

## **Kansas Dental Board**

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## **Board Requests Input from Licensees Regarding Limit for Online CE Courses**

The Board recently received a state survey sample for online continuing education hour limitations. Generally, each state implements its own continuing education requirements through rules and regulations. Some states have a regulatory limit on the number of continuing education hours that a licensee can obtain online during each license renewal period. Other states, including Kansas, have no current online limitation.

After studying the state survey sample, the Board has asked for your feedback. Dentists are required to obtain 60 hours of CE each biennial license renewal period. Dental hygienists are required to obtain 30 hours of CE each biennial license renewal period. These standards will form the basis of the Board's online CE study.

Should the Board limit the number of online continuing education courses that are permitted for each biennial license renewal? If so, what should the hour limit be for dentists and dental hygienists?

The Board would greatly appreciate your input on this topic. If you have input or other suggestions, you may send it to the Board office by mail, fax, or e-mail. Please send your input as follows:

Kansas Dental Board 900 SW Jackson, Suite 455-S Topeka, KS 66612

Fax: 785-296-3116

E-Mail: dental.info@ks.gov

Subject: Online CE Hours

All responses will be given due consideration at a future Board meeting.



### **All Licensees Must Update Address Changes**

A new class of students are graduating and soon joining the dental workforce. Summer is also fast approaching, which creates various moving opportunities for existing licensees. As you transition, please maintain awareness of the laws regarding address and practice location changes.

Each licensee is required to update practice address and residence address changes within 30 days. Licensees are responsible for maintaining active addresses on file with the Board office.



# U.S. Food and Drug Administration Bans Most Powdered Gloves

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration has issued a final rule banning the use of most powdered medical gloves. The rule, which went into effect January 18, 2017, applies to patient examination gloves, powdered surgeon's gloves, and absorbable powder for lubricating a surgeon's glove.

In a news release, the FDA has noted: "While the use of these gloves is decreasing, they pose an unreasonable and substantial risk of illness or injury to health care providers, patients, and other individuals who are exposed to them, which cannot be corrected through new or updated labeling."

For more information on the powdered glove ban, please contact the FDA.



# U.S. EPA Requires Amalgam Separators in Most Dental Offices

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has issued a final rule requiring most dental practices nationwide to install amalgam separators. The EPA concluded that requiring dental offices to remove mercury through relatively low-cost and readily available amalgam separators is appropriate.

The date for compliance for most dentists will occur at the end of 2019. The EPA noted that the rule does not apply to mobile units or offices that only implement the following specialties: Oral pathology; oral and maxillofacial radiology; oral and maxillofacial surgery; orthodontics; periodontics; or prosthodontics.

The Kansas Department of Health and Environment Water Pretreatment Program (Water Pretreatment Program) will be notifying dental offices of the EPA requirements and updating associated state regulations as needed. If you receive an inquiry or directive from the Water Pretreatment Program, please respond and cooperate as requested.

For more information on the rules for amalgam separators, please contact the EPA.

### Glenn Hemberger, D.D.S., Completes Terms

At its Board meeting on Friday, April 21, 2017, Glenn Hemberger, D.D.S., was recognized for his 8 years of unwavering dedication as a member of the Board. Donna Thomas, D.D.S., President of the Board, presented and accepted the plaque honoring Dr. Hemberger's service to the Board.

During his years of service on the Board, Dr. Hemberger served over five years as President. He ushered in a new era for the Board's investigative committee by adding additional dentist members to assist in the highly complex and often contentious process. Dr. Hemberger personally reviewed over 500 investigative cases and sacrificed countless hours protecting the public and dental profession. He engaged his job with fervor and actively promoted the Board's role during the legislative and regulatory process. Similarly, he constantly promoted charitable care for medically indigent persons and sought ways to assist the aging and unreached populations.

Dr. Hemberger's services on behalf of the entire Kansas dental community will be greatly missed. Thank you, Dr. Hemberger.



# **Board Welcomes Three New Members**

The Governor's Office has recently appointed three new members to the Board. Stephen Zeller, D.D.S., Stanley Wint, D.D.S., and Mark Herzog, D.D.S., are the newest dentist members that have been added to the Board. These dentists replace others whose terms have expired.

Dr. Zeller is an oral surgeon located in the Topeka area and serves the Second Congressional District. Dr. Wint is a periodontist located in the Kansas City area and serves the Third Congressional District. Dr. Herzog is a general dentist in the Ellsworth area and serves the First Congressional District.

The Board is excited to obtain the expertise of these dentists. Congratulations!

## **Estates With Dental Offices**

On occasion, the Board office receives inquiries regarding whether a practice must immediately close following the date of death or substantial disability of the owner dentist. Fortunately, the laws protect estates for a period of time.

Under K.S.A. 65-1424(b), "The estate or agent for a deceased or substantially disabled dentist may employ dentists, for a period of not more than 18 months following the date of death or substantial disability of the dentist, to provide service to patients until the practice can be sold or closed."

If you have questions regarding the law or any exceptions, please consult with your estate planning attorney or call the Board office. Kansas Dental Board Landon State Office Building 900 S.W. Jackson, Room 455-S Topeka, Kansas 66612-1230

Phone: 785-296-6400 Fax: 785-296-3116 E-mail: dental.info@ks.gov



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FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTION: Does the Board issue temporary licenses for new graduates while applications are pending approval?

ANSWER: No. The Board does not issue temporary licenses for new graduates. A new graduate is required to successfully complete the application process prior to performing any dental or dental hygiene services.

### **Future Board Meetings**

Friday, September 15, 2017 Friday, November 17, 2017 All meetings held in Topeka.





