



**DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS AND INDUSTRY  
OFFICE OF NEVADA BOARDS, COMMISSIONS AND COUNCILS STANDARDS  
NEVADA STATE BOARD OF DENTAL EXAMINERS**

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**Advisory Opinion**

*Subject : Participation of Educational Institution Faculty Holding Specialty-Only Dental License  
performing Screenings at the Dental Clinic*

*(Prepared for Board consideration at the May 14, 2025 meeting and June 11, 2025 meeting, based on  
discussions held during the Board's public session wherein the motion on this subject was unanimously  
adopted.)*

**1. Purpose**

To communicate the Board's position that faculty members who hold Nevada specialty-only dental licenses (radiology, oral & maxillofacial pathology, etc.) may serve as supervising dentists in a CODA-approved educational institution's screening clinic, provided their activities are limited to the screening functions described below and they do not perform, delegate, or authorize irreversible procedures for which a general dental license would otherwise be required.

The subject was discussed on May 14, 2025, at a full Board Meeting. The members present included Board President Dr. Ronald West, Board Secretary Treasurer Dr. Daniel Streifel, Board Member Dr. Joshua Branco, Board Member Dr. Christopher Hock, Board Member Dr. Lance Kim, Board Member Dr. Ashley Hoban, Board Member Dr. Joan Landron, Board Member Ms. Jana McIntyre, Board Member Ms. Yamila Arias, Board Member, and Ms. Kimberly Petrilla.

The subject was further discussed on June 11, 2025, at a full Board Meeting. The members present included Board President Dr. Ronald West, Board Secretary Treasurer Dr. Daniel Streifel, Board Member Dr. Joshua Branco, Board Member Dr. Christopher Hock, Board Member Dr. Lance Kim, Board Member Dr. Ashley Hoban, Board Member Dr. Joan Landron, Board Member Ms. Jana McIntyre, Board Member Ms. Yamila Arias, Board Member, and Ms. Kimberly Petrilla.

**2. Statutory & Regulatory Authority**

- **NRS 631.190** – Grants the Board authority to interpret and enforce the Dental Practice Act in a manner that protects the public health and safety.
- **NRS 631.215 & NRS 631.387** – Establish licensing categories, including specialty licenses, and define their scopes of practice.

- **NAC 631.260 (3)** – Permits the Board to impose conditions on licensees’ scopes of practice when necessary to safeguard patients.
- **NAC 631.280 & NAC 631.300** – Govern faculty and institutional licensing exemptions and the parameters for dental school clinics.

### **3. Committee Determination**

#### **1. Screening Clinic Defined**

A screening clinic is a pre-treatment triage service in which a medical-dental history, panoramic radiograph, and basic intra- / extra-oral assessment are gathered to determine whether a prospective patient is an appropriate fit for student care. No diagnosis leading to definitive treatment, no irreversible procedure, and no prescription of controlled substances occurs in this setting.

#### **2. Specialty-Only License Holder Participation**

A Nevada specialty-only dentist who is employed by a CODA-approved educational institution may supervise the screening clinic so long as the services rendered remain within:

- The dentist’s specialty scope (e.g., interpretation of radiographs, pathologic assessment); and
- The statutory definition of “screening” (information gathering that does not itself constitute treatment).

The specialty dentist must not:

- Approve or perform restorative, surgical, or other irreversible procedures; and
- Permit a student to perform such procedures without subsequent approval by a dentist holding an unrestricted general license.

### **4. Effective Date**

This Advisory Opinion becomes effective upon formal adoption by the Board and applies to all pending and future moderate sedation permit matters.

### **5. Reservation of Authority**

Nothing in this opinion limits the Board’s discretion to impose stricter conditions, require remedial education, or pursue disciplinary measures when patient safety so requires.

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*Prepared by Board staff pursuant to the motion approved by the Board on May 14, 2025 and June 11, 2025. Final Board approval granted July 9, 2025.*