



Economic Impact Analysis Virginia Department of Planning and Budget

18 VAC 60-20 – Regulations Governing Dental Practice
Department of Health Professions
April 23, 2013

Summary of the Proposed Amendments to Regulation

The Board of Dentistry (Board) proposes to add the American Academy of Dental Hygiene and its constituent and component/branch associations to the listing of organizations and entities that can approve continuing education courses for dentists and dental hygienists in Virginia.

Result of Analysis

The benefits likely exceed the costs for all proposed changes.

Estimated Economic Impact

Dentists and dental hygienists are required to complete a minimum of 15 hours of approved continuing education for each annual renewal of licensure. These regulations provide a list of approved continuing education sponsors. The Board proposes to add the American Academy of Dental Hygiene and its constituent and component/branch associations (Academy) to the list.

Adding the Academy to the list of approved sponsors will give dental hygienists additional options for meeting their continuing education requirement for renewal. The additional options may provide some cost savings, be more convenient, or be more applicable for the needs of some licensees. Thus the additional option should produce a benefit. The Department of Health Professions has determined that the Academy has developed standards for continuing education courses, which are evaluated for content, depth, accuracy and outcome. Courses must relate to current dental hygiene practice and patient care and are intended to enhance the licensee's knowledge, skills and competence in the provision of safe, effective

services to patients. Thus, the additional approved courses should be of sufficient quality to help ensure the competence of the licensees. Given the potential cost savings, increased convenience, increased applicability, and assurance of quality, the proposed amendment should provide a net benefit.

Businesses and Entities Affected

The proposed amendment potentially affects the 5403 dental hygienists currently licensed in Virginia, as well as the 3049 dental offices in the Commonwealth.

Localities Particularly Affected

The proposed amendment does not disproportionately affect particular localities.

Projected Impact on Employment

The proposal amendment is unlikely to significantly affect employment.

Effects on the Use and Value of Private Property

The proposed amendment may result in some dental hygienists taking one or more courses from the Academy of Dental Hygiene or its constituent and component/branch associations rather than from other sponsors currently listed as approved in these regulations.

Small Businesses: Costs and Other Effects

If dental practices reimburse their dental hygienists for their continuing education courses, the proposed amendment may produce some small cost savings for these practices.

Small Businesses: Alternative Method that Minimizes Adverse Impact

The proposed amendment is unlikely to provide a net adverse impact on small businesses.

Real Estate Development Costs

The proposed amendments are unlikely to significantly affect real estate development costs.

Legal Mandate

The Department of Planning and Budget (DPB) has analyzed the economic impact of this proposed regulation in accordance with Section 2.2-4007.04 of the Administrative Process Act and Executive Order Number 14 (10). Section 2.2-4007.04 requires that such economic impact

analyses include, but need not be limited to, a determination of the public benefit, the projected number of businesses or other entities to whom the regulation would apply, the identity of any localities and types of businesses or other entities particularly affected, the projected number of persons and employment positions to be affected, the projected costs to affected businesses or entities to implement or comply with the regulation, and the impact on the use and value of private property. Further, if the proposed regulation has an adverse effect on small businesses, Section 2.2-4007.04 requires that such economic impact analyses include (i) an identification and estimate of the number of small businesses subject to the regulation; (ii) the projected reporting, recordkeeping, and other administrative costs required for small businesses to comply with the regulation, including the type of professional skills necessary for preparing required reports and other documents; (iii) a statement of the probable effect of the regulation on affected small businesses; and (iv) a description of any less intrusive or less costly alternative methods of achieving the purpose of the regulation. The analysis presented above represents DPB's best estimate of these economic impacts.