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## BOARD OF DENTAL EXAMINERS OF ALABAMA

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### BOARD MEETING SUMMARY

August 13, 2020

The Board of Dental Examiners of Alabama met Thursday, August 13, 2020, via videoconference. All members were in attendance, as were selected staff members. The meeting came to order at 6:01 P.M.

The Board received reports from members who traveled to a manikin clinical exam and a conference of an examination agency, and then held as follows: Students of the Alabama Dental Hygiene Program who have not returned a signed Integrity Policy will have to wait to take any examinations until they have returned said policy, after which they must make up any missed examinations; CPR, ACLS, and PALS expiration dates are extended to September 30, 2021, while the Board encourages licensees to avail themselves of any certification or recertification offered during this pandemic; continuing education credit will be granted for attendance at the next meeting of the Oral Health Coalition of Alabama; and dentists may perform nasopharyngeal swab testing for covid-19, with proper training and if all Alabama Department of Public Health reporting requirements are met. The Board then issued the following:

It is the policy of the Board of Dental Examiners of Alabama that, for the academic training sessions conducted by the Alabama Dental Hygiene Program via videoconferencing, because of the undue administrative and logistical burden dentist-instructors may not attend.

The Board decided to renew certain contracts, and to appoint members as representatives to regional testing agencies.

The board then approved license and permit applications and reviewed ongoing investigations.

Finally, the Board issued the following:

It is the opinion of the board that patients who have tested positive for COVID-19 or have had COVID-19 symptoms are safe to treat after a 10-day quarantine, and one day of being asymptomatic. Healthcare workers utilizing proper PPE in their jobs may be safely treated when following the dental board protocols and utilizing proper PPE. A refusal to treat such patients could constitute patient abandonment.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:47 P.M.