

SOUTH CAROLINA BOARD OF DENTISTRY

POLICY / PROCEDURE

DENTAL LICENSE BY CREDENTIALS – “ACTIVE PRACTICE” REQUIREMENT

Pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. Sections 40-15-275; Board Regulation 39-1(B)

POLICY

S.C. Code Ann. Section 40-15-275 authorizes the Board to issue a license by credentials to an applicant who has been licensed to practice dentistry in any state or territory of the United States if the applicant complies with the provisions of Regulation 39-1(B) and meets all other requirements for licensure by credentials.

40-15-275(3) provides that an applicant for dental license by credentials must have “been actively practicing dentistry for a minimum of five (5) years immediately preceding the date of application. “Actively practicing” means working a minimum of twelve hundred hours a year in a private practice or public health or military clinical setting or the combination of twelve hundred hours a year of clinical instructing at a Commission on Dental Accreditation approved dental school and private practice.” The intent of the legislation was to assure current competency to practice dentistry as demonstrated by recent practice.

PROCEDURE

The Board will examine each applicant’s qualifications for a license by credentials on a case-by-case basis to determine whether the applicant can show satisfactory evidence of clinical practice within a reasonable proximate time preceding the application date.

1. **Active Practice Within Three Months of the Date of Application:**
An applicant for a dental license by credentials that provides satisfactory evidence of having actively practiced within three (3) months of the date of his/her application may be licensed without an appearance before the Board provided all other requirements for licensure have been met.
2. **Active Practice Within Three to Six Months of the Date of Application:**
An applicant for a dental license by credentials that has actively practiced within three (3) to six (6) months of the date of his/her application is required to appear before the Board as part of the application process.
3. **Active Practice Not Within Six Months of the Date of Application:**
An applicant that has not actively practiced within six (6) months of the date of his/her application does not meet the requirement of clinical practice within a reasonable proximate time preceding the date of application and, therefore, is not eligible for a license by credentials.

Policy Adopted: April 29, 2006

By: _____
H. Rion Alvey, Administrator