



Saturday, December 3, 2016

Dental Hygiene Committee of California

Education Subcommittee Meeting

Agenda



Notice is hereby given that a public meeting of the Education Subcommittee of the Dental Hygiene Committee of California will be held as follows:

EDUCATION SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING

Saturday, December 3, 2016
Evergreen Hearing Room
2005 Evergreen Street, 1st Floor
Sacramento, CA 95815
916.263.1978

Education Subcommittee Members:

Michelle Hurlbutt, RDH Educator, Chair
Susan Good, Public Member
Sandy Klein, Public Member
Timothy Martinez, DMD

Upon conclusion of the Enforcement Subcommittee

Agenda

EDU 1 – Roll Call

EDU 2 – Public Comment for Items Not on the Agenda

[The DHCC may not discuss or take action on any matter raised during the Public Comment section that is not included on this agenda, except whether to decide to place the matter on the agenda of a future meeting (Government Code §§ 11125 & 11125.7(a))]

EDU 3– Chairperson’s Report

EDU 4 – Discussion and Possible Action to Seek Legislation for Probationary Status and Disciplinary Actions Regarding Non-Compliant Dental Hygiene Educational Programs; Recommendation to the Full Committee

EDU 5 – Update on Task Force on Alternative Pathways to Licensure

EDU 6 – Future Agenda Items

EDU 7 – Adjournment

DHCC members who are not members of this subcommittee may attend meetings as observers only, and may not participate or vote. Action may be taken on any item listed on this agenda, including information only items. Items may be taken out of order for convenience, to accommodate speakers, or maintain a quorum. All times are approximate and subject to change. The meeting may be cancelled without notice. For verification of the meeting, call (916) 263-1978 or access the Committee’s Web Site at www.dhcc.ca.gov.

The meeting facilities are accessible to individuals with physical disabilities. A person who needs a disability-related accommodation or modification in order to participate in the meeting may make a request by contacting Anthony Lum at (916) 576-5004 or e-mail anthony.lum@dca.ca.gov or send a written request to DHCC at 2005 Evergreen Street, Ste. 2050, Sacramento, CA 95815. Providing your request at least five (5) business days before the meeting will help to ensure availability of the requested accommodation.



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EDU 1

Roll Call and Establishment of a Quorum



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EDU 2

Public Comment for Items Not on the Agenda

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EDU 3

Chairperson's Report



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EDU 4

**Discussion and Possible Action to Seek Legislation for
Probationary Status and Disciplinary Actions Regarding
Non-Complaint Dental Hygiene Educational Programs**



MEMORANDUM

DATE	December 3, 2016
TO	Education Subcommittee
FROM	Lori Hubble, Executive Officer
SUBJECT	EDU 4 - Discussion and Possible Action to Seek Legislation for Probationary Status and Disciplinary Options Regarding Dental Hygiene Educational Programs

Background

Pursuant to § 1905 of the Business and Professions Code, the Dental Hygiene Committee of California is responsible for evaluating and approving or withholding approval of all registered dental hygienist, registered dental hygienist in alternative practice, and registered dental hygienist in extended functions educational programs in the State of California. The Committee is only authorized to grant or renew approval of programs that continuously maintain acceptable standards, as described in § 1941. Under current law, if the Committee has cause to believe that such a program is out of compliance with standing regulations, the Committee must, in the interest of consumer protection, withdraw approval of the program. There currently exists no intermediary status or any other measure to bring programs into compliance when their violations are minor or would likely be remedied if given the opportunity.

It has become apparent that situations could arise in which an educational program is out of compliance in some areas, but once notified, would cooperatively correct the deficiencies to bring the program back into compliance. In such a case, it may be in the best interest of the consumer for the program to undergo a remediation process rather than having its approval fully withdrawn.

Protecting the consumer is the primary objective in every Committee decision. Consumers are better off when they have access to well-trained hygienists. Unless a deficient program is engaged in activity that poses an immediate threat to public health or safety, the consumer would likely benefit most if there were a method for remediating deficiencies rather than immediately withdrawing approval of educational programs. When Committee approval is withdrawn, the program is subject to closure. This affects enrolled students as well as people residing in the region where the school is based. Effects from a school closure could include fewer hygienists in the profession due to the program no longer producing graduates, may pose access to care issues including longer wait times for an appointment, and increased health risks to consumers.

Students are also consumers. When a program's approval is withdrawn, the students of that program are negatively impacted, usually through no fault of their own. Students who have, in good faith, committed their time, financial resources, and best efforts to work through a Committee approved program, with the expectation that they would

have the opportunity to become licensed hygienists, should not lose the chance to realize their career aspirations.

Staff Recommendations:

Staff recommends that the Committee seek legislation and regulations to create a framework of progressive disciplinary options that would allow the Committee to do the following:

- cite and fine for minor violations of standing regulations;
- place a program on probationary status for more serious violations; and
- retain the option of withdrawing approval of programs that commit the most egregious violations.

Staff recommends that the Education Subcommittee petition the Full Committee to appoint up to two members to work with staff on this task.



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EDU 5

**Update on Task Force on
Alternative Pathways to Licensure**



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EDU 6

Future Agenda Items



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EDU 7

Adjournment