Variety of Dentistry Changes Began July 1st

The Indiana General Assembly made several changes to the Dental Board statute last session. Below are some of the highlights from Senate Bill 590 that became effective on July 1, 2013:

- **Compliance Fund Fee** – A compliance fee of twenty dollars ($20) was established to be deposited in the Dental Compliance Fund. The fee will be added to the 2014 renewal.
- **Limited Voluntary Charitable Permit for Dentist and Dental Hygienist** - The permit will allow a dentist or dental hygienist to provide, without compensation, dental care to individuals who are indigent, in critical need, or uninsured.
- **Dental Hygienists will be able to us the title of “R.D.H.”**
- **Licensure for Dentists who have been awarded a doctoral degree in dentistry or an equivalent degree from an unaccredited dental college located outside the United States may be able to obtain a license by meeting certain criteria.**
- **Practice of Dentistry** – This section was amended to state that a person is practicing dentistry if they make oral images for the fabrication of a final restoration, impression, or cast for the purpose of diagnosis or treatment thereof or for the construction, repair, reproduction, or duplication of any prosthetic device to alleviate or cure any oral lesion or replace any lost oral structures, tissue, or teeth.
- **Discontinuation of a Practice** – A new section was added that states what is required by a dentist who is...

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Message from the PLA Director - Nicholas W. Rhoad

All of us at the Indiana Professional Licensing Agency appreciate your professionalism and your commitment to make Indiana a state that works. Chief Executive magazine recently ranked Indiana as the fifth best state for business in America and first in the Midwest. Site Selection magazine ranked Indiana second in its list of Top 10 Competitive States.

We are focused on removing unnecessary barriers to practice and doing all that we can to support businesses in the Hoosier state. I hope you will join me and the PLA staff in helping Governor Mike Pence cut red tape to infuse energy into our business climate. Every dollar not spent on paperwork and bureaucracy is another dollar that can be spent putting Hoosiers to work. I look forward to visit-

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No Longer Practicing? License Options in Indiana

If you no longer practice dentistry or dental hygiene in Indiana, you have three options for the status of your license. The status of an active license can only be changed during the renewal window that opens approximately 75 days before the license expires.

**Let it expire** – If you don’t foresee practicing dentistry or dental hygiene in the state of Indiana, you can choose to let the license expire. To make it active in the future, contact the State Board of Dentistry to request a renewal form and renewal information. You will need to show proof of continuing education for each renewal period missed. If your license has been expired for over 3 years, you will be required to appear before the board for approval.

**Make it Inactive** – If you choose to go inactive, the activation process can be more forgiving than if the license is allowed to expire. To go inactive, request a renewal form and answer yes to the question concerning the inactive status. To activate the license in the future, contact the Board to request a renewal form and activation information. To activate, you must show proof of half the regular amount of continuing education for each renewal period missed. For example, if a dentist renews after 2 years, only 10 hours of continuing education would need to be shown instead of 20 because only one renewal period was missed. If the license has been expired for over 5 years, you must appear before the board for approval. If the inactive request is postmarked after the license expires, we cannot update the status to inactive.

**Keep it Active** – If you meet the renewal requirements, your license can be active as long as you wish. You don’t have to practice in Indiana to have a dental or dental hygiene license active.

**Is your license active?**

If you renewed your license and have not checked the status online, are you certain your license is active? When in doubt, you can go to [www.pla.in.gov](http://www.pla.in.gov) and click on “Search and Verify License”. This will allow you to search by your license number to ensure your license is active. Licenses can be renewed online for up to 18 months after the license expires. If your license is expired over 18 months and you wish to make it active, you will need to contact the Board for your renewal form and instructions.

If you have a Controlled Substances Registration (CSR), the search and verify function will also allow you to view the approved drug schedules and verify your correct practice location. If the practice location is no longer correct, please email or mail the Board to update the address. If the CSR is expired, contact the Board for further instruction.

Message from the PLA Director, continued from page 1

“**We’re striving to cut red tape to make Indiana a state that works! Have ideas? Please give us your suggestions at [www.in.gov/cutredtape](http://www.in.gov/cutredtape).**”

Nicholas W. Rhoad
PLA Executive Director

I look forward to hearing from you. Thank you for making Indiana an even better place to live and work!
Please be reminded that in order to renew your Dentist and Dental Hygienist license for the March 1, 2014 expiration date, you must have at least one-half of your credit hours from live presentations or live workshops. Please make sure that you have the required number of hours with which to renew your license.

You can visit the Board’s website for further information regarding continuing education requirements at www.pla.in.gov.

If you have questions, please contact our office by calling (317) 234-2054 or by email at pla8@pla.in.gov.

Dentists and Dental Hygienists with licenses issued after March 1, 2012 will not need to have continuing education to renew their license in 2014. The statutes found at www.in.gov/pla/2404.htm declare that new licensees are exempt from the continuing education requirements for their first renewal period.

If you have questions about your issue date or continuing education, please email us at pla8@pla.in.gov or call (317)234-2054.

When obtaining continuing education certificates, please verify the certificate has all necessary information: participant’s name and license number, name of the approved sponsor, name of the course, number of hours completed, date the course was completed, and the location of the program. If anything is missing, the attendee must contact the sponsor of the program and obtain a corrected certificate that includes the necessary information. If the participant information is blank when the certificate is issued, enter your information to ensure it is complete. See more at 828 IAC 1-5-3 of the dental statutes and rules at www.in.gov/pla/2404.htm. If a licensee is chosen for the continuing education audit and submits certificates missing any of the necessary information, the continuing education certificate can be denied.

CPR Certifications Must Go Live

Whether applying for licensure or completing continuing education requirements, the State Board of Dentistry will only accept certifications obtained from live or blended programs.

A blended program is a CPR course that can be mostly self-study or online but is only complete after the participant’s skills are evaluated by a certified instructor.

Questions? Please ask at pla8@pla.in.gov or (317) 234-2054.
Please alert us when your contact information changes. Updating your address, phone number, and email address is easy at www.pla.in.gov or https://mylicense.in.gov/egov/. Your login ID is your entire license number including the “A” and the password is the last 4 digits of your social security number. To make a name change, you can send a copy of your marriage license, divorce decree, or an updated social security card to us with your request by email at pla8@pla.in.gov or by mail at:

Indiana Professional Licensing Agency
Attn: State Board of Dentistry
402 West Washington Street, Room W072
Indianapolis, IN 46204

Indiana Dental Board Staff
(317) 234-2054 * pla8@pla.in.gov

Cindy Vaught, Board Director
Heather Hollcraft, Assistant Director
Keri Ann Reed, Customer Service Representative
Deanne Bullman, Customer Service Representative
Andrea Wade, Customer Service Representative

Statutory Changes, continued from page 1

retiring, discontinuing a practice or moving from or leaving a community.

• During the 2013 legislative interim, the health finance commission established by IC 2-5-23-3 will study issues concerning the delivery of dental practices by a person other than an individual licensed under IC 25-14 and current options and procedures in Indiana and other states concerning consumer protections for dental care services.

If you would like a copy of Senate Bill 590 or an updated compilation of your statute and rules, please go to the IPLA website at www.pla.in.gov. If you have questions, please call us at (317) 234-2054 or email pla8@pla.in.gov.

Stay Connected with the Dental Board

Hardcopy of License, Permit, or Registration

We receive many inquiries from professionals asking when to expect new license cards or wall certificates in the mail. IPLA no longer sends these when a license, permit or registration is issued or renewed. Instead, you can now visit www.pla.in.gov and either print one for yourself, or order a hard copy of the 5"x7" wall certificate with your license card attached, printed on blue marbled cardstock, for a fee of $13.77.

For detailed instructions to navigate this process, you can go to the Dentistry home page at www.in.gov/pla/dental.htm and click on “Instructions to Obtain License Card”. If you would like to have the large, decorative certificate, please visit www.officialframes.com to place your order.
**Disciplinary Action**

You can find more detail on disciplinary procedure and public records from disciplinary actions at [PLA Litigation Search](#).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Action Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Rahil Akhtar, D.M.D.</td>
<td>10/18/2013</td>
<td>License placed on indefinite suspension due to failure to comply with probationary terms and conditions and failure to appear.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Greg Barry, D.D.S.</td>
<td>8/21/2013</td>
<td>Indefinite Probation with terms and conditions. CSR voluntarily surrendered. Prescribing for use other than in the proper course of dental diagnosis or treatment, and in so doing, practiced beyond the scope of his license, failure to keep proper records for dispensing and failure to keep records and maintain inventories of controlled substances.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Michael Goodwin, D.D.S.</td>
<td>10/18/2013</td>
<td>License was Revoked and $2000 fine. Convicted of a crime involving fraudulent billing practices under Medicaid. Engaged in fraud or material deception in the course of professional services or activities as evidenced by his conviction of Health Care Fraud.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Karen Kamer, D.M.D.</td>
<td>8/7/2013</td>
<td>Indefinite probation with terms and conditions and $2,000 fine. Failing to maintain records of an examination, diagnosis, and treatment performed and by making access perforations, and/or failing to fill all canals, presumed to be accessible, during root canal procedures, and/or failing to formulate adequate treatment plans and/or render appropriate post-operative care.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Denise Lawrence, L.D.H.</td>
<td>8/22/2013</td>
<td>Extension of Summary Suspension.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anita Miles, L.D.H.</td>
<td>9/6/2013</td>
<td>Letter of reprimand and $200 fine. Engaged in or knowingly cooperated in fraud or material deception in order to obtain a license to practice.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Benjamin Porter, D.D.S.</td>
<td>8/22/2013</td>
<td>Summary Suspension of dental license. 10/18/2013 Agreement to continue the summary suspension.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arthur Roberts, D.D.S.</td>
<td>8/21/2013</td>
<td>Letter of reprimand and $1000 fine. Using the designation of M.D. and not being license as such in the state of Indiana.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Erin Shelton, L.D.H.</td>
<td></td>
<td>Letter of reprimand and $250 Fine. Engaged in or knowingly cooperated in fraud or material deception in order to obtain a license to practice.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Samuel Wakim, D.D.S.</td>
<td>8/21/2013</td>
<td>Letter of reprimand and $2,000 fine. Failure to disclose charge and settlement of the charge in the state of California on February 2012 renewal.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>