

**A-Engrossed**  
**House Bill 3223**

Ordered by the House March 13  
Including House Amendments dated March 13

Sponsored by Representatives PHAM H, JAVADI

**SUMMARY**

The following summary is not prepared by the sponsors of the measure and is not a part of the body thereof subject to consideration by the Legislative Assembly. It is an editor's brief statement of the essential features of the measure.

Prohibits Oregon Board of Dentistry from requiring applicant for certification as dental assistant to pass written examination. Requires board to adopt rules to establish alternative pathways to certification.

Takes effect on 91st day following adjournment sine die.

**A BILL FOR AN ACT**

1  
2 Relating to dental assistants; and prescribing an effective date.

3 **Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:**

4 **SECTION 1. Section 2 of this 2023 Act is added to and made a part of ORS chapter 679.**

5 **SECTION 2. (1) In adopting rules related to the requirements for certification as a dental**  
6 **assistant, including any type of expanded function dental assistant, the Oregon Board of**  
7 **Dentistry may not require an applicant for certification to pass a written examination.**

8 **(2) The board shall by rule establish alternative pathways to certification as any type of**  
9 **dental assistant, including any type of expanded function dental assistant. The pathways**  
10 **must include, but are not limited to, the completion of at least the following procedures:**

11 **(a) For certification as an expanded function dental assistant:**

12 **(A) Polish amalgam or composite surfaces;**

13 **(B) Remove supragingival excess cement from crowns or fixed partial dentures using**  
14 **hand instruments;**

15 **(C) Place temporary restorative material in teeth;**

16 **(D) Preliminarily fit crowns to check contact or adjust occlusion outside the oral cavity;**

17 **(E) Remove temporary crowns and clean teeth for final cementation;**

18 **(F) Fabricate and cement temporary crowns or fixed partial dentures;**

19 **(G) Polish coronal surfaces of teeth with a brush or rubber cup as part of oral**  
20 **prophylaxis; and**

21 **(H) Place matrix bands on teeth prepared for Class II restorations;**

22 **(b) For certification as an expanded function orthodontic dental assistant:**

23 **(A) Place and ligate orthodontic wires on a patient; and**

24 **(B) Remove bands or brackets and remaining adhesive on teeth by using an ultrasonic**  
25 **hand scaler or slow-speed handpiece; and**

26 **(c) For certification as an expanded function preventative dental assistant, polish the**  
27 **coronal surfaces of teeth with a brush or rubber cup to remove stains as part of oral**

**NOTE:** Matter in **boldfaced** type in an amended section is new; matter *[italic and bracketed]* is existing law to be omitted. New sections are in **boldfaced** type.

1 prophylaxis.

2 (3) The rules adopted by the board under subsection (2) of this section must require that  
3 an applicant:

4 (a) Complete the procedures listed in subsection (2) of this section under the supervision  
5 of a dentist licensed to practice dentistry in this state and that the applicant provide a  
6 written attestation from the dentist to confirm the applicant's successful completion of the  
7 procedures; or

8 (b) If the applicant follows another pathway to certification established under subsection  
9 (2) of this section, provide a written attestation from a dentist licensed to practice dentistry  
10 in this state confirming that the applicant has successfully completed any requirements for  
11 the pathway to certification.

12 (4) The board may not require an applicant for certification as any type of dental assist-  
13 ant to complete more than one pathway to certification for that type of dental assistant.

14 **SECTION 3.** Section 2 of this 2023 Act applies to applications for certification as a dental  
15 assistant submitted on or after the effective date of this 2023 Act.

16 **SECTION 4.** (1) Section 2 of this 2023 Act becomes operative on January 1, 2024.

17 (2) The Oregon Board of Dentistry may take any action before the operative date speci-  
18 fied in subsection (1) of this section that is necessary to enable the board to exercise, on and  
19 after the operative date specified in subsection (1) of this section, all of the duties, functions  
20 and powers conferred on the board by section 2 of this 2023 Act.

21 **SECTION 5.** This 2023 Act takes effect on the 91st day after the date on which the 2023  
22 regular session of the Eighty-second Legislative Assembly adjourns sine die.

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