

**STATE OF CONNECTICUT
CONNECTICUT STATE DENTAL COMMISSION**

Re: Declaratory Ruling:

Requirements for the written and practical examinations under Conn. Gen. Stat. § 20-108(a)

PETITIONER: Connecticut State Dental Commission

**DECLARATORY RULING
MEMORANDUM OF DECISION**

Procedural Background

On December 5, 2018, the Connecticut State Dental Commission (the “Commission”) unanimously voted to issue a Declaratory Ruling (“the Petition”) with regard to the following question:

What are the minimum requirements to be accepted for the written and practical examinations by approved regional testing agencies under Conn. Gen. Stat. § 20-108(a)?

On December 18, 2018, a Notice of Declaratory Ruling Proceeding was published in the *Connecticut Law Journal* giving notice of the Commission’s intention to issue a declaratory ruling, without further proceedings, at its January 30, 2019 meeting in accordance with Conn. Gen. Stat. §§ 4-166 and 4-176. Commission Exhibit 1.

By law, a declaratory ruling constitutes a statement of agency law, which is binding upon those who participate in the hearing and may also be utilized by the Commission, on a case-by-case basis, in future proceedings before the Commission concerning the practice of dentistry. This Declaratory Ruling addresses the minimum requirements to be accepted for the written and practical examinations by approved regional testing agencies under Conn. Gen. Stat. § 20-108(a).

Connecticut General Statutes § 20-108a(a) authorizes the Dental Commission to set forth the minimum requirements to be accepted for the written and practical examinations by approved regional testing agencies, subject to the Commissioner of Public Health's consent. That provision provides, in relevant part, that:

[T]he Dental Commission with the consent of the Commissioner of Public Health, may accept and approve, in lieu of the written and practical examination required by this section, the results of regional testing agencies as to written and practical examinations, subject to such conditions as the commission, with the consent of the Commissioner of Public Health, may prescribe.

In making this Declaratory Ruling, the Commission relied on the training, expertise and specialized knowledge of its members in the field of Dentistry. *Pet v. Department of Health Services*, 228 Conn. 651, 670 (1994).

In order to protect the public health, welfare and safety, the Commission prescribes the following minimal standards and requirements for the written and practical examinations required under Conn. Gen. Stat. § 20-108(a), which applies to all testing agencies and to all applicants for a Connecticut dental license, and which shall include:

1. A patient-based practical examination that includes:
 - a. A Class III anterior preparation and restoration of an anterior tooth;
 - b. A Class II preparation and restoration of a posterior tooth with either composite or amalgam material; and,
 - c. A periodontal calculus deposit detection and calculus deposit removal, which shall include twelve (12) surfaces of calculus detection and removal.
2. A mannequin-based practical examination that includes:
 - a. Anterior endodontic procedure on a central incisor: access and obturation;
 - b. Posterior endodontics on a molar: access only and location of canals.
 - c. A ceramic crown preparation on a central incisor;
 - d. A porcelain-fused to metal crown preparation on a bicuspid;
 - e. A full cast crown preparation-zirconia crown on a molar; and,
 - f. The porcelain-fused to metal crown preparation on the bicuspid under paragraph 2(d) above and the molar zirconia crown preparation under paragraph 2(e) above must be on the same arch and parallel to each other for a three-unit fixed bridge.
3. An applicant for licensure must receive a passing score on each section (conjunctive scoring) of the patient-based and mannequin-based practical examination set forth in paragraphs 1(a), 1(b), 1(c), 2(a), 2(b), 2(c), 2(d), 2(e), and 2(f) independently.
4. An applicant for licensure must receive a passing score on each section of the written examination, including the dental skill set examination, the computer-based examination, and the diagnosis and treatment planning examination.

5. An applicant for licensure must retake any section of the patient-based and mannequin-based practical examination that the applicant for licensure has not received a passing score on and retake the written examination if the applicant for licensure has not received a passing score on any section of that examination.
6. An applicant for licensure must allow for remediation time before the applicant may retake the written examination and any portion of the practical examination that the applicant did not pass. An applicant for licensure may not retake the written examination or retake any portion of the practical examination on the same day of the applicant did not pass the exam.

Based on the foregoing, the Commission makes issues this declaratory ruling as set forth above.

6-12-19
Date

Jeanne P. Strathearn, DDS
Jeanne P. Strathearn, D.D.S., Chairperson
Connecticut State Dental Commission