" means the Board of Dentistry.

21 "Dentist" means a person who has received a general  
22 license pursuant to paragraph (a) of Section 11 of this Act and  
23 who may perform any intraoral and extraoral procedure required

1 in the practice of dentistry and to whom is reserved the  
2 responsibilities specified in Section 17.

3 "Dental hygienist" means a person who holds a license  
4 under this Act to perform dental services as authorized by  
5 Section 18.

6 "Dental assistant" means an appropriately trained person  
7 who, under the supervision of a dentist, provides dental  
8 services as authorized by Section 17.

9 "Expanded function dental assistant" means a dental  
10 assistant who has completed the training required by Section  
11 17.1 of this Act.

12 "Dental laboratory" means a person, firm or corporation  
13 which:

14 (i) engages in making, providing, repairing or  
15 altering dental prosthetic appliances and other artificial  
16 materials and devices which are returned to a dentist for  
17 insertion into the human oral cavity or which come in  
18 contact with its adjacent structures and tissues; and

19 (ii) utilizes or employs a dental technician to  
20 provide such services; and

21 (iii) performs such functions only for a dentist or  
22 dentists.

23 "Supervision" means supervision of a dental hygienist or a  
24 dental assistant requiring that a dentist authorize the  
25 procedure, remain in the dental facility while the procedure  
26 is performed, and approve the work performed by the dental

1     hygienist or dental assistant before dismissal of the patient,  
2     but does not mean that the dentist must be present at all times  
3     in the treatment room.

4             "General supervision" means supervision of a dental  
5     hygienist requiring that the patient be a patient of record,  
6     that the dentist examine the patient in accordance with  
7     Section 18 prior to treatment by the dental hygienist, and  
8     that the dentist authorize the procedures which are being  
9     carried out by a notation in the patient's record, but not  
10    requiring that a dentist be present when the authorized  
11    procedures are being performed. The issuance of a prescription  
12    to a dental laboratory by a dentist does not constitute  
13    general supervision.

14            "Public member" means a person who is not a health  
15    professional. For purposes of board membership, any person  
16    with a significant financial interest in a health service or  
17    profession is not a public member.

18            "Dentistry" means the healing art which is concerned with  
19    the examination, diagnosis, treatment planning and care of  
20    conditions within the human oral cavity and its adjacent  
21    tissues and structures, as further specified in Section 17.

22            "Branches of dentistry" means the various specialties of  
23    dentistry which, for purposes of this Act, shall be limited to  
24    the following: endodontics, oral and maxillofacial surgery,  
25    orthodontics and dentofacial orthopedics, pediatric dentistry,  
26    periodontics, prosthodontics, oral and maxillofacial

1 radiology, and dental anesthesiology.

2 "Specialist" means a dentist who has received a specialty  
3 license pursuant to Section 11(b).

4 "Dental technician" means a person who owns, operates or  
5 is employed by a dental laboratory and engages in making,  
6 providing, repairing or altering dental prosthetic appliances  
7 and other artificial materials and devices which are returned  
8 to a dentist for insertion into the human oral cavity or which  
9 come in contact with its adjacent structures and tissues.

10 "Impaired dentist" or "impaired dental hygienist" means a  
11 dentist or dental hygienist who is unable to practice with  
12 reasonable skill and safety because of a physical or mental  
13 disability as evidenced by a written determination or written  
14 consent based on clinical evidence, including deterioration  
15 through the aging process, loss of motor skills, abuse of  
16 drugs or alcohol, or a psychiatric disorder, of sufficient  
17 degree to diminish the person's ability to deliver competent  
18 patient care.

19 "Nurse" means a registered professional nurse, a certified  
20 registered nurse anesthetist licensed as an advanced practice  
21 registered nurse, or a licensed practical nurse licensed under  
22 the Nurse Practice Act.

23 "Patient of record" means a patient for whom the patient's  
24 most recent dentist has obtained a relevant medical and dental  
25 history and on whom the dentist has performed an examination  
26 and evaluated the condition to be treated.

1 "Dental responder" means a dentist or dental hygienist who  
2 is appropriately certified in disaster preparedness,  
3 immunizations, and dental humanitarian medical response  
4 consistent with the Society of Disaster Medicine and Public  
5 Health and training certified by the National Incident  
6 Management System or the National Disaster Life Support  
7 Foundation.

8 "Mobile dental van or portable dental unit" means any  
9 self-contained or portable dental unit in which dentistry is  
10 practiced that can be moved, towed, or transported from one  
11 location to another in order to establish a location where  
12 dental services can be provided.

13 "Public health dental hygienist" means a hygienist who  
14 holds a valid license to practice in the State, has 2 years of  
15 full-time clinical experience or an equivalent of 4,000 hours  
16 of clinical experience and has completed at least 42 clock  
17 hours of additional structured courses in dental education in  
18 advanced areas specific to public health dentistry.

19 "Public health setting" means a federally qualified health  
20 center; a federal, State, or local public health facility;  
21 Head Start; a special supplemental nutrition program for  
22 Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) facility; a certified  
23 school-based health center or school-based oral health  
24 program; a prison; or a long-term care facility.

25 "Public health supervision" means the supervision of a  
26 public health dental hygienist by a licensed dentist who has a

1 written public health supervision agreement with that public  
2 health dental hygienist while working in an approved facility  
3 or program that allows the public health dental hygienist to  
4 treat patients, without a dentist first examining the patient  
5 and being present in the facility during treatment, (1) who  
6 are eligible for Medicaid or (2) who are uninsured or ~~and~~ whose  
7 household income is not greater than 300% ~~200%~~ of the federal  
8 poverty level.

9 "Teledentistry" means the use of telehealth systems and  
10 methodologies in dentistry and includes patient care and  
11 education delivery using synchronous and asynchronous  
12 communications under a dentist's authority as provided under  
13 this Act.

14 (Source: P.A. 101-64, eff. 7-12-19; 101-162, eff. 7-26-19;  
15 102-93, eff. 1-1-22; 102-588, eff. 8-20-21; 102-936, eff.  
16 1-1-23.)

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

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

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

21 (1) Who represents himself or herself as being able to  
22 diagnose or diagnoses, treats, prescribes, or operates for  
23 any disease, pain, deformity, deficiency, injury, or  
24 physical condition of the human tooth, teeth, alveolar  
25 process, gums or jaw; or

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

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

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

7           (5) Who extracts a human tooth or teeth, or corrects  
8 or attempts to correct malpositions of the human teeth or  
9 jaws; or

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

13          (7) Who uses or administers local or general  
14 anesthetics in the treatment of dental or oral diseases or  
15 in any preparation incident to a dental operation of any  
16 kind or character; or

17          (8) Who takes material or digital scans for final  
18 impressions of the human tooth, teeth, or jaws or performs  
19 any phase of any operation incident to the replacement of  
20 a part of a tooth, a tooth, teeth or associated tissues by  
21 means of a filling, crown, a bridge, a denture or other  
22 appliance; or

23          (9) Who offers to furnish, supply, construct,  
24 reproduce or repair, or who furnishes, supplies,  
25 constructs, reproduces or repairs, prosthetic dentures,  
26 bridges or other substitutes for natural teeth, to the

1 user or prospective user thereof; or

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

5 (11) Who takes material or digital scans for final  
6 impressions of human teeth or places his or her hands in  
7 the mouth of any person for the purpose of applying teeth  
8 whitening materials, or who takes impressions of human  
9 teeth or places his or her hands in the mouth of any person  
10 for the purpose of assisting in the application of teeth  
11 whitening materials. A person does not practice dentistry  
12 when he or she discloses to the consumer that he or she is  
13 not licensed as a dentist under this Act and (i) discusses  
14 the use of teeth whitening materials with a consumer  
15 purchasing these materials; (ii) provides instruction on  
16 the use of teeth whitening materials with a consumer  
17 purchasing these materials; or (iii) provides appropriate  
18 equipment on-site to the consumer for the consumer to  
19 self-apply teeth whitening materials.

20 The fact that any person engages in or performs, or offers  
21 to engage in or perform, any of the practices, acts, or  
22 operations set forth in this Section, shall be prima facie  
23 evidence that such person is engaged in the practice of  
24 dentistry.

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



1           (a) The rendering of dental relief in emergency cases  
2           in the practice of his or her profession by a physician or  
3           surgeon, licensed as such under the laws of this State,  
4           unless he or she undertakes to reproduce or reproduces  
5           lost parts of the human teeth in the mouth or to restore or  
6           replace lost or missing teeth in the mouth; or

7           (b) The practice of dentistry in the discharge of  
8           their official duties by dentists in any branch of the  
9           Armed Services of the United States, the United States  
10          Public Health Service, or the United States Veterans  
11          Administration; or

12          (c) The practice of dentistry by students in their  
13          course of study in dental schools or colleges approved by  
14          the Department, when acting under the direction and  
15          supervision of dentists acting as instructors; or

16          (d) The practice of dentistry by clinical instructors  
17          in the course of their teaching duties in dental schools  
18          or colleges approved by the Department:

19               (i) when acting under the direction and  
20               supervision of dentists, provided that such clinical  
21               instructors have instructed continuously in this State  
22               since January 1, 1986; or

23               (ii) when holding the rank of full professor at  
24               such approved dental school or college and possessing  
25               a current valid license or authorization to practice  
26               dentistry in another country; or

1           (e) The practice of dentistry by licensed dentists of  
2 other states or countries at meetings of the Illinois  
3 State Dental Society or component parts thereof, alumni  
4 meetings of dental colleges, or any other like dental  
5 organizations, while appearing as clinicians; or

6           (f) The use of X-Ray machines for exposing X-Ray films  
7 of dental or oral tissues by dental hygienists or dental  
8 assistants; or

9           (g) The performance of any dental service by a dental  
10 assistant, if such service is performed under the  
11 supervision and full responsibility of a dentist. In  
12 addition, after being authorized by a dentist, a dental  
13 assistant may, for the purpose of eliminating pain or  
14 discomfort, remove loose, broken, or irritating  
15 orthodontic appliances on a patient of record.

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

20           (1) Any and all diagnosis of or prescription for  
21 treatment of disease, pain, deformity, deficiency,  
22 injury or physical condition of the human teeth or  
23 jaws, or adjacent structures.

24           (2) Removal of, or restoration of, or addition to  
25 the hard or soft tissues of the oral cavity, except for  
26 the placing, carving, and finishing of amalgam

1 restorations and placing, packing, and finishing  
2 composite restorations by dental assistants who have  
3 had additional formal education and certification.

4 A dental assistant may place, carve, and finish  
5 amalgam restorations, place, pack, and finish  
6 composite restorations, and place interim restorations  
7 if he or she (A) has successfully completed a  
8 structured training program as described in item (2)  
9 of subsection (g) provided by an educational  
10 institution accredited by the Commission on Dental  
11 Accreditation, such as a dental school or dental  
12 hygiene or dental assistant program, or (B) has at  
13 least 4,000 hours of direct clinical patient care  
14 experience and has successfully completed a structured  
15 training program as described in item (2) of  
16 subsection (g) provided by a statewide dental  
17 association, approved by the Department to provide  
18 continuing education, that has developed and conducted  
19 training programs for expanded functions for dental  
20 assistants or hygienists. The training program must:  
21 (i) include a minimum of 16 hours of didactic study and  
22 14 hours of clinical manikin instruction; all training  
23 programs shall include areas of study in nomenclature,  
24 caries classifications, oral anatomy, periodontium,  
25 basic occlusion, instrumentations, pulp protection  
26 liners and bases, dental materials, matrix and wedge

1 techniques, amalgam placement and carving, rubber dam  
2 clamp placement, and rubber dam placement and removal;  
3 (ii) include an outcome assessment examination that  
4 demonstrates competency; (iii) require the supervising  
5 dentist to observe and approve the completion of 8  
6 amalgam or composite restorations; and (iv) issue a  
7 certificate of completion of the training program,  
8 which must be kept on file at the dental office and be  
9 made available to the Department upon request. A  
10 dental assistant must have successfully completed an  
11 approved coronal polishing and dental sealant course  
12 prior to taking the amalgam and composite restoration  
13 course.

14 A dentist utilizing dental assistants shall not  
15 supervise more than 4 dental assistants at any one  
16 time for placing, carving, and finishing of amalgam  
17 restorations or for placing, packing, and finishing  
18 composite restorations.

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

21 (4) Administration of anesthetics, except for  
22 monitoring of nitrous oxide, conscious sedation, deep  
23 sedation, and general anesthetic as provided in  
24 Section 8.1 of this Act, that may be performed only  
25 after successful completion of a training program  
26 approved by the Department. A dentist utilizing dental

1 assistants shall not supervise more than 4 dental  
2 assistants at any one time for the monitoring of  
3 nitrous oxide.

4 (5) Removal of calculus from human teeth.

5 (6) Taking of material or digital scans for final  
6 impressions for the fabrication of prosthetic  
7 appliances, crowns, bridges, inlays, onlays, or other  
8 restorative or replacement dentistry.

9 (7) The operative procedure of dental hygiene  
10 consisting of oral prophylactic procedures, except for  
11 coronal polishing and pit and fissure sealants, which  
12 may be performed by a dental assistant who has  
13 successfully completed a training program approved by  
14 the Department. Dental assistants may perform coronal  
15 polishing under the following circumstances: (i) the  
16 coronal polishing shall be limited to polishing the  
17 clinical crown of the tooth and existing restorations,  
18 supragingivally; (ii) the dental assistant performing  
19 the coronal polishing shall be limited to the use of  
20 rotary instruments using a rubber cup or brush  
21 polishing method (air polishing is not permitted); and  
22 (iii) the supervising dentist shall not supervise more  
23 than 4 dental assistants at any one time for the task  
24 of coronal polishing or pit and fissure sealants.

25 In addition to coronal polishing and pit and  
26 fissure sealants as described in this item (7), a

1 dental assistant who has at least 2,000 hours of  
2 direct clinical patient care experience and who has  
3 successfully completed a structured training program  
4 provided by (1) an educational institution including,  
5 but not limited to, a dental school or dental hygiene  
6 or dental assistant program, ~~or~~ (2) a continuing  
7 education provider approved by the Department, or (3)  
8 a statewide dental or dental hygienist association,  
9 approved by the Department ~~on or before January 1,~~  
10 ~~2017 (the effective date of Public Act 99-680),~~ that  
11 has developed and conducted a training program for  
12 expanded functions for dental assistants or hygienists  
13 may perform: (A) coronal scaling above the gum line,  
14 supragingivally, on the clinical crown of the tooth  
15 only on patients 17 years of age or younger who have an  
16 absence of periodontal disease and who are not  
17 medically compromised or individuals with special  
18 needs and (B) intracoronal temporization of a tooth.  
19 The training program must: (I) include a minimum of 32  
20 hours of instruction in both didactic and clinical  
21 manikin or human subject instruction; all training  
22 programs shall include areas of study in dental  
23 anatomy, public health dentistry, medical history,  
24 dental emergencies, and managing the pediatric  
25 patient; (II) include an outcome assessment  
26 examination that demonstrates competency; (III)

1           require the supervising dentist to observe and approve  
2           the completion of 6 full mouth supragingival scaling  
3           procedures unless the training was received as part of  
4           a Commission on Dental Accreditation approved dental  
5           assistant program; and (IV) issue a certificate of  
6           completion of the training program, which must be kept  
7           on file at the dental office and be made available to  
8           the Department upon request. A dental assistant must  
9           have successfully completed an approved coronal  
10          polishing course prior to taking the coronal scaling  
11          course. A dental assistant performing these functions  
12          shall be limited to the use of hand instruments only.  
13          In addition, coronal scaling as described in this  
14          paragraph shall only be utilized on patients who are  
15          eligible for Medicaid, who are uninsured, or whose  
16          household income is not greater than 300% of the  
17          federal poverty level. A dentist may not supervise  
18          more than 2 dental assistants at any one time for the  
19          task of coronal scaling. This paragraph is inoperative  
20          on and after January 1, 2026.

21          The limitations on the number of dental assistants a  
22          dentist may supervise contained in items (2), (4), and (7)  
23          of this paragraph (g) mean a limit of 4 total dental  
24          assistants or dental hygienists doing expanded functions  
25          covered by these Sections being supervised by one dentist;  
26          or

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

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

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

13 (iii) has been accepted or appointed for specialty  
14 or residency training by a hospital situated in this  
15 State; or

16 (iv) has been accepted or appointed for specialty  
17 training in an approved dental program situated in  
18 this State; or

19 (v) has been accepted or appointed for specialty  
20 training in a dental public health agency situated in  
21 this State.

22 The applicant shall be permitted to practice dentistry  
23 for a period of 3 months from the starting date of the  
24 program, unless authorized in writing by the Department to  
25 continue such practice for a period specified in writing  
26 by the Department.



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

6           The authority to practice shall terminate immediately  
7           upon:

8                   (1) the decision of the Department that the  
9                   applicant has failed the examination; or

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

11                   (3) withdrawal of the application.

12           (Source: P.A. 101-162, eff. 7-26-19; 102-558, eff. 8-20-21;  
13           102-936, eff. 1-1-23.)

14           (225 ILCS 25/18) (from Ch. 111, par. 2318)

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

16           Sec. 18. Acts constituting the practice of dental hygiene;  
17           limitations.

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

21                   (i) the operative procedure of dental hygiene,  
22                   consisting of oral prophylactic procedures;

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

25                   (iii) the application to the surfaces of the teeth or

1 gums of chemical compounds designed to be desensitizing  
2 agents or effective agents in the prevention of dental  
3 caries or periodontal disease;

4 (iv) all services which may be performed by a dental  
5 assistant as specified by rule pursuant to Section 17, and  
6 a dental hygienist may engage in the placing, carving, and  
7 finishing of amalgam restorations only after obtaining  
8 formal education and certification as determined by the  
9 Department;

10 (v) administration and monitoring of nitrous oxide  
11 upon successful completion of a training program approved  
12 by the Department;

13 (vi) administration of local anesthetics upon  
14 successful completion of a training program approved by  
15 the Department; and

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

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

19 (1) by a dentist;

20 (2) by a federal, State, county, or municipal agency  
21 or institution;

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

23 (4) by a public clinic operating under the direction  
24 of a hospital or federal, State, county, municipal, or  
25 other public agency or institution.

26 (c) When employed or engaged in the office of a dentist, a

1 dental hygienist may perform, under general supervision, those  
2 procedures found in items (i) through (iv) of subsection (a)  
3 of this Section, provided the patient has been examined by the  
4 dentist within one year of the provision of dental hygiene  
5 services, the dentist has approved the dental hygiene services  
6 by a notation in the patient's record and the patient has been  
7 notified that the dentist may be out of the office during the  
8 provision of dental hygiene services.

9 (d) If a patient of record is unable to travel to a dental  
10 office because of illness, infirmity, or imprisonment, a  
11 dental hygienist may perform, under the general supervision of  
12 a dentist, those procedures found in items (i) through (iv) of  
13 subsection (a) of this Section, provided the patient is  
14 located in a long-term care facility licensed by the State of  
15 Illinois, a mental health or developmental disability  
16 facility, or a State or federal prison. The dentist shall  
17 either personally examine and diagnose the patient or utilize  
18 approved teledentistry communication methods and determine  
19 which services are necessary to be performed, which shall be  
20 contained in an order to the hygienist and a notation in the  
21 patient's record. Such order must be implemented within 45  
22 days of its issuance, and an updated medical history and  
23 observation of oral conditions must be performed by the  
24 hygienist immediately prior to beginning the procedures to  
25 ensure that the patient's health has not changed in any manner  
26 to warrant a reexamination by the dentist.

1 (e) School-based oral health care, consisting of and  
2 limited to oral prophylactic procedures, sealants, and  
3 fluoride treatments, may be provided by a dental hygienist  
4 under the general supervision of a dentist. A dental hygienist  
5 may not provide other dental hygiene treatment in a  
6 school-based setting, including but not limited to  
7 administration or monitoring of nitrous oxide or  
8 administration of local anesthetics. The school-based  
9 procedures may be performed provided the patient is located at  
10 a public or private school and the program is being conducted  
11 by a State, county or local public health department  
12 initiative or in conjunction with a dental school or dental  
13 hygiene program. The dentist shall personally examine and  
14 diagnose the patient and determine which services are  
15 necessary to be performed, which shall be contained in an  
16 order to the hygienist and a notation in the patient's record.  
17 Any such order for sealants must be implemented within 120  
18 days after its issuance. Any such order for oral prophylactic  
19 procedures or fluoride treatments must be implemented within  
20 180 days after its issuance. An updated medical history and  
21 observation of oral conditions must be performed by the  
22 hygienist immediately prior to beginning the procedures to  
23 ensure that the patient's health has not changed in any manner  
24 to warrant a reexamination by the dentist.

25 (f) Without the supervision of a dentist, a dental  
26 hygienist may perform dental health education functions,

1 including instruction in proper oral health care and dental  
2 hygiene in, for example, either a school setting, a ~~or~~  
3 long-term care facility, and a health fair. In addition, a  
4 dental hygienist may record case ~~care~~ histories and oral  
5 conditions observed at any time prior to a clinical exam by a  
6 dentist.

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

10 (h) A dental hygienist who is certified as a public health  
11 dental hygienist may provide services to patients: (1) who are  
12 eligible for Medicaid or (2) who are uninsured and whose  
13 household income is not greater than 300% of the federal  
14 poverty level. A public health dental hygienist may perform  
15 oral assessments, perform screenings, and provide educational  
16 and preventative services as provided in subsection (b) of  
17 Section 18.1 of this Act. The public health dental hygienist  
18 may not administer local anesthesia or nitrous oxide, or  
19 place, carve, or finish amalgam restorations or provide  
20 periodontal therapy under this exception. Each patient must  
21 sign a consent form that acknowledges that the care received  
22 does not take the place of a regular dental examination. The  
23 public health dental hygienist must provide the patient or  
24 guardian a written referral to a dentist for assessment of the  
25 need for further dental care at the time of treatment. Any  
26 indication or observation of a condition that could warrant

1 the need for urgent attention must be reported immediately to  
2 the supervising dentist for appropriate assessment and  
3 treatment.

4 This subsection (h) is inoperative on and after January 1,  
5 2026.

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

14 (j) A dental hygienist may perform actions described in  
15 paragraph (5) of subsection (a) of Section 17.1 under the  
16 general supervision of a dentist as described in this Section.  
17 (Source: P.A. 101-162, eff. 7-26-19; 102-936, eff. 1-1-23.)

18 (225 ILCS 25/18.1)

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

20 Sec. 18.1. Public health dental supervision  
21 responsibilities.

22 (a) When working together in a public health supervision  
23 relationship, dentists and public health dental hygienists  
24 shall enter into a public health supervision agreement. The  
25 dentist providing public health supervision must:

1           (1) be available to provide an appropriate level of  
2           contact, communication, collaboration, and consultation  
3           with the public health dental hygienist and must meet  
4           in-person with the public health dental hygienist at least  
5           quarterly for review and consultation;

6           (2) have specific standing orders or policy guidelines  
7           for procedures that are to be carried out for each  
8           location or program, although the dentist need not be  
9           present when the procedures are being performed;

10          (3) provide for the patient's additional necessary  
11          care in consultation with the public health dental  
12          hygienist;

13          (4) file agreements and notifications as required; and

14          (5) include procedures for creating and maintaining  
15          dental records, including protocols for transmission of  
16          all records between the public health dental hygienist and  
17          the dentist following each treatment, which shall include  
18          a notation regarding procedures authorized by the dentist  
19          and performed by the public health dental hygienist and  
20          the location where those records are to be kept.

21          Each dentist and hygienist who enters into a public health  
22          supervision agreement must document and maintain a copy of any  
23          change or termination of that agreement.

24          Dental records shall be owned and maintained by the  
25          supervising dentist for all patients treated under public  
26          health supervision, unless the supervising dentist is an

1 employee of a public health clinic or federally qualified  
2 health center, in which case the public health clinic or  
3 federally qualified health center shall maintain the records.

4 If a dentist ceases to be employed or contracted by the  
5 facility, the dentist shall notify the facility administrator  
6 that the public health supervision agreement is no longer in  
7 effect. A new public health supervision agreement is required  
8 for the public health dental hygienist to continue treating  
9 patients under public health supervision.

10 A dentist entering into an agreement under this Section  
11 may supervise and enter into agreements for public health  
12 supervision with 4 ~~2~~ public health dental hygienists. This  
13 shall be in addition to the limit of 4 dental hygienists per  
14 dentist set forth in subsection (g) of Section 18 of this Act.

15 (b) A public health dental hygienist providing services  
16 under public health supervision may perform only those duties  
17 within the accepted scope of practice of dental hygiene, as  
18 follows:

19 (1) the operative procedures of dental hygiene,  
20 consisting of oral prophylactic procedures, including  
21 prophylactic cleanings, application of fluoride, and  
22 placement of sealants;

23 (2) the exposure and processing of x-ray films of the  
24 teeth and surrounding structures; and

25 (3) such other procedures and acts as shall be  
26 prescribed by rule of the Department.



1 Any patient treated under this subsection (b) must be  
2 examined by a dentist before additional services can be  
3 provided by a public health dental hygienist. However, if the  
4 supervising dentist, after consultation with the public health  
5 hygienist, determines that time is needed to complete an  
6 approved treatment plan on a patient eligible under this  
7 Section, then the dentist may instruct the hygienist to  
8 complete the remaining services prior to an oral examination  
9 by the dentist. Such instruction by the dentist to the  
10 hygienist shall be noted in the patient's records. Any  
11 services performed under this exception must be scheduled in a  
12 timely manner and shall not occur more than 30 days after the  
13 first appointment date.

14 (c) A public health dental hygienist providing services  
15 under public health supervision must:

16 (1) provide to the patient, parent, or guardian a  
17 written plan for referral or an agreement for follow-up  
18 that records all conditions observed that should be called  
19 to the attention of a dentist for proper diagnosis;

20 (2) have each patient sign a permission slip or  
21 consent form that informs them that the service to be  
22 received does not take the place of regular dental  
23 checkups at a dental office and is meant for people who  
24 otherwise would not have access to the service;

25 (3) inform each patient who may require further dental  
26 services of that need;

1           (4) maintain an appropriate level of contact and  
2           communication with the dentist providing public health  
3           supervision; and

4           (5) complete an additional 4 hours of continuing  
5           education in areas specific to public health dentistry  
6           yearly.

7           (d) Each public health dental hygienist who has rendered  
8           services under subsections (c), (d), and (e) of this Section  
9           must complete a summary report at the completion of a program  
10          or, in the case of an ongoing program, at least annually. The  
11          report must be completed in the manner specified by ~~the~~  
12          ~~Division of Oral Health in~~ the Department of Public Health  
13          Oral Health Section including information about each location  
14          where the public health dental hygienist has rendered these  
15          services. The public health dental hygienist must submit the  
16          form to the dentist providing supervision for his or her  
17          signature before sending it to the Division. The Department of  
18          Public Health Oral Health Section shall compile and publicize  
19          public health dental hygienist service data annually.

20          (e) Public health dental hygienists providing services  
21          under public health supervision may be compensated for their  
22          work by salary, honoraria, and other mechanisms by the  
23          employing or sponsoring entity. Nothing in this Act shall  
24          preclude the entity that employs or sponsors a public health  
25          dental hygienist from seeking payment, reimbursement, or other  
26          source of funding for the services provided.

1 (f) This Section is repealed on January 1, 2026.

2 (Source: P.A. 101-162, eff. 7-26-19.)