

By: Campos

H.B. No. 1825

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT
2 relating to continuing education requirements for dentists
3 regarding pain management with certain prescription medications.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

5 SECTION 1. Section 257.005, Occupations Code, is amended by
6 amending Subsection (b-1) and adding Subsections (d), (e), (f), and
7 (g) to read as follows:

8 (b-1) The board shall require a licensed dentist whose
9 practice includes direct patient care to complete, in accordance
10 with this section, not less than two hours of board-approved
11 continuing education [~~annually~~] regarding safe and effective pain
12 management related to the prescription of opioids and other
13 controlled substances, including education regarding:

- 14 (1) reasonable standards of care;
15 (2) the identification of drug-seeking behavior in
16 patients; and
17 (3) effectively communicating with patients regarding
18 the prescription of an opioid or other controlled substance.

19 (d) A dentist must complete the hours required by Subsection
20 (b-1) in each of the first two renewal periods following the
21 issuance of the dentist's initial license, with two of those hours
22 to be completed not later than the first anniversary of the date of
23 issuance.

24 (e) After the period described by Subsection (d), a dentist

1 must complete not less than two hours of continuing education
2 described by Subsection (b-1) every eight years.

3 (f) The hours required by this section may be completed in
4 any continuing education program approved by the board.

5 (g) Notwithstanding Subsections (d) and (e), a dentist who
6 on September 1, 2021, holds a license to practice under this
7 subtitle shall complete not less than two hours of continuing
8 education described by Subsection (b-1) in each of the two renewal
9 periods occurring after that date. This subsection expires January
10 1, 2026.

11 SECTION 2. (a) Not later than January 1, 2022, the State
12 Board of Dental Examiners shall adopt rules necessary to implement
13 Section 257.005, Occupations Code, as amended by this Act.

14 (b) Section 257.005, Occupations Code, as amended by this
15 Act, applies only to an application for renewal of a license
16 submitted on or after January 1, 2022. A renewal application
17 submitted before January 1, 2022, is governed by the law in effect
18 immediately before the effective date of this Act, and the former
19 law is continued in effect for that purpose.

20 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2021.