

**SUBSTANCE OF PROPOSED ACTION:**

The Board intends on amending Rule 270-X-3.04(3) and (4) by changing the definition of full-time employment of a student dental hygienist during the period of her training from thirty-two (32) hours a week to twenty-four (24) hours a week. The nature of the modern dental practice, needed flexibility and the Board's opinion that twenty-four (24) hours a week will enable the student dental hygienist to obtain all necessary training, dictate and make this change necessary.

APA-3  
11/96

**CERTIFICATION OF ADMINISTRATIVE RULES  
FILED WITH THE LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE SERVICE  
JERRY L. BASSETT, DIRECTOR**

(Pursuant to Code of Alabama (1975) Section 41-22-6, as amended).

I certify that the attached is/are correct copy/copies of rule/s as promulgated and adopted on the 3<sup>rd</sup> day of August, 2006, and file with the agency secretary on the 7<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2006.

AGENCY NAME: BOARD OF DENTAL EXAMINERS OF ALABAMA.

Amendment                       New                       Repeal (Mark appropriate space)

Rule No.: 270-X-3.04(3) and (4)

Rule Title: ALABAMA DENTAL HYGIENE PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

ACTION TAKEN: Rule was adopted without changes from the proposal.

NOTICE OF INTENDED ACTION PUBLISHED IN VOLUME XXIV ISSUE NO. 8, AAM,  
DATED May 31, 2006.

Statutory Rulemaking Authority: Code of Alabama (1975), § 34-9-43 (10) and Code of Alabama (1975), § 20-2-50 et seq.

(Date Filed)  
(For LRS Use Only)

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Certifying Officer or his or her Deputy

(NOTE: In accordance with §41-22-6(b), as amended, a proposed rule is required to be certified within 90 days after completion of the notice.)

BOARD OF DENTAL EXAMINERS OF ALABAMA

NOTICE OF INTENDED ACTION

RULE NUMBER: 270-X-3.04

TITLE OF RULE: ALABAMA DENTAL HYGIENE PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

**270-X-3.04 (3) and 4) Alabama Dental Hygiene Program Requirements.**

**270-X-3.04 Alabama Dental Hygiene Program Requirements.**

(1) Student Hygienists must be at least 18 years of age prior to the time the employer makes application to begin training, of good moral character, and of good health.

(2) Student Hygienist must be a graduate of an accredited high school or hold a GED certificate.

(3) Student Hygienists must have had at least twenty-four (24) full months of full time employment as a dental assistant, or the equivalent of twenty-four (24) full months in part-time employment. This time must be spent assisting the dentist at the chair. Full-time shall mean employment of at least twenty-four (24) hours a week. Graduates of an approved school of dental assisting will be given credit for such course on a formula determined by the Board.

(4) Student Hygienists must be employed full time during the effective period of the training permit before being eligible to take the Hygiene Licensure examination. Full time shall mean employment of at least twenty-four (24) hours a week. Any dentist licensed and practicing dentistry full time in the State of Alabama may be issued a training permit upon application to the Board of Dental Examiners, which shall have the discretion to grant or deny such permit. No dentist shall be issued a training permit unless certified by the Board of Dental Examiners of Alabama, which shall have the discretion to grant or deny such certification. The certification shall be valid for three (3) years from the date of issuance. In the event the certification expires during the effective period of the training permit, the dentist shall be allowed to continue training subject to enrolling in and taking the next scheduled certification course. Any dentist who is certified shall be given credit for four (4) hours of continuing dental education.

(5) Student Hygienists may practice only under the direct supervision of the dentist whose name appears on the training permit; however, another dentist employed in the same office who is certified pursuant to this Rule may perform pre and post prophylactic examinations of the student hygienist's patients.

(6) The closing date for accepting applications for training permits for the current year is May 30.

(7) Student hygienists are allowed one transfer of their training permit per class cycle based upon approval by the Board of Dental Examiners of Alabama. During the period of the student hygienist training permit, the student may only be terminated for good cause which shall be determined by the Board. A student hygienist who has participated in the Alabama Dental Hygiene Program twice unsuccessfully may apply to participate in the program a third time at the discretion of the Board after five (5) years of continual full time employment as a dental assistant.

(8) All student hygienists must attend all sessions of the academic instruction given at the University of Alabama in Birmingham under the auspices of the Board. Each student hygienist's grades shall be given to the Board for review.

(9) If the student hygienist fails to attend all sessions of academic instruction then such student hygienist is no longer eligible for a renewal permit without consent of the entire Board.

(10) No dentist shall be permitted to train more than one (1) student hygienist at a time.

(11) Student Hygienists who obtain training in the ADHP must pay a fee in an amount fixed by the Board, (this includes training permit, examination, certificate and workshop fees), which must be enclosed with the application for training permit. The academic instruction portion of the fee may be refunded only within the first thirty (30) days of issuance.

Author: James S. Ward

Statutory Authority: **Code of Alabama** (1975), § 34-9-43 (10) and **Code of Alabama** (1975), § 20-2-50 et seq.

History: Amended Feb. 18, 2003; Amended August 6, 2004; Amended August 3, 2006