

## **Chapter 69**

### **Dentist and Dental Hygienist Practice Act**

#### **Part 1**

#### **General Provisions**

##### **58-69-101 Title.**

This chapter is the "Dentist and Dental Hygienist Practice Act."

Enacted by Chapter 116, 1996 General Session

##### **58-69-102 Definitions.**

In addition to the definitions in Section 58-1-102, as used in this chapter:

- (1) "Asynchronous technology" means store-and-forward technology that allows for the transmission of a patient's health information to a dentist for viewing at a later time.
- (2) "Board" means the Dentist and Dental Hygienist Licensing Board created in Section 58-69-201.
- (3) "Dental assistant" means an unlicensed individual who engages in supervised acts and duties as defined by division rule made in collaboration with the board.
- (4) "Dental hygienist" means an individual licensed under this chapter as a dental hygienist.
- (5) "Dentist" means an individual licensed under this chapter as a dentist.
- (6) "Direct supervision" means the supervising dentist is present and available for face-to-face communication with the person being supervised when and where professional services are being provided.
- (7) "Expanded function" means a procedure that is authorized under Section 58-69-808.
- (8) "General supervision" means that the supervising dentist is available for consultation regarding work the supervising dentist has authorized, without regard as to whether the supervising dentist is located on the same premises as the person being supervised.
- (9) "Indirect supervision" means that the supervising dentist is present within the facility in which the person being supervised is providing services and is available to provide immediate face-to-face communication with the person being supervised.
- (10) "Practice of dental hygiene" means, with respect to humans and subject to Section 58-69-801:
  - (a) performing a preliminary clinical examination of human teeth and gums;
  - (b) making preliminary instrumental examination of a patient's periodontium;
  - (c) conducting a dental hygiene assessment;
  - (d) formulating a dental hygiene treatment plan for a patient, and communicating those findings and treatment recommendations;
  - (e) evaluating a patient's progress towards achieving the goals specified in the dental hygiene treatment plan;
  - (f) modifying a dental hygiene treatment plan based on the ongoing reassessment and in collaboration with a dentist;
  - (g) removing deposits, accumulations, calculus, and concretions from the surfaces of human teeth;
  - (h) removing toxins and debris from subgingival surfaces;
  - (i) providing:
    - (i) delegated dental hygiene care in accordance with a dentist's treatment plan for a patient; or
    - (ii) dental hygiene care in accordance with a dental hygiene treatment plan;
  - (j) representing oneself by any title, degree, or in any other way as being a dental hygienist;

- (k) administering local anesthesia and nitrous oxide analgesia, only as allowed by division rule and the supervision requirements described in Section 58-69-801;
  - (l) directing a dental assistant when the supervising dentist is not on the premises;
  - (m) exposing and capturing dental radiographs;
  - (n) making impressions or intraoral scans of teeth or jaws;
  - (o) performing tasks delegated by a dentist in other practices of dental hygiene as defined by division rule; and
  - (p) performing expanded functions in accordance with Section 58-69-808.
- (11) "Practice of dentistry" means the following, regarding humans:
- (a) to offer, undertake, or represent that a person will undertake by any means or method, including teledentistry, to:
    - (i) examine, evaluate, diagnose, treat, operate, or prescribe therapy for any disease, pain, injury, deficiency, deformity, or any other condition of the human teeth, alveolar process, gums, jaws, or adjacent hard and soft tissues and structures in the maxillofacial region;
    - (ii) take an appropriate history and physical consistent with the level of professional service to be provided and the available resources in the facility in which the service is to be provided;
    - (iii) make impressions, intraoral scans, or registrations;
    - (iv) supply artificial teeth as substitutes for natural teeth, including placing veneers;
    - (v) remove deposits, accumulations, calculus, and concretions from the surfaces of teeth;
    - (vi) correct or attempt to correct malposition of teeth; and
    - (vii) prescribe, deliver, and provide follow-up care for oral appliance therapy, including as a treatment for sleep-disordered breathing and obstructive sleep apnea;
  - (b) to administer anesthetics necessary or proper in the practice of dentistry, only as allowed by an anesthesia and analgesia permit obtained from the division;
  - (c) to administer and prescribe drugs related to and appropriate in the practice of dentistry;
  - (d) to supervise the practice of a:
    - (i) dental hygienist in accordance with Section 58-69-801; or
    - (ii) dental assistant as established by division rule made in collaboration with the board; or
  - (e) to represent oneself by any title, degree, or in any other way that one is a dentist.
- (12) "Public health agency" means a local health department as defined in Section 26A-1-102 or the Department of Health and Human Services.
- (13) "Public health setting" means:
- (a) an individual's residence, if the individual is non-ambulatory;
  - (b) a school, as part of a school-based program;
  - (c) a nursing home;
  - (d) an assisted living or long-term care facility;
  - (e) a community health center;
  - (f) if a dental hygienist is employed by a public health agency, a location directed by the public health agency;
  - (g) a federally-qualified health center; or
  - (h) a mobile dental health program that employs a dentist who is licensed under this chapter.
- (14) "Supervising dentist" means a licensed dentist who has agreed to provide supervision of a dental hygienist or unlicensed individual in accordance with the provisions of this chapter.
- (15) "Synchronous technology" means two-way audiovisual technology that allows a licensed dental professional to see and communicate in real time with a patient who is located in a different physical location.
- (16) "Teledentistry" means the practice of dentistry using synchronous or asynchronous technology.

(17) "Unlawful conduct" means the same as that term is defined in Sections 58-1-501 and 58-69-501.

(18) "Unprofessional conduct" means the same as that term is defined in Sections 58-1-501 and 58-69-502 and as may be further defined by rule.

Amended by Chapter 255, 2025 General Session

## **Part 2 Board**

### **58-69-201 Board.**

- (1) There is created the Dentist and Dental Hygienist Licensing Board, consisting of six licensed dentists, two licensed dental hygienists, and one member of the general public.
- (2) The board shall be appointed and serve in accordance with Section 58-1-201.
- (3)
  - (a) The duties and responsibilities of the board shall be in accordance with Sections 58-1-202 and 58-1-203.
  - (b) In addition, the board shall designate one of its members on a permanent or rotating basis to:
    - (i) assist the division in reviewing complaints concerning the unlawful or unprofessional conduct of a licensee; and
    - (ii) advise the division with respect to the conduct of investigations of these complaints.
- (4) A board member who has, under Subsection (3), reviewed a complaint or advised in its investigation may be disqualified from participating with the board when the board serves as a presiding officer in an adjudicative proceeding concerning the complaint.
- (5) Board members may serve as examiners for licensing examinations established under Section 58-69-302 when requested by the examining body.
- (6) Board members serving as examiners shall be compensated in accordance with Subsection 58-1-201(4), but may not be compensated for per diem or allowable expenses if they are eligible to receive compensation from the examining body.

Amended by Chapter 10, 1997 General Session

## **Part 3 Licensing**

### **58-69-301 License required -- License classifications -- Anesthesia and analgesia permits.**

- (1) A license is required to engage in the practice of dentistry, including teledentistry, or dental hygiene, except as specifically provided in Section 58-69-306 or 58-1-307.
- (2) The division shall issue to individuals qualified under the provisions of this chapter a license in the classification:
  - (a) dentist; or
  - (b) dental hygienist.
- (3) A permit is required to engage in administration of anesthesia or analgesia in the practice of dentistry or dental hygiene.
- (4) The division in collaboration with the board shall establish by rule:

- (a) the classifications of anesthesia and analgesia permits;
- (b) the scope of practice permitted under each permit classification; and
- (c) the requirements for obtaining each class of permit.

Amended by Chapter 255, 2025 General Session

**58-69-302 Qualifications -- Licensure as a dentist -- Licensure as a dental hygienist.**

- (1) An applicant for licensure as a dentist, except as provided in Subsection (2), shall:
  - (a) submit an application in a form the division approves;
  - (b) pay a fee as determined by the department under Section 63J-1-504;
  - (c) provide satisfactory documentation of having successfully completed a program of professional education preparing an individual as a dentist as evidenced by having received an earned doctor's degree in dentistry from a dental school accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation of the American Dental Association;
  - (d) pass the National Board Dental Examinations as administered by the Joint Commission on National Dental Examinations of the American Dental Association;
  - (e) pass any regional dental clinical licensure examination approved by division rule made in collaboration with the board and in accordance with Title 63G, Chapter 3, Utah Administrative Rulemaking Act;
  - (f) pass any other examinations regarding applicable law, rules, or ethics as established by division rule made in collaboration with the board and in accordance with Title 63G, Chapter 3, Utah Administrative Rulemaking Act;
  - (g) be able to read, write, speak, understand, and be understood in the English language and demonstrate proficiency to the satisfaction of the board if requested by the board;
  - (h) meet with the board if requested by the board or division for the purpose of examining the applicant's qualifications for licensure; and
  - (i)
    - (i) consent to, and complete, a criminal background check, described in Section 58-1-301.5;
    - (ii) meet any other standard related to the criminal background check described in Subsection (1)(i)(i), that the division establishes by rule in accordance with Title 63G, Chapter 3, Utah Administrative Rulemaking Act; and
    - (iii) disclose any criminal history the division requests on a form the division provides.
- (2) An applicant for licensure as a dentist qualifying under the endorsement provision of Section 58-1-302 shall:
  - (a) be currently licensed in good standing with an unrestricted license in another jurisdiction described in Section 58-1-302;
  - (b) document having met all requirements for licensure under Subsection (1) except Subsection (1)(c); and
  - (c) document having been successfully engaged in clinical practice as a dentist for not less than 6,000 hours in the five years immediately preceding the date of application for licensure in Utah.
- (3) Except as provided in Subsection (4), an applicant for licensure as a dental hygienist shall:
  - (a) submit an application in a form the division approves;
  - (b) pay a fee as determined by the department pursuant to Section 63J-1-504;
  - (c) be a graduate holding a certificate or degree in dental hygiene from a school accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation of the American Dental Association;
  - (d) pass the National Board Dental Hygiene Examination as administered by the Joint Commission on National Dental Examinations of the American Dental Association;

- (e) pass an examination consisting of practical demonstrations in the practice of dental hygiene and written or oral examination in the theory and practice of dental hygiene as established by division rule made in collaboration with the board;
- (f) pass any other examinations regarding applicable law, rules, and ethics as established by rule by division rule made in collaboration with the board;
- (g) be able to read, write, speak, understand, and be understood in the English language and demonstrate proficiency to the satisfaction of the board if requested by the board;
- (h) meet with the board if requested by the board or division for the purpose of examining the applicant's qualifications for licensure; and
- (i)
  - (i) consent to, and complete, a criminal background check, described in Section 58-1-301.5;
  - (ii) meet any other standard related to the criminal background check described in Subsection (3)(i)(i), that the division establishes by rule in accordance with Title 63G, Chapter 3, Utah Administrative Rulemaking Act; and
  - (iii) disclose any criminal history the division requests on a form the division provides.
- (4) An applicant for licensure as a dental hygienist qualifying under the endorsement provision of Section 58-1-302 shall:
  - (a) be currently licensed in another jurisdiction set forth in Section 58-1-302;
  - (b)
    - (i) document having met all requirements for licensure under Subsection (3) except, an applicant having received licensure in another state or jurisdiction before 1962, the year when the National Board Dental Hygiene Examinations were first administered, shall document having passed a state administered examination acceptable to the division in collaboration with the board; or
    - (ii) document having obtained licensure in another state or jurisdiction upon which licensure by endorsement is based upon meeting requirements that were equal to licensure requirements in Utah at the time the applicant obtained licensure in the other state or jurisdiction; and
  - (c) document having been successfully engaged in practice as a dental hygienist for not less than 2,000 hours in the two years immediately preceding the date of application for licensure in Utah.

Amended by Chapter 443, 2025 General Session

**58-69-303 Term of license -- Expiration -- Renewal.**

- (1)
  - (a) The division shall issue each license and permit under this chapter in accordance with a two-year renewal cycle established by division rule.
  - (b) The division may by rule extend or shorten a renewal period by as much as one year to stagger the renewal cycles it administers.
- (2) At the time of renewal, the licensee shall show compliance with continuing education renewal requirements.
- (3) Each license expires on the expiration date shown on the license unless renewed in accordance with Section 58-1-308.

Amended by Chapter 268, 2001 General Session

**58-69-304 Continuing education.**

During each two-year licensure cycle or other cycle defined by rule, a licensee under this chapter shall complete qualified continuing professional education requirements established by division rule made in collaboration with the board.

Enacted by Chapter 116, 1996 General Session

**58-69-306 Exemptions from licensure.**

In addition to the exemptions from licensure in Section 58-1-307:

- (1) an individual performing mechanical work on inert matter in a laboratory pursuant to a written prescription from a licensed dentist may engage in acts and practices included in the practice of dentistry or dental hygiene without being licensed under this chapter;
- (2) an individual licensed in good standing as a dentist in another state, with no licensing action pending and no less than two years of professional experience, may engage in the practice of dentistry without being licensed under this chapter if:
  - (a) the services are rendered as a public service and for a noncommercial purpose;
  - (b) no fee or other consideration of value is charged, received, expected, or contemplated for the services rendered beyond an amount necessary to cover the proportionate cost of malpractice insurance; and
  - (c) the individual does not otherwise engage in unlawful or unprofessional conduct; and
- (3) an individual who is appointed to a faculty position at an accredited dental school may practice dentistry within the scope of the individual's employment at the accredited dental school or at a hospital or clinic affiliated with the accredited dental school if the individual:
  - (a) holds a license to practice dentistry in another jurisdiction;
  - (b) is permitted to the work in the United States under federal immigration law; and
  - (c)
    - (i)
      - (A) successfully completes Part I and Part II of the National Board Dental Examination; and
      - (B) holds a degree in a dental specialty area, as defined by the division by rule made in accordance with Title 63G, Chapter 3, Utah Administrative Rulemaking Act;
    - (ii)
      - (A) holds a certificate, master's degree, or doctorate degree from an accredited higher education or dental education institution in an area that supports dental education; and
      - (B) practices only under the supervision of an individual licensed as a dentist under this chapter; or
    - (iii)
      - (A) has established expertise in an area of dentistry that is recognized by a United States higher education or dental education institution or by a national professional board or association; and
      - (B) practices only under the supervision of an individual licensed as a dentist under this chapter.

Amended by Chapter 320, 2015 General Session

**58-69-307 Status of licenses held on the effective date of this chapter.**

An individual holding a current license or permit as a dentist or dental hygienist that was issued under any prior state law is considered to hold a current license or permit in the same classification under this chapter.

Enacted by Chapter 116, 1996 General Session

## **Part 4**

### **License Denial and Discipline**

#### **58-69-401 Grounds for denial of license -- Disciplinary proceedings.**

Grounds for division action regarding the following are under Section 58-1-401:

- (1) refusing to issue a license to an applicant or refusing to renew the license of a licensee;
- (2) revoking, suspending, restricting, or placing on probation the license of a licensee;
- (3) issuing a public or private reprimand to a licensee; and
- (4) issuing a cease and desist order.

Enacted by Chapter 116, 1996 General Session

## **Part 5**

### **Unlawful and Unprofessional Conduct - Penalties**

#### **58-69-501 Unlawful conduct.**

"Unlawful conduct" includes, in addition to the definition in Section 58-1-501:

- (1) administering anesthesia or analgesia in the practice of dentistry or dental hygiene if the individual does not hold a current permit issued by the division authorizing that individual to administer the type of anesthesia or analgesia used; and
- (2) practice of dental hygiene by a licensed dental hygienist if not done in accordance with Section 58-69-801.
- (3) directing or interfering with a licensed dentist's judgment and competent practice of dentistry.

Amended by Chapter 255, 2025 General Session

#### **58-69-502 Unprofessional conduct.**

- (1) "Unprofessional conduct" includes, in addition to the definition in Section 58-1-501:
  - (a) sharing professional fees with an unlicensed person or paying any person for sending or referring a patient;
  - (b) making an unsubstantiated claim of superiority in training or skill as a dentist or dental hygienist or in the performance of professional services;
  - (c) refusing authorized agents of the division or state or local health authorities access to the facilities related to the practice of dentistry or dental hygiene during normal business hours for the purpose of inspection;
  - (d) failing to maintain facilities, instruments, equipment, supplies, appliances, or other property or conditions related to the practice of dentistry in a sanitary condition consistent with the standards and ethics of the professions of dentistry or dental hygiene; or
  - (e) falsely making an entry in, or altering, a medical record with the intent to conceal:
    - (i) a wrongful or negligent act or omission of an individual licensed under this chapter or an individual under the direction or control of an individual licensed under this chapter; or
    - (ii) conduct described in Subsections (1)(a) through (d) or Subsection 58-1-501(1).
- (2) For purposes of Subsection (1)(b), an unsubstantiated claim of superiority:

- (a) includes for the practice of dentistry:
  - (i) advertising or otherwise holding oneself out to the public as practicing a dental specialty in which the dentist has not successfully completed the education specified for the dental specialty as defined by the American Dental Association; and
  - (ii) using the following words in advertising "Endodontist," "Orthodontist," "Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeon," "Specialist," "Board Certified," "Diplomat," "Practice Limited to," "Pediatric Dentist," "Periodontist," or "Limited to Specialty of" when the dentist has not successfully completed the education specified for the dental specialty as defined by the American Dental Association; and
- (b) does not include a dentist who advertises as being qualified in a recognized specialty area of dental practice so long as each such advertisement, regardless of form, contains a prominent disclaimer that the dentist is licensed as a general dentist or that the specialty services will be provided by a general dentist.

Amended by Chapter 25, 2020 General Session

**58-69-503 Penalty for unlawful conduct.**

- (1) Any person who violates the unlawful conduct provisions of Subsection 58-1-501(1)(a) and Section 58-69-501 with regard to the practice of dentistry is guilty of a third degree felony.
- (2) Any person who violates the unlawful conduct provisions of Subsection 58-1-501(1)(a) with regard to the practice of dental hygiene is guilty of a class A misdemeanor.

Enacted by Chapter 116, 1996 General Session

## **Part 6 Impaired Licensee**

**58-69-601 Mentally incompetent or incapacitated dentist or dental hygienist.**

- (1) As used in this section:
  - (a) "Incapacitated person" means a person who is incapacitated, as defined in Section 75-1-201.
  - (b) "Mental illness" is as defined in Section 26B-5-301.
- (2) If a court of competent jurisdiction determines a dentist or dental hygienist is an incapacitated person or that the dentist or hygienist has a mental illness and is unable to safely engage in the practice of dentistry or dental hygiene, the director shall immediately suspend the license of the dentist or dental hygienist upon the entry of the judgment of the court, without further proceedings under Title 63G, Chapter 4, Administrative Procedures Act, regardless of whether an appeal from the court's ruling is pending. The director shall promptly notify the dentist or dental hygienist, in writing, of the suspension.
- (3)
  - (a) If the division and a majority of the board find reasonable cause to believe a dentist or dental hygienist, who is not determined judicially to be an incapacitated person or to have a mental illness, is incapable of practicing dentistry or dental hygiene with reasonable skill regarding the safety of patients, because of illness, excessive use of drugs or alcohol, or as a result of any mental or physical condition, the board shall recommend that the director file a petition with the division, and cause the petition to be served upon the dentist or dental hygienist



with a notice of hearing on the sole issue of the capacity of the dentist or dental hygienist to competently and safely engage in the practice of dentistry or dental hygiene.

- (b) The hearing shall be conducted under Section 58-1-109 and Title 63G, Chapter 4, Administrative Procedures Act, except as provided in Subsection (4).

(4)

- (a) Every dentist or dental hygienist who accepts the privilege of being licensed under this chapter gives consent to:

- (i) submitting at the dentist or dental hygienist's own expense to an immediate mental or physical examination when directed in writing by the division and a majority of the board to do so; and
  - (ii) the admissibility of the reports of the examining practitioner's testimony or examination, and waives all objections on the ground the reports constitute a privileged communication.

- (b) The examination may be ordered by the division, with the consent of a majority of the board, only upon a finding of reasonable cause to believe:

- (i) the dentist or dental hygienist has a mental illness, is incapacitated, or otherwise unable to practice dentistry or dental hygiene with reasonable skill and safety; and
  - (ii) immediate action by the division and the board is necessary to prevent harm to the dentist's or dental hygienist's patients or the general public.

(c)

- (i) Failure of a dentist or dental hygienist to submit to the examination ordered under this section is a ground for the division's immediate suspension of the dentist's or dental hygienist's license by written order of the director.
  - (ii) The division may enter the order of suspension without further compliance with Title 63G, Chapter 4, Administrative Procedures Act, unless the division finds the failure to submit to the examination ordered under this section was due to circumstances beyond the control of the dentist or dental hygienist and was not related directly to the illness or incapacity of the dentist or dental hygienist.

(5)

- (a) A dentist or dental hygienist whose license is suspended under Subsection (2) or (3) has the right to a hearing to appeal the suspension within 10 days after the license is suspended.

- (b) The hearing held under this subsection shall be conducted in accordance with Sections 58-1-108 and 58-1-109 for the sole purpose of determining if sufficient basis exists for the continuance of the order of suspension in order to prevent harm to the dentist's or dental hygienist's patients or the general public.

- (6) A dentist or dental hygienist whose license is revoked, suspended, or in any way restricted under this section may request the division and the board to consider, at reasonable intervals, evidence presented by the dentist or dental hygienist, under procedures established by division rule, regarding any change in the dentist's or dental hygienist's condition, to determine whether:

- (a) the dentist or dental hygienist is or is not able to safely and competently engage in the practice of dentistry or dental hygiene; and
  - (b) the dentist or dental hygienist is qualified to have the dentist or dental hygienist's licensure to practice under this chapter restored completely or in part.

Amended by Chapter 329, 2023 General Session

## Part 7

## Immunity Provisions

### **58-69-701 Immunity provisions apply.**

The provisions of Chapter 13, Health Care Providers Immunity from Liability Act, apply to licensees under this chapter.

Enacted by Chapter 116, 1996 General Session

### **58-69-702 Opiate antagonist -- Exclusion from unlawful or unprofessional conduct.**

- (1) As used in this section:
  - (a) "Dispense" means the same as that term is defined in Section 58-17b-102.
  - (b) "Increased risk" means the same as that term is defined in Section 26B-4-501.
  - (c) "Opiate antagonist" means the same as that term is defined in Section 26B-4-501.
  - (d) "Opiate-related drug overdose event" means the same as that term is defined in Section 26B-4-501.
  - (e) "Prescribe" means the same as that term is defined in Section 58-17b-102.
- (2) The prescribing or dispensing of an opiate antagonist by an individual licensed under this chapter to engage in the practice of dentistry is not unprofessional or unlawful conduct if the licensee prescribed or dispensed the opiate antagonist:
  - (a) in a good faith effort to assist:
    - (i) an individual who is at increased risk of experiencing an opiate-related drug overdose event;  
or
    - (ii) a family member of, friend of, or other person, including a person described in Subsections 26B-4-512(1)(a)(i)(A) through (1)(a)(i)(F), that is in a position to assist an individual who is at increased risk of experiencing an opiate-related drug overdose event; or
  - (b) to an overdose outreach provider pursuant to Subsection 26B-4-509(2)(a)(iii).
- (3) The provisions of this section and Title 26B, Chapter 4, Part 5, Treatment Access, do not establish a duty or standard of care in the prescribing, dispensing, or administration of an opiate antagonist.

Amended by Chapter 329, 2023 General Session

## Part 8 Practice Standards

### **58-69-801 Dental hygienist practice standards.**

- (1) Except as provided in Subsection (2), a dental hygienist may engage in the practice of dental hygiene:
  - (a) in any setting under general supervision; and
  - (b) if done in accordance with a dentist's treatment plan for a patient.
- (2) A dental hygienist may:
  - (a) under the indirect supervision of a dentist:
    - (i) administer nitrous oxide analgesia; and
    - (ii) perform expanded functions in accordance with Section 58-69-808; and
  - (b) under the general supervision of a dentist:
    - (i) administer local anesthesia;

- (ii) expose dental radiography; or
  - (iii) make impressions or intraoral scans of teeth or jaws as authorized by a supervising dentist.
- (3) Notwithstanding Subsection (1) and except as provided in Subsection (2), a dental hygienist may engage in the practice of dental hygiene without general supervision if:
  - (a) the dental hygienist engages in the practice of dental hygiene in a public health setting;
  - (b) prior to engaging in the practice of dental hygiene in a public health setting, the dental hygienist notifies the division on a one-time basis in accordance with rules made by the division in accordance with Title 63G, Chapter 3, Utah Administrative Rulemaking Act, that the dental hygienist will engage in the practice of dental hygiene in a public health setting;
  - (c) the dental hygienist assumes liability for the work done by the dental hygienist while engaging in the practice of dental hygiene in a public health setting;
  - (d) the dental hygienist has liability insurance for the work done by the dental hygienist while engaging in the practice of dental hygiene in a public health setting; and
  - (e) the dental hygienist:
    - (i) obtains from each patient an informed consent form that provides that treatment by a dental hygienist is not a substitute for a dental examination by a dentist;
    - (ii) refers to a dentist any patient with a dental need beyond the dental hygienist's scope of practice encountered while engaging in the practice of dental hygiene in a public health setting; and
    - (iii) retains all dental records for the patient generated by the dental hygienist in accordance with Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996, Pub. L. No. 104-191, 110 Stat. 1936, as amended.
- (4) Notwithstanding Subsection (1) and except as provided in Subsection (2), a dental hygienist may practice dental hygiene in an accredited dental hygiene school to teach and demonstrate the practice of dental hygiene.
- (5)
  - (a) An accredited dental hygiene school may teach, demonstrate, and perform expanded functions in accordance with Section 58-69-808 and associated rules in a clinical setting operated by the school if:
    - (i) the expanded functions are included in the school's curriculum;
    - (ii) the curriculum is compliant with standards created by the Commission on Dental Accreditation, or its successor organization, for teaching expanded functions;
    - (iii) except as provided in Subsection (5)(b), any expanded function is performed in accordance with rules made under Section 58-69-808; and
    - (iv) any expanded function performed in the clinical setting is done under the indirect supervision of a dentist.
  - (b) An accredited dental hygiene school may act in accordance with Subsection (5)(a) without regard to rules being issued under Section 58-69-808 until the earlier of:
    - (i) the day on which the division issues rules under Section 58-69-808; or
    - (ii) May 31, 2027.

Repealed and Re-enacted by Chapter 255, 2025 General Session

**58-69-802 Practice within limits of law, education, training, experience, and competency.**

Each individual licensed under this chapter shall confine the individual's practice to those acts:

- (1) permitted by law; and
- (2) in which the dentist or dental hygienist is competent by education, training, and experience.

Amended by Chapter 255, 2025 General Session

**58-69-803 Use of dental assistants.**

Standards regulating the use of dental assistants shall be established by division rule made in collaboration with the board.

Amended by Chapter 255, 2025 General Session

**58-69-804 Form of practice.**

- (1) A dentist may engage in the practice of dentistry as:
  - (a) an individual operating as a business proprietor;
  - (b) an employee of another person;
  - (c) a partner in a lawfully organized partnership;
  - (d) a lawfully formed professional corporation;
  - (e) a lawfully organized limited liability company;
  - (f) a lawfully organized business corporation; or
  - (g) any other form of organization recognized by the state which is not prohibited by rule adopted by division rules made in collaboration with the board.
- (2) Regardless of the form in which a licensee engages in the practice of dentistry, the licensee may not permit another person who is not licensed in Utah as a dentist and is not otherwise competent to engage in the practice of dentistry to direct, or in any other way participate in, or interfere in the licensee's practice of dentistry.

Amended by Chapter 255, 2025 General Session

Amended by Chapter 302, 2025 General Session

**58-69-805 Disclosure of financial interest by licensee.**

- (1) Licensees under this chapter may not refer patients to any clinical laboratory or health care facility in which the licensee or a member of the licensee's immediate family has any financial relationship as that term is described in 42 U.S.C. 1395nn, unless the licensee at the time of making the referral discloses that relationship, in writing, to the patient.
- (2) The written disclosure under Subsection (1) shall also state the patient may choose any facility or laboratory for the work or treatment.

Enacted by Chapter 116, 1996 General Session

**58-69-806 Consumer access to provider charges.**

Beginning January 1, 2011, a dentist licensed under this chapter shall, when requested by a consumer:

- (1) make a list of prices charged by the dentist available for the consumer which includes the dentist's 25 most frequently performed:
  - (a) clinic procedures or clinic services;
  - (b) out-patient procedures; and
  - (c) in-patient procedures; and
- (2) provide the consumer with information regarding any discount available for:
  - (a) services not covered by insurance; or
  - (b) prompt payment of billed charges.

Enacted by Chapter 68, 2010 General Session

**58-69-807 Use of teledentistry -- Informed consent -- Rulemaking.**

- (1) A dentist may provide dental services using teledentistry.
- (2)
  - (a) The standard of dental care a licensed dental professional provides through teledentistry is the same as the standard of dental care a licensed dental professional provides in a traditional physical setting.
  - (b) A treating dentist may use teledentistry to collaborate with a dental hygienist within the relevant applicable scopes of practice and under the appropriate level of supervision described in Section 58-69-801.
  - (c) A dental hygienist, other unlicensed individual supervised by a dentist, or any other provider may not carry out any duties through teledentistry that require direct or indirect supervision of a dentist.
  - (d) A dentist may not conduct a dental examination using teledentistry if the standard of care necessitates a traditional physical dental examination.
  - (e)
    - (i) A dentist may correct or attempt to correct malpositioned teeth or provide an oral appliance to treat sleep-disordered breathing and obstructive sleep apnea if the dentist:
      - (A) has performed an appropriate, in-person, physical examination of the patient for the purpose of diagnosing, assessing, and developing a treatment plan;
      - (B) has reviewed the patient's relevant history, medical records, diagnostic records, and contemporaneous radiographic records; and
      - (C) will provide reasonable in-person follow-up care.
    - (ii) Notwithstanding the limitations described in Subsection (2)(e)(i), the dentist may establish an initial relationship with a patient through teledentistry only:
      - (A) for the purpose of emergent care;
      - (B) to make an initial diagnosis of a malposition of teeth and a determination of the need for an orthodontic appliance; or
      - (C) to screen for sleep-disordered breathing and obstructive sleep apnea, and assess the need for oral appliance therapy for jaw repositioning.
    - (iii) A dentist shall confirm an initial diagnosis described in Subsection (2)(e)(ii)(B) through conducting an in-person examination, reviewing the patient's contemporaneous radiographic records, and reviewing results from any other relevant test, imaging, or consultation before the patient begins using any orthodontic appliance.
    - (iv) A dentist shall confirm an assessment described in Subsection (2)(e)(ii)(C) through conducting an in-person examination, reviewing the patient's contemporaneous radiographic records, and reviewing results from any other relevant test, imaging, or consultation before ordering fabrication of an oral appliance for jaw repositioning and delivering the appliance to the patient.
- (3) A licensed dental professional or any entity employing a licensed dental professional may not require a patient to sign a pretreatment agreement that limits the patient's ability to file a complaint with the division, file a lawsuit, join a class action lawsuit, make reports to a governmental entity, require the patient to submit to binding arbitration, or otherwise limit or prohibit the patient from obtaining relief for deficiencies in the treatment or services provided to the patient.
- (4) When a licensed dental professional uses teledentistry, the licensed dental professional shall ensure informed consent covers the following additional information:

- (a) a description of the types of dental care services provided through teledentistry, including limitations on services;
  - (b) the name, contact information, licensure, credentials, and qualifications of all dentists and dental hygienists involved in the patient's dental care; and
  - (c) precautions and protocols for technological failures or emergency situations.
- (5) The division shall make rules, in accordance with Title 63G, Chapter 3, Utah Administrative Rulemaking Act, to establish requirements and parameters regarding teledentistry to ensure the safe use of teledentistry, including additional provisions for:
- (a) transparency, disclosure, and informed consent;
  - (b) standard of care;
  - (c) proper documentation;
  - (d) supervision and scope of practice;
  - (e) patient complaints; and
  - (f) protocols for referrals.
- (6) If provisions or rules made under Section 26B-4-704 conflict with the provisions of this section or rules made under this section, the provisions of this section and the rules made under this section control when the individual being regulated is providing services regulated under this chapter.

Amended by Chapter 255, 2025 General Session

**58-69-808 Expanded functions of dental auxiliaries.**

- (1) The division shall create certifications for dental auxiliaries to perform, under the indirect supervision of a dentist, various expanded functions, including:
- (a) delegated maxillofacial administration of botulinum toxin by a dental hygienist certified by the division;
  - (b) placement of direct restorations by a dental hygienist certified by the division or a dental assistant certified by the division; and
  - (c) the removal of coronal dental adhesive by a dental hygienist certified by the division or a dental assistant certified by the division.
- (2) The division shall make rules to implement this section, including rules regarding:
- (a) the education and minimum qualifications to obtain a certification; and
  - (b) parameters for performing an expanded function.

Enacted by Chapter 255, 2025 General Session