ATTENTION ALASKA DENTAL HYGIENISTS

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE OF NEW NITROUS OXIDE REGULATIONS

Notice to All Dental Hygienists
New Regulations take effect: April 14, 2018

If you are administering nitrous oxide, you will require a certification. Please visit the website below to read the new regulations, FAQs, and to fill out the required application forms.

ProfessionalLicense.Alaska.Gov/BoardOfDentalExaminers
The above information can be accessed from the hyperlink below.

https://www.commerce.alaska.gov/web/cbpl/ProfessionalLicensing/BoardofDentalExaminers.aspx
Alaska Board of Dental Examiners (BoDE) Report March 2018

By Gail Walden and Paula Ross

The following bullet points highlight some key information for you to be aware of.

- **Sedation/Anesthesia Regulations Project Effective Date**—April 14, 2018. Please check the BoDE website for updates and facts about implementation of the new regulations. When the regulations take effect, you will be required to submit an initial application, a fee and provide written verification of successful completion of an accredited college or university course of instruction in the administration of nitrous oxide. This process will be similar to current initial application process for local anesthesia, but both local anesthesia and nitrous will not have a renewal fee biennially. More information will be provided at the Alaska DHA Spring CE/Business Meeting on April 7th.

If you have not received any correspondence regarding BoDE regulations, you are NOT on the BoDE “dental interested parties list.” If you would like to receive future notifications of proposed regulations, you must contact the Regulations Specialist, Jun Maiquis by email at jun.maiquis@alaska.gov or by calling (907)465-2537 and request that your name be added to the list. Notices are sent in the mail to those on the list, but proposed regulations are also available on the BoDE website.

- **BoDE Statute Subcommittee**—The board has formed a subcommittee to review statutes and make recommendations. The committee will consist of 2 BoDE members, 2 AK DHA members, and 2 ADS members. The AK DHA chose Michele Summers and Mina Allen to represent the dental hygiene profession.

- **Dental hygiene scope of practice discussion:**
  - **Silver Diamine Fluoride**—*Allowable* under general supervision 08.32.110(a)(1)(F); BoDE would strongly encourage informed consent.
  - **Laser:** Allowable under general supervision 08.32.110(a)(1)(F), provided the procedure is therapeutic (irreversible tissue alteration that could be considered operative or surgical would be a violation of statute).
  - **Botox/Dermal filler:** Not allowable; not in the scope of practice to provide oral health care to the public.

- **New licensing examiner**—Ms. Amber Treston was hired as the new board licensing examiner, replacing Mr. Jedediah Smith. If you have any questions regarding licensure or continuing education, her contact information is available on the board website and listed here.
  - Phone: 907-465-2542
  - Email: boardofdentalexaminers@alaska.gov

The next scheduled meeting of the BoDE is Friday, April 20th.
Sandy Pence, UAA Dental Hygiene Program Director, has relayed, via several Facebook postings, that the school in which you took your courses can most likely fill out the course verification form after students fill out as much as possible to make it easier for the school to find documentation; such as adding your student ID number, dates attended course, if known. Sandy Pence relayed that her team will be working as quickly as they can to keep up with requests for course verification while performing their other daily duties.

During the 4/7/18 Alaska DHA Spring Business meeting, it was also relayed that the state did not want to receive money for the certification until it was in effect, hence the effective date (4/14/18) being the day after the application is made available (4/13/18). Also, the state understands there will be a transition period and why the state will not actively pursue enforcement of the new certification until August 1st.

Furthermore, a request was made not to bog down the state with questions/calls about application status as the state will be working diligently to complete all of the applications as they are received. The AK BoDE representatives asked those who actively use nitrous to get your applications in the mail as soon as possible once the application is made available.

These new regulations will incur a ONE TIME application and permit fee which will eliminate the prior local anesthesia license, renewals, and associated fees thereby placing a local anesthesia certification and/or nitrous oxide certification on your dental hygiene license. This certification will be active as long as your dental hygiene license is active and will be a quick reference to all you share your dental hygiene license with to know if you are certified to perform local anesthesia and/or administer nitrous oxide. The state, through the application/certification process, will then have a registry of hygienists in the state of Alaska who have been certified in local anesthesia and/or the administration of nitrous oxide.

Please review the links above for more information. Royann Royer will be offering a nitrous oxide update CE December 1st through the Alaska DHA; more information to come!

Thank you to all who wrote letters to the state during public commenting period. These regulations are a result of our letters and why we DO NOT have to pay for a separate license and associated fees with renewals for nitrous oxide as originally proposed by the state. WE ARE STRONGER TOGETHER!

Your patience and understanding is greatly appreciated during this transition period.

Sincerely,
Lisa Bryant, RDH, BSDH
President, Alaska DHA
lbryant_rdh@yahoo.com
Dear Hygienists,

As most of you know, The State of Alaska Board of Dental Examiners is now requiring you be certified to practice Nitrous Oxide. We understand you need this certification to perform your current job and have a plan in place to assist you with the process.

There are two steps to obtaining the certification. First, you will need to complete the application and send it to the Alaska Board of Dental Examiners in Juneau (with payment). The second step is to send us the education/course verification portion of the application for completion. The instructions for this portion are listed below.

1. Visit the Alaska Board of Dental Examiners website on April 14th. This is when they should be posting the application for hygienists. (Edit: Application will be available on April 13th.)

2. There will be a section in the application called course verification or education verification. Please remove this section of the application, complete the top portion of the document and send to us.
   - Scan & email (photos are not accepted), to uaa_dentalprograms@alaska.edu
   - Fax: 907-786-6938
   - Mail: Attn. Alexis, AHS 148 University of Alaska Anchorage, 3211 Providence Drive, Anchorage, AK 99508

3. When sending course verifications please include: year you took the course, your current name and the name you held when you took the course, and your UAA student ID number if you know it.

4. Once received, we will get the necessary signatures for you, get the document sealed, and send it directly to the Alaska Board of Dental Examiners in Juneau.

5. The Alaska Board of Dental Examiners will match your application to the course verification and complete the processing and certification.

Please know we are doing everything we can to be proactive and process requests efficiently. If you have any questions feel free to call or email.

Thank you,

UAA Dental Programs
Administrative Assistant
Alexis Rasley
907-786-6936