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DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS AND INDUSTRY  
OFFICE OF NEVADA BOARDS, COMMISSIONS AND COUNCILS STANDARDS

NEVADA STATE BOARD OF DENTAL EXAMINERS

**NOTICE OF INTENT TO ACT UPON A REGULATION:  
PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE FOR THE ADOPTION OF  
PROPOSED PERMANENT REGULATIONS BY THE NEVADA STATE  
BOARD OF DENTAL EXAMINERS**

The Nevada State Board of Dental Examiners will hold a public hearing for the purpose of adopting a regulation on Wednesday, May 27, 2026, at 6:30 pm (to be held contemporaneously to the Board's regularly scheduled monthly Board meeting) at the Board Office, 2651 N. Green Valley Pkwy, Henderson, NV 89014. The purpose of the hearing is to receive comments from all interested persons regarding the adoption of regulations that pertain to chapter 631 of the Nevada Administrative Code.

The following information is provided pursuant to the requirements of NRS 233B.0603:

**1. The need for and the purpose of the proposed regulation or amendment.**

The purpose of regulation is to modernize the requirements placed upon dental offices when taking inter-office x-rays and other radiation-based imaging; specifically, since the regulation was last enacted, the American Dental Association removed the requirement that lead aprons be used on dental patient during x-rays due to technological advances in imaging equipment outputting less radiation. Further, new ADA radiation guidance is updated via a publication "Dental Radiographic Examinations: Recommendations for Patient Selection and Limiting Radiation Exposure," and dentists should be incorporating those guidelines for imaging into their practices; this regulation codifies that publication as a source of guidance for dentists.

**2. If the proposed regulation is a temporary regulation, the terms or the substance of the proposed regulation to be adopted, amended or repealed, or a description of the subjects and issues involved.**

Not applicable; this is not a temporary regulation.

**3. If the proposed regulation is a permanent regulation, a statement explaining how to obtain the approved or revised text of the proposed regulation.**

The proposed regulation is available on the website of the Nevada State Board of Dental Examiners; it is also available at the office of the Nevada State Board of Dental Examiners located at 2651 N. Green Valley Parkway, Suite 104, Henderson, Nevada 89014. It will also be sent to the State Library, Archives and Public Records, 100 Stewart Street, Carson City, Nevada, 89701.

**4. The estimated economic effect of the regulation on the business which it is to regulate and on the public. These must be stated separately and in each case must include: (a) both adverse and beneficial effects; and (b) both immediate and long-term effects.**

LCB File No. R053-26 is comprised of changes to NAC 631.260. A survey was sent to all licensees requesting their input regarding impacts, positive or negative, to their small business should the regulation pass.

(a) The survey results revealed this new regulation would not adversely affect small businesses as defined by NRS 233B. No negative comments were received; indeed, most survey results noted there was a likely benefit to small business since eliminating the lead apron equipment requirement would save on equipment expenses.

(b) The only effects noted in the survey were economic, with most viewing the change as a favorable cost-savings measure for their practices.

Giving the ADA the benefit that they have fully vetted the safety of new imaging equipment and the need for lead barriers when deciding to remove from their own guidelines the continued needs of patients to wear lead aprons, the Board upon information and belief does not believe there would be any adverse economic or practical effect on the public.

**5. The methods used by the agency in determining the impact on a small business.**

As part of NSBDE's due diligence, a small business impact survey was emailed directly to all active licensed dental professionals in Nevada. Further, the Nevada State Board of Dental Examiners solicited written and oral comments, objections, and suggestions from various stakeholders at a March 17, 2026, workshop.

**6. The estimated cost to the agency for enforcement of the proposed regulation.**

There is no cost to the Board in effectuating this change.

**7. A description of and citation to any regulations of other state or local governmental agencies which the proposed regulation overlaps or duplicates and a statement explaining why the duplication or overlapping is necessary. If the proposed regulation overlaps or duplicates a federal regulation, the notice must include the name of the regulating federal agency.**

There is no federal agency with dental profession licensing oversight, and thus no federal and state conflicts of law exist. Additionally, as the Board is the only dental profession licensing agency in the State of Nevada, there is unlikely to be any conflicting regulatory goals amongst state agencies. A review of NRS 653.620, governing Radiation Therapy and Radiologic Imaging, does not appear to

contain a lead apron requirement or prohibit adoption of any industry-specific (example, American Dental Association) radiology or imaging guidance. This also appears true of NAC 653.

**8. If the regulation is required pursuant to federal law, a citation and description of the federal law.**

This regulation is not required by federal law.

**9. If the regulation includes provisions which are more stringent than a federal regulation that regulates the same activity, a summary of such provisions.**

Not applicable; federal law does not govern state professional occupational licensing.

**10. Whether the proposed regulation establishes a new fee or increases an existing fee.**

This regulation does not change or create any new fees payable to the Board.

**11. If the proposed regulation is a temporary regulation, each address at which the text of the regulation may be inspected and copied.)**

Not applicable; this is not a temporary regulation.

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Persons wishing to comment upon the action of the Nevada State Board of Dental Examiners may appear at the scheduled public hearing or may address their comments, data, views, or arguments, in written form, to Nevada State Board of Dental Examiners, 2651 N. Green Valley Parkway, Suite 104, Henderson, Nevada 89014. Written submissions must be received by the Nevada State Board of Dental Examiners on or before close of business on May 25, 2026. If no person who is directly affected by the proposed action appears to request time to make an oral presentation, the Nevada State Board of Dental Examiners may proceed immediately to act upon any written submissions.

A copy of this notice and the regulation to be Adopted will be on file at the State Library, Archives and Public Records, 100 Stewart Street, Carson City, Nevada, for inspection by members of the public during business hours. Additional copies of the notice and the regulation to be Adopted will be available at the Nevada State Board of Dental Examiners website and for inspection and copying by members of the public during business hours at the Board's physical office. This notice and the text of the proposed regulation will also be available in the State of Nevada Register of Administrative Regulations, which is prepared and published monthly by the Legislative Counsel Bureau pursuant to NRS 233B.0653, and on the Internet at <http://www.leg.state.nv.us/>. Additional copies of the notice and the regulation to be adopted will be available at the main public library for all counties in which an office of the Board is not maintained. Copies of this notice and the proposed regulation will also be mailed to members of the public at no charge upon request.

Upon adoption of any regulation, the agency, if requested to do so by an interested person, either before adoption or within 30 days thereafter, shall issue a concise statement of the principal reasons for and against its adoption and incorporate therein its reason for overruling the consideration urged against its adoption.

This Notice of Intent to Act and Public Hearing has been sent to/posted at the following locations:

- 1) Nevada State Board of Dental Examiners, 2651 N. Green Valley Parkway, Henderson, Nevada 89014 - [www.dental.nv.gov](http://www.dental.nv.gov)
- 2) Nevada State Board of Dental Examiner's website - [www.dental.nv.gov](http://www.dental.nv.gov)
- 2) Legislative Counsel Bureau - [www.leg.state.nv.us](http://www.leg.state.nv.us)
- 3) State Library and Archives - [www.nsla.nv.gov](http://www.nsla.nv.gov)
- 4) Carson City Main Library, 900 N Roop St, Carson City, NV 89701
- 5) Churchill County Main Library, 553 S Maine St, Fallon, NV 89406
- 6) Douglas County Main Library, 1625 Library Ln, Minden, NV 89423
- 7) Elko County Main Library, 720 Court St, Elko, NV 89801
- 8) Esmerelda County Main Library, PO Box 430, Goldfield, NV 89013
- 9) Eureka County Main Library, 80 Monroe St, Eureka, NV 89316
- 10) Humboldt County Main Library, 85 E 5th St, Winnemucca, NV 89445
- 11) Lander County Main Library, 625 S Broad St, Battle Mountain, NV 89820
- 12) Lincoln County Main Library, 63 Main Street, PO Box 330, Pioche, NV 89043
- 13) Lyon County Main Library, 20 Nevin Way, Yerington, NV 89447
- 14) Mineral County Main Library, 110 1st Street, Hawthorne, NV 89415
- 15) Nye County Main Library, 701 East Street, Pahrump, NV 89048
- 16) Pershing County Main Library, 1125 Central Ave, Lovelock, NV 89419
- 17) Storey County Main Library, 175 Carson St 2nd Floor, Virginia City, NV 89440
- 18) Washoe County Main Library, 301 South Center Street, Reno, NV 89501
- 19) White Pine County Main Library, 950 Campton St, Ely, NV 89301

**PROPOSED REGULATION OF THE  
BOARD OF DENTAL EXAMINERS OF NEVADA**

**LCB File No. R053-26**

April 9, 2026

EXPLANATION – Matter in *italics* is new; matter in brackets [~~omitted material~~] is material to be omitted.

AUTHORITY: §§ 1 and 2, NRS 631.190.

A REGULATION relating to oral health; adopting by reference a publication relating to dental radiographic examinations; revising certain provisions governing radiographic procedures; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

**Legislative Counsel’s Digest:**

Existing law requires the Board of Dental Examiners of Nevada to adopt rules and regulations necessary to carry out the provisions of law governing the practice of dentistry. (NRS 631.190)

**Section 1** of this regulation adopts by reference the publication *Dental Radiographic Examinations: Recommendations for Patient Selection and Limiting Radiation Exposure*, 2012 edition, developed by the American Dental Association in collaboration with the Food and Drug Administration of the United States Department of Health and Human Services.

Existing regulations require: (1) each patient who is undergoing a radiographic procedure to be covered with a lead apron; and (2) each licensee who employs any person, other than a dental therapist or dental hygienist, to assist him or her in radiographic procedures to include with his or her application for renewal of his or her license a certified statement which, among other things, attests that each such employee has received adequate instruction concerning radiographic procedures and is qualified to operate radiographic equipment as required pursuant to regulations governing the operation of X-ray systems. (NAC 631.260) **Section 2** of this regulation: (1) eliminates the requirement that each patient who is undergoing a radiographic procedure be covered with a lead apron and instead requires a licensee to use radiographic imaging in accordance with the provisions of *Dental Radiographic Examinations: Recommendations for Patient Selection and Limiting Radiation Exposure*, 2012 edition, adopted by reference in **section 1**; and (2) revises the certified statement to instead attest that each such employee has received instruction in the use of radiographic machines and procedures sufficient to demonstrate competency as required pursuant to regulations governing the operation of X-ray systems.

**Section 1.** Chapter 631 of NAC is hereby amended by adding thereto a new section to read as follows:

*1. The Board hereby adopts by reference Dental Radiographic Examinations: Recommendations for Patient Selection and Limiting Radiation Exposure, 2012 edition, developed by the American Dental Association in collaboration with the Food and Drug Administration of the United States Department of Health and Human Services. The publication is available, free of charge, from the American Dental Association at the Internet address <https://www.ada.org/resources/practice/practice-management/radiographic-imaging>.*

*2. The Board will review each update to the publication adopted by reference in subsection 1 at a public meeting not later than 6 months after publication. If the Board does not disapprove the update at that meeting, the update is deemed to be approved and becomes part of the publication adopted by reference.*

**Sec. 2.** NAC 631.260 is hereby amended to read as follows:

631.260 1. ~~{Each patient who is undergoing a}~~ *Unless it is otherwise impossible or impracticable, a licensee shall use radiographic ~~{procedure must be covered}~~ imaging in accordance with ~~{a lead apron.}~~ the provisions of Dental Radiographic Examinations: Recommendations for Patient Selection and Limiting Radiation Exposure, 2012 edition, as adopted by reference in section 1 of this regulation.*

2. Each licensee who employs any person, other than a dental therapist or dental hygienist, to assist him or her in radiographic procedures shall include with his or her application for renewal of his or her license a certified statement:

(a) Containing the name of each person so employed, his or her position and the date he or she began to assist the licensee in radiographic procedures; and

(b) Attesting that each such employee has received:

(1) ~~[Adequate instruction concerning]~~ *Instruction in the use of* radiographic *machines* *and* procedures ~~[and is qualified]~~ *sufficient* to ~~[operate radiographic equipment]~~ *demonstrate competency* as required pursuant to ~~[subsection]~~ *subsections 3 and 4* of NAC 459.552;

(2) Training in cardiopulmonary resuscitation at least every 2 years while so employed;

(3) A minimum of 4 hours of continuing education in infection control every 2 years while so employed; and

(4) Before beginning such employment, a copy of this chapter and chapter 631 of NRS in paper or electronic format.