

DHBC 10/8/22 Agenda Items

5. Licensing and Examination Committee Report.

Task force recommended to remove the requirement for a clinical exam for CA dental hygiene graduates. Justification:

- Over 95% of candidates graduating from CA dental hygiene programs pass showing the CA programs are educating graduates well.
- Ethical issues with live patient
- Expense of clinical exam may be more of a barrier
- Anxiety in finding live patient and expense of paying client
- Standardization of live patient
- Dental Hygiene is the only healthcare profession that still requires a clinical exam for licensure

6. Discussion and Possible Action on the Recommendations of the Alternative Pathway to Licensure Taskforce.

- DHBC voted to remove clinical exam from licensure process. This still needs to go through legislation which could take up to 2 years. There is also the possibility the bill can be vetoed.

7. Discussion and Possible Action to Amend California Code of Regulations, Title 16, Section 1119 (formerly 1115): Retired License.

- DHBC voted to implement retired license status.
- The holder of a retired license shall not engage in any activity for which an active RDH, RDHAP, or RDHEF license is required.
- The holder of a retired license be allowed to provide to the public, without supervision, dental hygiene educational services, oral health training programs, oral health screenings, and application of fluoride varnish free of charge in any oral health public health program created by federal, state, or local law or administered by a federal, state, county, or local governmental entity, at a sponsored event by a sponsoring entity.

8. Discussion and Possible Action on Draft 2023 Sunset Review Report.

- Board reviewed document. No substantive changes were made.
- Susan Good made several editing suggestions.
- There is language in the document to move SLN away from direct supervision.
 - Although BPC 1912-1914 allow for general supervision for most services performed by dental hygienists, some services are still only authorized under direct supervision (soft tissue curettage, local anesthesia administration, and nitrous oxide analgesia) which limits the full utilization of the dental hygienist services. The Board has approved for staff to seek legislation to remove the direct supervision restrictions in the current law and amend it for the supervising dentist to indicate the level of supervision needed for these procedures.
 - CDA representative opposed.
- Board will vote on approving report at next meeting.