

Part I – Agency Profile

Agency Overview:

The Board of Dentistry is mandated and authorized by the Idaho Dental Practice Act (and the administrative rules promulgated thereunder) to assure the health, safety and welfare of the citizens of Idaho through the licensure and regulation of qualified dentists and dental hygienists. The standards applicable to the licensure and regulation of dentists and dental hygienists are set forth in the Idaho Dental Practice Act (Chapter 9, Title 54, Idaho Code) and the Administrative Rules of the Idaho State Board of Dentistry (IDAPA 19, Title 01, Chapter 01). The Board of Dentistry is also authorized to certify dental assistants who are competent in specified expanded function duties. The Board of Dentistry was established in the Department of Self-Governing Agencies and the Board consists of eight (8) members - five (5) dentist members, two (2) dental hygienist members and a consumer member, all of whom are appointed by the Governor. Each Board of Dentistry member serves a term of five (5) years. One (1) of the dentist members serves as the chairman of the Board of Dentistry. The Board of Dentistry meets on a quarterly basis, but on occasion has conducted additional in-person or telephone conference meetings as needed. Meetings of the Board of Dentistry are conducted in accordance with the Idaho Open Meeting Act. The Board of Dentistry is a dedicated fund agency whose funding is primarily derived from the collection of application and licensing fees. The Board of Dentistry receives no general fund monies. The Board of Dentistry's spending authority is controlled by legislative appropriation. The Board of Dentistry's office is located in Boise, Idaho, and its staff (3.0 FTE's) consists of an executive director, an administrative assistant and an office specialist.

Core Functions/Idaho Code:

The principal functions of the Board of Dentistry include the following: conducting an application process for licensure of qualified dentists and dental hygienists, whether by examination or credentials [Idaho Code §§ 54-912(1), (2) and (3), 54-915, 54-916, 54-916A, 54-916B, 54-917 and 54-918]; conducting a license renewal process for dentists and dental hygienists that includes the mandatory reporting of continuing education [Idaho Code §§ 54-920]; regulating the standards and scope of practice for dentists, dental hygienists and dental assistants by statutory enactment in the Idaho Dental Practice Act and through the administrative rules promulgated thereunder [Idaho Code §§ 54-901, 54-902, 54-904, 54-912(4)]; conducting an anesthesia permit process for dentists seeking to administer conscious sedation and general anesthesia to patients [Idaho Code § 54-912(4)]; enforcing the professional standards applicable to dentists and dental hygienists by means of conducting investigations and due process hearings to impose discipline against licensees if deemed warranted [Idaho Code §§ 54-912(6) and (7), 54-923, 54-924 and 54-925]; and conducting inspections of dental offices in Idaho to assure compliance with infection control and emergency preparedness standards [Idaho Code §§ 54-912(5)].

Principal Activities of the Board of Dentistry

Examination Function:

All applicants for licensure in Idaho must be graduates of dental or dental hygiene programs accredited by the American Dental Association's Commission on Dental Accreditation. The Idaho Dental Practice Act requires, among other matters, that applicants for licensure as a dentist or dental hygienist successfully pass the National Board written examination administered by the American Dental Association, a clinical examination administered by the Western Regional Examining Board or the Central Regional Dental Testing Service (see explanation below), the jurisprudence examination administered by the Board of Dentistry and any additional examinations required for specialty licensure or otherwise necessary to assess a person's skill level. All members of the Board of Dentistry, with the exception of the consumer member, participate as examiners in the clinical examinations conducted by the Western Regional Examining Board. States currently participating as members in the Western Regional Examining Board are Alaska, Arizona, California, Idaho, Missouri, Montana, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Oregon, Texas, Utah, Washington and Wyoming. The Western Regional Examining Board conducts approximately thirty-two (32) dental examinations and thirty-four (34) dental hygiene examinations each year at selected dental and dental hygiene schools predominantly located in mid-western and western states. Members of the Board of Dentistry also serve as examiners in regional specialty examinations conducted during July of every year in Chicago, Illinois.

Effective as of January 1, 2001, the Board of Dentistry voted to accept the results of the clinical examination conducted by the Central Regional Dental Testing Service for licensure purposes. At various times, the Western Regional Examining Board and the Central Regional Dental Testing Service exchange examiners in order to ensure uniformity and comparability in their respective examinations. Effective as of January 1, 2006, the Board of Dentistry voted to accept the results of dental clinical examinations administered by testing entities using the ADEX examination.

Licensure/Permit Function:

The Board of Dentistry licenses dentists and dental hygienists upon the basis of examination [applicants who have successfully passed the required clinical examination within the five (5) year period immediately prior to the date of application] or credentials (dentists or dental hygienists practicing under an unrestricted active license in another state having equivalent licensing requirements). The applicable standards for licensure as a dentist or dental hygienist are set forth in the Idaho Dental Practice Act and the Idaho State Board of Dentistry's Administrative Rules. Effective as of July 1, 2006, all licenses issued by the Board of Dentistry are renewed on a biennial basis with dental hygienist licenses being renewed on April 1st of each odd numbered year and dental licenses being renewed on October 1st of each even numbered year. Dentists and dental hygienists are required to report a specified amount of continuing education credits in order to renew their licenses.

The Board of Dentistry also currently issues dental and dental hygienist licenses with inactive, provisional, special and retirement status. A license with inactive or retirement status does not authorize or entitle the holder to practice dentistry or dental hygiene in Idaho. A license with provisional or special status allows the holder to practice dentistry or dental hygiene in Idaho subject to the conditions or restrictions attached to the license. The Board of Dentistry is also authorized to issue a volunteer's license to qualified retired dentists and dental hygienists who desire to practice dentistry in public or charitable settings on a volunteer basis. The Board of Dentistry is also authorized to issue an extended access dental hygiene license endorsement to qualified dental hygienists who desire to practice dental hygiene in public or charitable settings under the general supervision of a dentist. A new administrative rule authorizes qualified dental hygienists to perform specified restorative functions under the direct supervision of a dentist in extended access oral health care programs.

Dentists and dental specialists seeking authorization to administer anesthesia to the level of conscious sedation or general anesthesia/deep sedation may apply to the Board of Dentistry for an anesthesia permit. The anesthesia permit process requires evaluation of the applicant's office equipment/medications and emergency preparedness. Anesthesia permits are valid for a period of five (5) years at which time further evaluation is required prior to renewal of the permit.

Enforcement Function:

The Board of Dentistry receives complaints against licensees primarily from patients and occasionally from other practitioners and governmental entities. In addition, the Board of Dentistry can process complaints against licensees on its own initiative. Complaints received are initially screened in order to determine whether a violation of the Dental Practice Act or the administrative rules has been alleged and whether there has been an attempt to resolve the complaint with the licensee. Following receipt by the Board of Dentistry of a written complaint, the licensee is contacted and requested to provide a written response and copies of the applicable patient dental records. Following receipt of the licensee's written response, the complaint may be assigned to a Board of Dentistry consultant/investigator for additional fact-finding and review. The Board of Dentistry members review complaints at their quarterly meetings. Upon review by the members of the Board of Dentistry, a determination is made as to whether a violation of the Idaho Dental Practice Act or the administrative rules occurred and, if so, what additional action, whether disciplinary or otherwise, is required in the case. Certain violations may be resolved in an informal manner without the initiation of disciplinary action against the licensee. If disciplinary action is required, the Board of Dentistry will cause an administrative complaint to be prepared and served upon the licensee. If the administrative complaint is not resolved by a consent agreement, the matter will be taken to administrative hearing for adjudication.

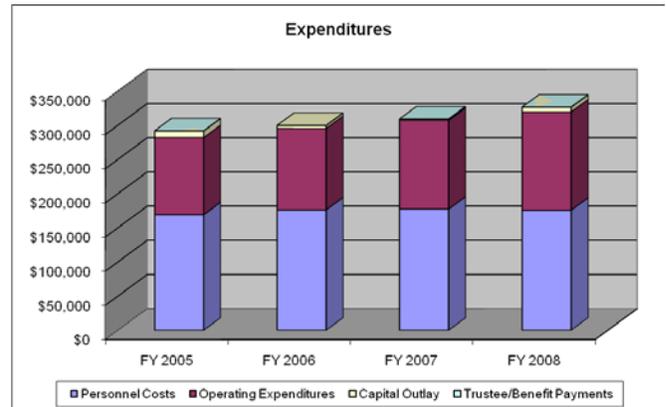
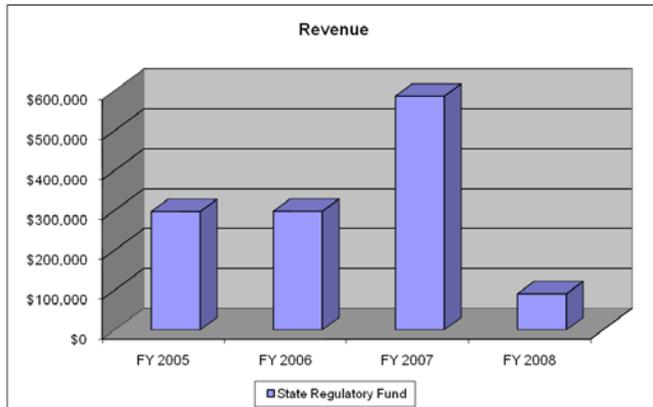
Random Office Review Function:

In accordance with statutory mandate, the Board of Dentistry conducts a number of office reviews each year. The offices to be reviewed are selected on a random basis at geographic locations throughout the state. The random office reviews are conducted by Board of Dentistry consultants/investigators. The purposes of these reviews are

three fold: 1) to assist in compliance with continuing education requirements; 2) to review infection/sterilization control practices; and 3) to facilitate communication between the practitioner and the Board of Dentistry. All dental offices reviewed are given prior notification of the time and date of the review and are advised as to the matters being reviewed. The Board of Dentistry typically conducts approximately seventy (70) random office reviews during each fiscal year.

Revenue and Expenditures:

Revenues	FY 2005	FY 2006	FY 2007	FY 2008
State Regulatory Fund	\$296,600	\$297,300	\$585,900	\$90,600
Total	\$296,600	\$297,300	\$585,900	\$90,600
Expenditures	FY 2005	FY 2006	FY 2007	FY 2008
Personnel Costs	\$169,100	\$176,100	\$177,300	\$175,600
Operating Expenditures	\$112,900	\$119,200	\$130,000	\$143,800
Capital Outlay	9,600	\$4,300	\$1,800	\$7,000
Trustee/Benefit Payments	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total	\$291,600	\$299,600	\$309,100	\$320,000



Profile of Cases Managed and/or Key Services Provided

Cases Managed and/or Key Services Provided	FY 2005	FY 2006	FY 2007	FY 2008
Initial Licenses Issued:				
Dentists	77	95	83	83
Dental Hygienists	102	131	97	130
Total	179	226	180	213
Professional Licenses Renewed:				Biennial Cycle
Dentists	1,375	1,394	1,429	
Dental Hygienists	1,180	1,153	1,298	
Total	2,555	2,547	2,727	
Dental Offices Inspected:	75	46	53	60
Patient Complaints Received (Written):	120	92	107	67
Complaints Investigated/Reviewed by Board of Dentistry (Action Taken):	46	39	40	44
Administrative Hearings Conducted:	4	4	4	0

Performance Highlights: Commencing in 2004, laptop computers were purchased for use by the eight (8) Board of Dentistry members and meetings were thereafter conducted in an electronic manner (all meeting materials copied to discs and accessed by means of the laptop computers). In 2005, the Board of Dentistry transitioned to a new data base that allows for on-line license renewals. The Board of Dentistry proposed legislation and administrative rules during the past several legislative sessions that resulted in the following: enactment of a volunteer license to allow retired dentists and dental hygienists to volunteer their services in public and charitable dental programs; enactment of an extended access dental hygiene endorsement to allow qualified dental hygienists to practice under general supervision in public and charitable dental programs; approval of the expansion in the permissible scope of practice for both dental hygienists and dental assistants; and the revision of licensing standards to allow the Board of Dentistry to accept the results of state, regional and national dental and dental hygiene examinations.

Part II – Performance Measures

Performance Measure	2005	2006	2007	2008
1. Average # of business days from receipt of a completed license application to issuance of a license.			3	3
2. Average # of business days from receipt of a completed anesthesia permit application to issuance of a permit.			14	14
3. Average # of business days from receipt of a meritorious complaint until completion of investigation.			45	45
4. Average # of business days from completion of complaint investigation to date of Board of Dentistry final action.			45-90	45-90
5. Revise jurisprudence examinations to reflect statute/rule changes.	Annual	Annual	Annual	Annual

Performance Measures Explanatory Note:

Regarding performance measure #3, there are matters associated with complaint investigations that are beyond the control of the Board of Dentistry. For example, the availability of dentist investigators and the degree of cooperation of the subject of the complaint can affect the length of an investigation. Regarding performance measure #4, the members of the Board of Dentistry review complaints and make final decisions at their regularly scheduled meetings. Although a complaint investigation may be completed, there may be some period of time before the Board members conduct a meeting and review the complaint.

For More Information Contact

Arthur R. Sacks
 Dentistry, Board of
 350 N. 9th St., Suite M100
 PO Box 83720
 Boise, ID 83720-0021
 Phone: (208) 334-2369
 E-mail: asacks@isbd.idaho.gov