

**B-Engrossed**  
**House Bill 3223**

Ordered by the Senate June 20  
Including House Amendments dated March 13 and Senate Amendments  
dated June 20

Sponsored by Representatives PHAM H, JAVADI, Senators GELSER BLOUIN, MANNING JR; Representative  
LEVY E

**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.]* **Allows Oregon Board of Dentistry to require applicant for certification as dental assistant to pass written examination. Specifies requirements for examination. Becomes operative July 1, 2025.**

**Directs board to convene advisory committee to study dental assistant workforce shortage and review dental assistant certification requirements in other states.**

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 require an applicant for certification to pass a written examination. If passage**  
8 **of a written examination is required for certification as a dental assistant, including any type**  
9 **of expanded function dental assistant, the board may accept the results of any examination**  
10 **that is:**

11 **(a)(A) Administered by a dental education program in this state that is accredited by the**  
12 **Commission on Dental Accreditation of the American Dental Association, or its successor**  
13 **organization, and approved by the board by rule;**

14 **(B) Administered by a dental education program in this state that is approved by the**  
15 **Commission for Continuing Education Provider Recognition of the American Dental Associ-**  
16 **ation, or its successor organization, and approved by the board by rule; or**

17 **(C) An examination comparable to an examination described in subparagraph (A) or (B)**  
18 **of this paragraph that is administered by a testing agency approved by the board by rule; and**

19 **(b) Offered in plain language in English, Spanish and Vietnamese.**

20 **(2) The board may not require an applicant for certification as a dental assistant, in-**  
21 **cluding any type of expanded function dental assistant, to complete more than one written**  
22 **examination for certification as that type of dental assistant.**

23 **SECTION 3. Section 2 of this 2023 Act applies to applications for certification as a dental**

**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 assistant, including any type of expanded function dental assistant, submitted on or after the  
2 operative date specified in section 4 of this 2023 Act.

3 **SECTION 4.** (1) Section 2 of this 2023 Act becomes operative on July 1, 2025.

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

8 **SECTION 5.** (1) The Oregon Board of Dentistry shall convene an advisory committee of  
9 at least seven members to study the dental assistant workforce shortage and to review the  
10 requirements for dental assistant certification in other states. The committee shall provide  
11 advice to the board on a quarterly basis on how to address the dental assistant workforce  
12 shortage in this state.

13 (2)(a) In appointing members to the advisory committee, the board shall prioritize di-  
14 versity of geographic representation, background, culture and experience.

15 (b) A majority of the members appointed to the committee must have experience working  
16 as dental assistants.

17 **SECTION 6.** This 2023 Act takes effect on the 91st day after the date on which the 2023  
18 regular session of the Eighty-second Legislative Assembly adjourns sine die.  
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