



VIRGINIA BOARD OF DENTISTRY
BRIEFS
January 2017

BOARD MEMBERS

Al Rizkalla, DDS

President

John M. Alexander, DDS

Vice-President

Tonya A. Parris-Wilkins, DDS

Secretary/Treasurer/BRIEFS Editor

Patricia B. Bonwell, RDH, PhD

Nathaniel C. Bryant, DDS

Augustus A. Petticolas, Jr, DDS

Tammy C. Ridout, RDH

**Carol R. Russek, JD
Citizen**

James D. Watkins, DDS

Bruce S. Wyman, DMD

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Sandra K. Reen

E-MAIL

denbd@dhp.virginia.gov

WEB PAGE

www.dhp.virginia.gov/dentistry

PHONE: (804) 367-4538

FAX: (804) 527-4428

ADDRESS

**9960 Mayland Dr.
Suite 300
Henrico, VA 23233**

TIME TO RENEW

All dental licenses, dental hygiene licenses, dental assistant II registrations and many related permits must be renewed by March 31, 2017. Renewal notices will be sent in February by e-mail to the address on file with the Board. For assistance with online transactions, please contact the Department of Health Professions' Practitioner Information Call Center at (804) 367-4444. **Renewal applications** require your certification that you are familiar with all laws and regulations governing the practice of your profession. Be sure you are familiar by reviewing the laws and regulations governing practice using this link, http://www.dhp.virginia.gov/dentistry/dentistry_laws_regs.htm.

VIRGINIA'S OPIOID CRISIS DECLARED A PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY

In a press release dated November 21, 2016, Gov. Terry McAuliffe advised that State Health Commissioner Marissa J. Levine, MD, MPH, FAAFP declared Virginia's opioid addiction crisis a state of public health emergency. In the first half of 2016, the total number of fatal drug overdoses in Virginia increased 35 percent, when compared to the same time period in 2015, and in 2013, fatal drug overdoses became the number one cause of unnatural death. The Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services provides **Opioid Overdose and Naloxone Education (OONE)** to professionals, stakeholders and others through their REVIVE! program. Learn more about REVIVE! at www.dbhds.virginia.gov/individuals-and-families/substance-abuse/revive. See more at: <https://governor.virginia.gov/newsroom/newsarticle?articleId=18348#sthash.8hSerUqF.dpuf>.

PRESCRIPTION MONITORING PROGRAM (PMP) CHANGES

The PMP's new website is <https://virginia.pmpaware.net/login>. Prescribers may now appoint "delegates" to review the PMP on their behalf. Delegates must register in the PMP system. A confirmation e-mail is sent to their supervisor's email to confirm the request. For more information on how to access and use the new PMP system, please use this link, <http://trk.appriss.com/v0000O680djQU0c2P030000>, to consult the Virginia PMP AWARxE User Support Manual. The monitoring program now tracks the prescription writing tendencies of prescribers and dispensers. If an unusual pattern of prescribing or dispensing is noted the director of the PMP may opt to contact the Enforcement Division of the Department of Health Professions to initiate an investigation. Use this link to read the statute which requires these changes: https://www.dhp.virginia.gov/dhp_programs/pmp/docs/Regs/HB657_2016.pdf.

WALLET SIZED LICENSE

The Board determined that a wallet sized license may be displayed to meet the posting requirement in Section 18VAC60-21-30 of the Regulations Governing the Practice of Dentistry. The posted license must be displayed in plain view of patients so that it is "conspicuous and readable." For more information on posting requirements please visit https://www.dhp.virginia.gov/dentistry/dentistry_laws_regs.htm#reg.

DEA POSTING REQUIREMENT

This **proposed regulation** will allow a dentist who administers, prescribes, or dispenses Schedules II through V controlled substances to maintain a copy of his current registration with the federal Drug Enforcement Administration in a readily retrievable manner at each practice location rather than displaying it to the public along with his current license. This proposed regulation has been submitted to the Registrar of Regulations and was published on January 23, 2017 for public comment. The comment period ends on February 22, 2017. To comment, go to the Regulatory Town Hall at <http://townhall.virginia.gov/L/ViewStage.cfm?stageid=7721>.

Volunteer Hours for Continuing Education

In response to a legislative mandate, the Board has adopted **proposed regulations** to allow dentists and dental hygienists to count up to two hours of the 15 hours of continuing education required for annual license renewal to be satisfied through delivery of dental services, without compensation, to low-income individuals receiving health services through a local health department or a free clinic organized in whole or primarily for the delivery of those services. One hour of continuing education may be credited for three hours of providing such volunteer services, as documented by the health department or free clinic. In addition, the Board is including provisions for granting an extension of the continuing education requirement for up to one year upon written request with an explanation received prior to the renewal deadline. This current **proposal** may be viewed on the Virginia Regulatory Town Hall website at <http://townhall.virginia.gov/L/ViewAction.cfm?actionid=4597>.

Nitrous Oxide Regulations

In response to requests from dentists who only administer nitrous oxide, the Board is amending its regulations to separate the administration of only nitrous oxide from the definition of minimal sedation. The amended regulations reduce the education and monitoring requirements for dentists who only administer nitrous oxide. This **proposed change** may be viewed on the Virginia Regulatory Town hall website at <http://townhall.virginia.gov/L/ViewAction.cfm?actionid=4598>.

DENTISTRY WORKFORCE DATA REPORTS

Recent survey findings about Virginia's dentist and dental hygienist workforces are now available at <https://www.dhp.virginia.gov/hwdc/findings.htm#Den>. The Healthcare Workforce Data Center (HWDC) collected its recent findings by surveying dentists and dental hygienists who completed their 2016 renewals online.

VIRGINIA HEALTHCARE WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

The purpose of the VHWD is to facilitate the development of a statewide health professions pipeline that identifies, educates, recruits and retains a diverse, geographically distributed, and culturally competent quality workforce for all Virginians. Visit <http://www.vhwda.org/> to learn more about this authority.

NEW GUIDANCE DOCUMENT

Guidance Document, 60-13 Practice of a Dental Hygienist Under Remote Supervision was adopted by the Board on September 16, 2016. This document outlines the definition of remote supervision, who can employ a dental hygienist under this new regulation and the qualifications a dental hygienist must hold in order to practice under remote supervision. Visit this guidance document at http://www.dhp.virginia.gov/dentistry/dentistry_guidelines.htm to review this newly adopted document and the full list of available guidance documents.

REVISED GUIDANCE DOCUMENTS

The following documents were revised by the Board of Dentistry on September 16, 2016. Please visit https://www.dhp.virginia.gov/dentistry/dentistry_guidelines.htm to learn more about the following revised documents.

60-5 Policy on Auditing Continuing Education and Sanctioning for Failure to Meet the Requirements

60-15 Standards for Professional Conduct in the Practice of Dentistry

60-17 Policy on Recovery of Disciplinary Costs

REGULATORY ADVISORY PANEL ON THE EDUCATION AND PRACTICE OF DENTAL ASSISTANTS I AND II

On January 5, 2017, the Regulatory-Legislative Committee of the Board met with representatives of the VDA, VDHA, VCU School of Dentistry, DAII education programs, and the Virginia Department of Education. Panelists discussed establishing minimum education requirements for Dental Assistants I and recommended regulatory changes to establish competency based education requirements for Dental Assistants II. To review the minutes of this meeting, go to http://www.dhp.virginia.gov/dentistry/minutes/2017/RAP01052017_Draft.pdf.