



110 Centerview Drive
Post Office Box 11329
Columbia, SC 29211-1329
Phone: (803) 896-4599
FAX: (803) 896-4719

South Carolina Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation

Board of Dentistry



Henry D. McMaster
Governor

Emily H. Farr
Director

March 17, 2020

Board of Dentistry Recommendation: COVID-19

The South Carolina Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation is working closely with state officials regarding the recent travel restrictions and state closures. At this time the SC Board of Dentistry (SCBD) is operating within normal business hours with all non-essential meetings being cancelled through March 31, 2020. If any member of the public or licensee requires assistance, they are encouraged to contact the Board office at 803-896-4599 or email to contact.dentisty@llr.sc.gov.

While the official position for South Carolina is the risk of COVID-19 remains low, like other healthcare professions, dentists and dental staff are at higher risk of transmission. It is the recommendation of the Board that licensees assist in reducing the risk of patient and staff exposure to COVID-19. As an integral part of the medical community, licensees are encouraged to reschedule all non-emergent care through March 31, 2020. Licensees are encouraged to assess staffing and inventory so as to be properly staffed and allow access to necessary and emergency dental services to the citizens of South Carolina and assist in reducing the demand on hospitals and ERs.

The recommendations outlined above from the SCBD are recommendations only and not a mandate. Licensees and dental offices maintain responsibility for appointment management, staffing and patient safety. For this reason, the SCBD, is urging licensees to review the most current recommendations from the [American Dental Association](#) and adhere to the [CDC Guidelines for Infection Control in Dental Health-Care Settings](#).

The SCBD will continue to monitor the situation and will communicate updates via email and Board website. Over the next few weeks, the Board encourages both the public and licensees to remain calm and take appropriate action to decrease the transmission of COVID-19.

Sincerely,

South Carolina Board of Dentistry