

OREGON BOARD OF DENTISTRY
GENERAL INFORMATION AND INSTRUCTION SHEET

DENTAL LICENSURE

Introduction: To obtain license to practice general dentistry in the State of Oregon, the Oregon Board of Dentistry (OBD) requires that applicants meet the requirements for one of two different pathways: Dental Licensure by Examination, or Dental Licensure Without Further Examination (LWOFE).

Dental Licensure by Examination

The complete rules regarding Dental Licensure by Examination are found in [OAR 818-021-0010](#). In order to meet the requirements for Licensure by Examination, a dentist must have:

1. Passed, **in the five (5) years immediately prior to application**, a dental clinical examination conducted by a regional testing agency, by a state dental licensing authority, by a national testing agency, or other Board-recognized testing agency. Please note: Dentists who passed a clinical dental board examination more than five (5) years immediately prior to application do not meet the requirements for Dental Licensure by Examination; these individuals must meet the requirements and apply for Dental Licensure Without Further Examination (LWOFE).
2. Graduated from a CODA-accredited dental degree program. Please note: applicants who have graduated from a dental program located outside the United States or Canada must also meet additional education requirements – see OAR 818-021-0010(1)(b) for more information.
3. Passed Part I & Part II of the dental examination administered by the Joint Commission on National Dental Examinations (JCND) or Canadian National Dental Examining Board Examination.

Dental Licensure Without Further Examination

The complete rules regarding Dental Licensure Without Further Examination (LWOFE) are found in [OAR 818-021-0011](#). In order to meet the requirements for LWOFE, a dentist must have:

1. Passed a dental clinical examination conducted by a regional testing agency, by a state dental licensing authority, by a national testing agency, or other Board-recognized testing agency.
2. Graduated from a CODA-accredited dental degree program. Please note: applicants who have graduated from a dental program located outside the United States or Canada must also meet additional education requirements – see OAR 818-021-0011(1)(b) for more information.
3. Holds an active license to practice dentistry, without restrictions, in any state.
4. Conducted, **in the five (5) years immediately prior to application**, at least 3,500 hours of licensed clinical practice in Oregon, other states, or in the Armed Forces of the United States, the United States Public Health Service, or the United States Department of Veterans Affairs. Licensed clinical practice hours could include clinical practice completed as part of an advanced or specialty dental education program or residency, or hours devoted to teaching by dentists employed by a dental education program in a CODA accredited dental school.
5. Completed, **in the two (2) years immediately prior to application**, at least 40 hours of continuing education in accordance with the OBD's continuing education requirements.

Please Note: Applicants are solely responsible for ensuring that they meet all of the requirements for their chosen application pathway. Per ORS 679.120(8), *fees paid are not refundable or transferrable*. **Failure to meet the requirements will result in the application being rejected, and the applicant will be required to submit (at minimum) a new application and fee.** Please carefully review the rules and instructions prior to application. If you have questions or you are uncertain if you meet the requirements, please contact the OBD at 971-673-3200 or at information@obd.oregon.gov prior to submitting your application.