

OREGON BOARD OF DENTISTRY
GENERAL INFORMATION AND INSTRUCTION SHEET

LIMITED SPECIALTY LICENSURE: INTERNATIONALLY TRAINED DENTISTS

Introduction: To obtain a limited specialty license in the State of Oregon, the Oregon Board of Dentistry (OBD) requires that internationally trained applicants meet the requirements for one of two different pathways: Dental Specialty Licensure by Examination, or Dental Specialty Licensure Without Further Examination (LWOFE). Limited specialty licenses are an option for individuals who do not meet the requirements for a general dental license, but who have completed advanced training and examination in an OBD-recognized dental specialty.

Specialties recognized by the OBD: Dental Anesthesiology, Dental Public Health, Endodontics, Oral and Maxillofacial Pathology, Oral and Maxillofacial Radiology, Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery, Orthodontics and Dentofacial Orthopedics, Pediatric Dentistry, Periodontics, and Prosthodontics.

**Dental Limited Specialty
Licensure by Examination**

The complete rules regarding Dental Specialty Licensure by Examination are found in [OAR 818-021-0017](#). In order to meet the requirements for Specialty Licensure by Examination, an internationally trained dentist must have:

1. Graduated from a dental school located outside the United States or Canada.
2. Completed a post-graduate specialty program of at least two years at a CODA-accredited dental school.
3. Proficiency in the English language.
4. Either:
 - a. Active licensure as a general dentist in another state, obtained as a result of the passage of any clinical Board examination administered by any state, or regional testing agency, national testing agency or other Board-recognized testing agency.
 - b. Passed any clinical Board examination administered by any state, or regional testing agency, national testing agency or other Board-recognized testing agency **within the five (5) years immediately preceding application**.
5. Passed Part I & Part II of the dental examination administered by the Joint Commission on National Dental Examinations (JCNDE) or Canadian National Dental Examining Board Examination.
6. Passed, **in the five (5) years immediately prior to application**, a specialty examination approved by the OBD. Please note: Dentists who passed an OBD-approved specialty examination more than five (5) years immediately prior to application do not meet the requirements for Dental Specialty Licensure by Examination; these individuals must meet the requirements and apply for Dental Specialty Licensure Without Further Examination (LWOFE).

**Dental Limited Specialty
Licensure Without Further Examination (LWOFE)**

The complete rules regarding Dental Specialty LWOFE are found in [OAR 818-021-0017](#). In order to meet the requirements for Specialty LWOFE, an internationally trained dentist must have:

1. Graduated from a dental school located outside the United States or Canada.
2. Completed a post-graduate specialty program of at least two years at a CODA-accredited dental school.
3. Proficiency in the English language.
4. Either:
 - a. Active licensure as a general dentist in another state, obtained as a result of the passage of any clinical Board examination administered by any state, or regional testing agency, national testing agency or other Board-recognized testing agency.
 - b. Passed any clinical Board examination administered by any state, or regional testing agency, national testing agency or other Board-recognized testing agency **within the five (5) years immediately preceding application**.
5. Passed Part I & Part II of the dental examination administered by the Joint Commission on National Dental Examinations (JCNDE) or Canadian National Dental Examining Board Examination.
6. Passed a specialty examination approved by the Board greater than five years prior to application.
7. Conducted, **in the five (5) years immediately prior to application**, at least 3,500 hours of licensed clinical practice in the applicant's postdoctoral dental specialty in Oregon, other states, or in the Armed Forces of the US, US Public Health Service, or US Department of Veterans Affairs. Licensed clinical practice hours could include devoted to teaching the applicant's dental specialty by dentists employed by a dental education program in a CODA-accredited dental school.
8. 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@oregondentistry.org prior to submitting your application.