



Dental Hygiene Committee of California
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LICENSING AND EXAMINATION SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Evergreen Hearing Room
2005 Evergreen Street, 1st Floor
Sacramento, CA 95815
Friday, December 6, 2013

LIC 1 – Roll Call

Michelle Hurlbutt, Chair of the Licensing and Examination Subcommittee, called the meeting to order at 2:27 p.m. With all four (4) members present, a quorum was established.

Licensing and Examinations Subcommittee members present:

Michelle Hurlbutt, Chair, RDH Educator
Noel Kelsch, RDHAP
Evangeline Ward RDH
Timothy Martinez, DMD

Licensing and Examination Subcommittee members absent:

None

LIC 2 – Public Comment for Items Not on the Agenda

Connie Selinsky introduced herself to subcommittee members and said that she was representing the Western Regional Examination Board (WREB) and was present to answer any questions concerning WREB.

LIC 3 – Chairperson's Report

Chair Hurlbutt informed the subcommittee members that she had been in contact with Executive Officer Lori Hubble as needed regarding any licensing or examination issues. She reported that DHCC staff recently sent out surveys to the examination personnel to get their perspectives on the changes that were made to the California Clinical Licensure Examination cycle. The survey also asked questions regarding their attitudes and practices after participating in the latest examination orientation. She reported that the DHCC staff will be analyzing the survey data once they are returned. She then commended staff and examination personnel on doing an excellent job with regard to the California Clinical Licensure Examination.

LIC 4 – 2014 DHCC Clinical Exam Schedule

Eleonor Steiner, DHCC Examination Analyst, directed the subcommittee members to the handout in their meeting packet concerning the 2014 DHCC Clinical Licensure Examination schedule. She noted that the DHCC added a new testing site – San Joaquin Valley College in Visalia – to the list. She informed the subcommittee members that because the number of applicants requesting to take the California Clinical Licensure Examination has continually decreased, the DHCC would only administer the examination on one day rather than two, which had been the previous practice for the 2013 examination cycle.

JoAnn Galliano asked whether the July 2014 examination would be a one-day examination. Ms. Steiner answered that the July exam is only a single day. Ms. Galliano then asked how many candidates could participate in that examination. Ms. Hubble replied that up to 140 candidates could be examined at that exam.

Chair Hurlbutt then stated that the DHCC had the ability to add a second date for examination if one was needed.

LIC 5 – Clinical and Written Examination Statistics

Ms. Steiner directed the subcommittee members to the Clinical and Written Examination Statistics handout in their meeting packets. She informed the members that in 2013, 328 candidates took the California Clinical Licensure Examination and 288 (88%) of those passed. She noted that the 88% passage rate was in line with the pass rates from previous years.

For the RDH Law and Ethics examination, Ms. Steiner said that 790 candidates completed the exam and 626 (79%) of those passed.

Ms. Steiner continued that 53 RDHAP candidates had taken the written Law and Ethics examination and 39 (74%) of them passed.

Ms. Steiner concluded her report noting that 393 WREB applicants were licensed to date in 2013. She noted that the number of applicants who were using the WREB examination to meet California licensing requirements was rising.

LIC 6 – Licensure Statistics

Traci Napper directed the subcommittee members attention to the memo in their meeting packet that she prepared listing the licensure statistics for all of the licensing categories within the DHCC (active, inactive, delinquent, CE hold, revoked, and denied). She reported that the DHCC had issued a total number of 31,934 licenses as of November 13, 2013.

Chair Hurlbutt asked if in future reports, Ms. Napper could provide a legend that described each of the licensing categories so individuals reading the report would know that FNP means Fictitious Name Permit and RP means Registered Provider. She added that the Special Permit categories should also be listed. She noted that while the DHCC currently has not issued any special permits, it is considered a licensing category.

Chair Hurlbutt commented that the subcommittee might consider a future agenda item concerning establishing a retired status licensing category as an option for DHCC licensees.

Ms. Hubble asked Ms. Napper to explain the 30/150 Temp category in her chart. Ms. Napper explained that this category was established for individuals who had not met family support obligations. She added that a temporary hold is put on that license until the Superior Court notifies the DHCC that payment has been made concerning the licensee's family support obligations.

Ms. Kelsch asked if licensees could practice if a continuing education (CE) hold was placed on their license. Ms. Napper replied that the licensee could not practice with a CE hold placed on their license.

Mr. Shay asked if licensees could practice if they were delinquent on their State taxes. Ms. Napper responded that licensees who were delinquent on their State taxes could not practice.

LIC 7 – Presentation from Kim Laudenslager, Director of Dental Hygiene Examinations, about the Central Regional Dental Testing Services (CRDTS) Examination for Hygiene Licensure

Ms. Laudenslager provided a brief history of the regional examinations for dental hygiene, noting that CRDTS is used by approximately 40 states to meet dental hygiene licensing requirements. She continued with a full Powerpoint presentation highlighting the benefits for California to utilize the CRDTS examination to qualify for licensure and becoming a member state. She stated that she would be available after the meeting and at anytime by phone or email to answer questions from the DHCC members or staff.

LIC 8 – Discussion and Possible Action on Acceptance of CRDTS Examination for Hygiene Licensure

In response to a question from Ms. Kelsch concerning the pros and cons of accepting CRDTS, Ms. Hubble stated that given the dwindling number of candidates who are taking the California Clinical Licensure Examination, it is likely that the examination will cease to be offered in the near future because applicants are choosing to take other examinations (i.e., WREB) instead of the California Clinical Licensure Examination. Consequently, if CRDTS is not accepted and the California Clinical Licensure Examination ceases to exist, that would leave California with only one licensing examination: WREB.

- **Motion – Noel Kelsch moved that the Licensing and Examination Subcommittee recommend to the full Committee that the DHCC accept the CRDTS examination as one of the clinical dental hygiene examinations approved by the DHCC for purposes of meeting licensure requirements as an RDH in California.**

Evangeline Ward seconded the motion.

Vote: the motion passed 4-0.

LIC 9 – Discussion and Possible Action on Remedial Education Regulations, California Code of Regulations (CCR), Title 16, Division 11 § 1108

Chair Hurlbutt informed the subcommittee members that the DHCC has statutory authority that requires remedial education for individuals who have failed to pass a clinical examination after three (3) attempts or fails to pass the clinical examination as a result of a single incidence of imposing gross trauma on a patient. Ms. Kantner added that the purpose of these regulations is two-fold:

- 1) It defines what remedial education may consist of for applicants who have failed the examination; and
- 2) Used in disciplinary cases where a licensee's lack of skill may have led to a decision by the DHCC to have a licensee complete remedial education before being allowed to practice.

The Subcommittee members voted to change the following in the regulatory language:

- Add "with no disciplinary actions" throughout the text when referring to a valid, active California license;

- In Subsection 1108(b)(4), add text requiring that faculty review the materials provided to students; and
 - Revise the application form with the above changes.
- **Motion: Noel Kelsch moved that the subcommittee recommend to the DHCC the approval of CCR, Title 16, Division 11, Section 1108, and all supporting documents, as amended.**

Evangeline Ward seconded the motion.

Chair Hurlbutt asked for any comments from the Subcommittee members or the public.

There was no further comment from the members or the public.

Vote: the motion passed 4-0.

LIC 10 – Future Agenda Items

Chair Hurlbutt suggested the following items as future agenda items:

- Investigate creating a retired license status for RDH's; and
- Investigate becoming a member state of CRDTS.

LIC 11 – Adjournment

The Licensing and Examination Subcommittee adjourned at 4:28 p.m.