

Our mission is to ensure and protect dental health by enforcement of the Kansas Dental Laws

Kansas Dental Board

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Board Reduces License Renewal Fees For Two Years

At its regularly scheduled Board meeting on Friday, November 8, 2013, the Board unanimously voted to reduce the license renewal fees by \$25 for each licensee during the next two license renewal years. The fee reduction will be effective beginning with the license renewal period that starts in October 2014.

The license fee reduction is, in part, the result of the Board's revamped website and implementation of a more robust online license renewal program.

The fee reduction is applicable to even-numbered licensees who are scheduled to renew starting in October 2014.

It is also applicable to odd-numbered licensees who are scheduled to renew in October 2015.

The license renewal fee will now be \$275 for each dentist. The license renewal fee will be \$125 for each hygienist. The fee reduction will not affect the amount of credit card surcharges collected by the third-party that processes electronic transactions through the online payment portal.

Current calculations indicate that the fee reduction will result in over \$200,000 in savings for all licensees over the next two years.

Board Supports Community Water Fluoridation

On Friday, November 8, 2013, the quorum of the Board unanimously decided to "support existing and future community water fluoridation throughout Kansas." The Board's support of community water fluoridation was taken into consideration when a legislative committee received testimony on 2014 House Bill 2372.

The bill would require public entities that fluoridate water to notify all consumers that fluoride lowers the I.Q. of children. The Kansas House Standing Committee on Health and Human

Services received written and verbal testimony on the bill during a legislative hearing on Wednesday, February 19, 2014.

The Board submitted written testimony in opposition to the bill. A number of bill opponents, including the Kansas Dental Association and Oral Health Kansas, also testified in opposition to the bill.

After an extensive hearing and consideration of all written and verbal testimony, the bill was tabled in the committee and did not pass. The committee voted 10-2 to table the bill, denying further advancement in the legislature.

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Sanitation Inspections

For the last two years, the Board's sanitation inspection team has worked diligently to perform sanitation inspections at a number of dental offices throughout the state. The sanitation inspection team aims to complete at least 360 sanitation inspections each year.

The Board's sanitation inspection team consists of licensed Kansas dentists who work on behalf of the Board. Having a licensed dentist perform a sanitation inspection ensures clearer communication between the inspector and dentist whose office is being inspected.

A sanitation inspector working on behalf of the Board has the authority to perform an announced

or unannounced visit at any dental office in the state. The goal of a sanitation inspection is to ensure compliance with the Board's sterilization and infection control regulation, K.A.R. 71-1-18.

One of the most common problems identified in sanitation inspections includes the failure to keep a clear and concise log of biological spore testing results that are readily accessible in a dental office for a period of three years. Another common problem is the failure to ensure that heat stable instruments are placed in a closed bag or container for sterilization and thereafter maintained in that bag or container until immediately before use.

Address and Name Changes

All licensees are required to update the Board within 30 days of any change of address. The update must be submitted in writing. The Board office has a form on the website that may be submitted electronically for address changes.

Any requested name changes must also be in writing. A name change requires a copy of the official government document that permits a name change.

Submitting written updates protect licensing files and ensure receipt of official Board communications.

Proposed Ethics Amendment to Continuing Education Regulation

The Board meeting for Friday, April 25, 2014, will be held at the Department of Children and Families Learning Center, 2600 SW East Circle Drive South Topeka, KS 66606.

The Board will consider an amendment to the continuing education regulation, K.A.R. 71-4-1. The amendment would require dentists to acquire two continuing education hours in ethics during each renewal cycle. These hours would be part of the 60 currently required. It would also require dental hygienists to acquire one continuing education hour in ethics during each renewal cycle. These hours would be part of the 30 hours currently required.

Further details regarding the proposed amendment may be found on the Board's website.

Board Recognizes Roger Stevens, D.D.S.

At its regularly scheduled public meeting on Friday, August 9, 2013, the Board recognized Roger Stevens, D.D.S., for his 8 years of hard work and dedicated service to the Board.

Dr. Stevens assisted the Board in a number of areas. In particular, Dr. Stevens diligently gave countless hours to the Board while working with the regional testing agencies, including the Western Regional Examination Board (WREB) and the Central Regional Dental Testing Service (CRDTS).

Dr. Stevens' work during his term on the Board and continued participation with the testing agencies reinforces one of the Board's chief roles; namely, to ensure that

each applicant for licensure as a dentist or dental hygienist successfully completes a standard clinical examination.



Roger Stevens, D.D.S. (Left), receives a plaque from Glenn Hemberger, D.D.S. (Right).

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**Frequently Asked Question: Do I need a sedation permit to perform conscious sedation?
Answer: Yes. You must have a Level I sedation permit to perform conscious sedation.**

Board Officer Elections

Glenn Hemberger, D.D.S., was elected President. Charles Squire, D.D.S., was elected Vice-President. Susan Rodgers, R.D.H., was elected Secretary. Elections are held at the first meeting of each year.

Future Board Meetings

Friday, April 25, 2014
Friday, August 8, 2014
Friday, November 7, 2014
All meetings held in Topeka.

Kansas Dental Well-Being Program

For assistance with drug, alcohol, and other personal problems, you may contact John Childers, Heart of America Professional Network, 6405 Metcalf Avenue, Suite 502, Overland Park, Kansas 66202 or (913) 236-7575.

