

WAC 246-817-420 Amendment consideration

- (1) A licensed dentist has the legal authority to practice in all areas of dentistry as defined in RCW 18.32.020 and also the authority to confine their practice in areas within the scope of their education, training, and experience and in accordance chapter 18.32 RCW and chapter 246-817 WAC.
- (2) A licensed dentist may advertise or represent themselves as a specialist if the dentist meets the standards listed in subsection (4) of this section.
- (3) A licensed dentist who does not meet the standards listed in subsection (4) of this section shall be considered a general dentist. A general dentist is permitted to render specialty services but shall not advertise or represent themselves as a specialist in the areas listed in subsection (4) of this section.
- (4) A licensed dentist must comply with one of the following requirements before advertising or representing themselves as a specialist in Washington:
 - (a) Successfully complete a Commission on Dental Accreditation or CODA post-doctoral education program at least two years in length, in one of the following specialty areas:
 - (i) dental anesthesiology;
 - (ii) dental public health;
 - (iii) endodontics;
 - (iv) oral and maxillofacial pathology;
 - (v) oral and maxillofacial surgery;
 - (vi) oral and maxillofacial radiology;
 - (vii) orthodontics and dentofacial orthopedics;
 - (viii) pediatric dentistry;
 - (ix) periodontics; or
 - (x) prosthodontics;
 - (b) Successfully complete a CODA, Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education, or United State Department of Education accredited post-doctoral education program at least two years in length in a special interest area of general dentistry not listed in subsection (4)(a); or
 - (c) Is a specialist as defined by the National Commission on Recognition of Dental Specialties and Certifying Boards, or its successor organization.
- (5) It shall be misleading, deceptive, or unprofessional conduct for a licensed dentist to advertise or represent themselves by adopting or using any title to the public as a dental specialist, expert, board certified, or diplomate practicing in an area when they have not successfully completed the requirements specified for the dental specialty listed in subsection (4) of this section.
 - (a) A licensed dentist in a group practice must be identified as a general dentist or a specialist as listed in subsection 4 of this section.
 - (b) A general dentist in a group practice shall include that they are a general dentist or practice general dentistry.

- (c) A licensed dentist in a group practice whom meets the standards listed in subsection (4) of this section shall include the area of their specialty.
- (d) Names and qualifications must be made available to the public upon request.

Consider if this option should be included in above rule.

(4) (d) A certifying board may apply for a new area of specialty to become commission-approved by submitting information regarding the area of specialty, including an explanation of how the proposed specialty is within the scope of practice of dentistry in Iowa, and proof of the following:

- (i). The proposed specialty is separate and distinct from any preexisting specialty recognized by the board or combination of board-recognized dental specialties;
- (ii). The proposed specialty is a distinct and well-defined field which requires unique knowledge and skills beyond those commonly possessed by dental school graduates;
- (iii). The certifying board is an independent entity that is comprised of licensed dentists, whose membership is reflective of the proposed specialty, and that is incorporated and governed solely by the licensed dentists/board members;
- (iv). The certifying board has a permanent headquarters and staff;
- (v). The certifying board has issued diplomate certificates to licensed dentists for at least five years;
- (vi). The certifying board requires passing an oral and written examination based on psychometric principles that tests the applicant's knowledge and skill in the proposed specialty;
- (vii). The certifying board requires all dentists who seek certification in the proposed specialty to have successfully completed a specified, objectively verifiable amount of post-DDS or -DMD education and experience that is appropriate for the proposed specialty area, as determined by the board; and
- (viii). The certifying board's website that includes online resources for the consumer to verify the certifying board's certification requirements and a list of the names and addresses of the dentists who have been awarded certification by the board shall be made available for public access.

Additional option or alternative to above?

Successfully complete a CODA, Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education, or United State Department of Education post-doctoral education program that contains at least the following:

- (i) At least one year in length in a special interest area of general dentistry not listed in subsection (4) of this section;
- (ii) Five years of hospital privileges or holding a specialty license or permit; and
- (iii) 500 operating room case hours.