

**DENTAL HYGIENE COMMITTEE OF CALIFORNIA
DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS**

ADDENDUM TO INITIAL STATEMENT OF REASONS

Hearing Date: April 28, 2014

Subject Matter of Proposed Regulations: Educational Program Requirements

Sections Affected: 16 CCR § 1103, 1105, 1105.1, 1105.2, 1105.3, 1105.4 and 1106

UPDATED SPECIFIC PURPOSE OF EACH ADOPTION OR AMENDMENT

The Committee's proposed changes are updated as follows:

Section 1105.1(d)(1): The proposed amendments specify that didactic teaching faculty must possess a bachelor's degree or higher from an accredited college or university in the designated dental hygiene area in which the faculty member provides instruction.

Proposed Change: The proposed amendments are needed because dental hygiene educational programs need to know that in order to be approved or retain Committee approval, the program's didactic teaching faculty is required to possess a bachelor's degree or higher in the area in which the faculty member instructs. The recognized accrediting body, the Commission on Dental Accreditation (CODA) of the American Dental Association, requires that all didactic teaching faculty possess a bachelor's degree or higher in order to provide instruction, therefore this standard is consistent in dental hygiene education.

Problem: If not specified, RDH educational programs will not know that didactic faculty must possess a bachelor's degree or higher in order for the program to be approved, so that programs may be approved or retain their approval status. Programs and didactic faculty would not be aware that a bachelor's degree is a qualification requirement for faculty who provide didactic instruction.

Anticipated Benefits: Educational programs, students and Committee staff benefit from having clearly stated requirements for didactic teaching faculty in regulation so that programs can meet the Committee's requirements for approval, students have qualified didactic faculty to provide instruction, and Committee staff can direct programs to the Section containing those requirements.

Section 1105.2(d): The proposed amendments inform users that the curriculum for

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approved RDH educational programs must include content in biomedical and dental sciences and dental hygiene sciences and practice of a sufficient depth and scope, sequencing, quality and emphasis to ensure that students achieve competency according to the program's standards, and provides a list of specific required content areas. After the listed content areas, the proposed language clarifies that out-of-state dental hygiene programs that are CODA-accredited or accredited by another approved accrediting body and meet the requirements of this section may be approved by the Committee as meeting the requirements for California dental hygiene licensure.

Proposed Change: The proposed amendments are needed because RDH educational programs, faculty, and students need to know that required curriculum must include specific content areas in which students will receive instruction, and provides a list of content areas in subsections that follow. This section also allows the Committee to approve educational programs of other states as meeting the requirements for California licensure so that graduates of out-of-state programs containing this instruction are able to apply for California licensure.

Problem: Educational programs, students, and faculty need to know that the program's curriculum must contain specific subject content, and what this required content consists of, otherwise programs could fail to achieve or lose program approval and students and faculty would not know the required curriculum subjects. Graduates of programs in other states that meet these same requirements would have to complete additional education before qualifying for California dental hygiene licensure.

Anticipated Benefits: Educational programs, students and Committee staff benefit from having clearly stated curriculum requirements in regulation so that programs can meet the Committee's requirements for approval, students know the subject areas they will be learning, and Committee staff can direct programs to the Section containing those requirements. Graduates from out-of-state programs who have met all necessary requirements for California licensure will be able to apply for licensure in California.