

Effective June 4, 2008, new legislation went into effect that changed the South Carolina Dental Practice Act. Beginning December 4, 2008, dental laboratories that perform dental technological work outside of South Carolina must employ a person registered by the South Carolina Board of Dentistry to authorize such work. Also, invoices for prescriptions must include the certificate number of the person employed by the lab which will perform the work.

Attached for your information is a copy of the new legislation. Please take time to review and familiarize yourself with these changes as they may directly affect your practice.

The Application and Requirements for Dental Technician Registration, and the Study Guide for the State Board Dental Technician Examination are available at: www.llr.state.sc.us/pol/dentistry under "Applications / Forms." The Dental Practice Act, Regulations of the Board and Guidelines for Infection Control in Dental Health Care Settings are available at this same web site under "Laws / Policies."

Information regarding the Written Comprehensive Examination of the National Board for Certification in Dental Laboratory Technology (NBC) is available at: <http://www.nbccert.org/CDT>.

Act No. 295, effective June 4, 2008, applies to dental technicians and prescriptions for dental technological work issued by a dentist licensed in South Carolina beginning December 4, 2008.

Requirements for having dental technological work performed outside of this State.

SECTION 1. Chapter 15, Title 40 of the 1976 Code is amended by adding:

"Section 40-15-125. A dental laboratory is considered to perform dental technological work in this State if the work product is prepared pursuant to a written prescription originating in this State, and in order for a dental laboratory to perform dental technological work that originated in this State:

1. the laboratory work must be authorized by a person employed in that laboratory who is registered with the State Board of Dentistry pursuant to Sections 40-15-120, 40-15-240, and 40-15-170;
2. the dental technological work must be based on a prescription issued by a dentist licensed and practicing in this State; and
3. the laboratory shall return to the dentist who issued the prescription certification of:
 - a. the country of origin where the dental technological work was performed, in whole or in part;
 - b. a list of all materials, including the percentage of each ingredient used in the fabrication of the dental device; and
 - c. the name, address, and certificate number of the person or organization authorized to manufacture the dental device."

Definition revised.

Section 2. Section 40-15-280 of the 1976 Code is amended to read:

"Section 40-15-280. 'Prescription' means a written order for dental technological work which has been issued by a licensed dentist. A prescription must be in a form prescribed by the board in regulation and must contain:

1. the name, address, and certificate number of the individual or organization to do the work;
2. identification of the patient by name or number;
3. the date on which the authorization was written;
4. a description of the work to be done, with diagrams, if necessary;
5. a specification of the type and quality of materials to be used;
6. the dentist's signature, complete address, and state license number."