

DENTAL PROFESSION ACT

CHAPTER 29:54

Act
16 of 1980
Amended by
31 of 1998
3 of 1999

Current Authorised Pages

<i>Pages</i>	<i>Authorised</i>
<i>(inclusive)</i>	<i>by L.R.O.</i>
1-41	.. 1/2006

L.R.O. 1/2006

Index of Subsidiary Legislation

	<i>Page</i>
Dental Regulations (LN 36/1982)	26
Dental Profession (Dental Assistants) Order (LN 138/1997)... ..	41
Appointment of an Election Supervisor (Dental Council Elections) Order (LN 153/1999)	41

CHAPTER 29:54

DENTAL PROFESSION ACT

ARRANGEMENT OF SECTIONS

SECTION

1. Short title.
2. Interpretation.
3. Establishment of Board.
4. Persons eligible to be Board members.
5. Persons entitled to be registered.
- 5A. Minister may amend Schedule.
6. Applicant may be temporarily registered.
7. Persons entitled to be enrolled.
8. Applicant may be temporarily enrolled.
9. Composition of Council.
10. Election of Council.
- 10A. New Council to be elected.
- 10B. Registration of Second Interim Council.
11. Term of office of Council.
12. Functions of Council.
13. Council may appoint committees.
14. Register of Dentists.
15. Temporary registration and examination.
16. Conditions of temporary registration.
17. Rolls of Dental Auxiliaries.
18. Grace period for enrolment of persons performing as dental assistants, etc.
19. Opening of the Rolls.
20. Temporary enrolment and examination.
21. Conditions of temporary enrolment.
22. Honour Roll.
23. Secretary to keep Register and Rolls.
24. Publication of lists.
25. Certificate of Secretary to be sufficient evidence.
26. Registration of higher or additional qualification.

ARRANGEMENT OF SECTIONS—*Continued*

SECTION

27. Treasurer to keep accounts.
28. Removal from Register or Roll.
29. Professional discipline.
30. Holding out as dentist or dental auxiliary.
31. Practice by unauthorised person.
32. Holding out as dental auxiliary of different class.
33. Performing as dental auxiliary of different class.
34. Person suspended found practising.
35. Dental nurses to treat children.
36. False representations with a view to obtaining registration or enrolment.
37. Appeal to Judge in Chambers.
38. Service of documents on the Board.
39. Authorisation to prosecute.
40. Retention of services of Attorney-at-law.
41. Fines for use of Board.
42. Funds of Board to be used for purposes of Act.
43. Advisory Committee on Dental Auxiliaries.
44. Functions of the Advisory Committee.
45. Regulations.
46. Minister may review curriculum of Dental School.

SCHEDULE.

CHAPTER 29:54

DENTAL PROFESSION ACT

An Act to provide for the regulation of the practice of dentistry by the establishment and operation of a Dental Council and an Advisory Committee on Dental Auxiliaries for the registration of dentists and the enrolment of dental auxiliaries and for matters connected therewith. 16 of 1980.

[10TH APRIL 1980]

Commencement.

1. This Act may be cited as the Dental Profession Act.

Short title.

2. In this Act—

Interpretation.
[31 of 1998].

“Council” means the Council established under section 9 of the Act;

“dental auxiliary” means a person enrolled as a dental assistant, dental hygienist, dental nurse or dental technician;

“dentist” means a person registered or deemed to be registered under this Act to engage in the practice of dentistry;

“diploma” means any diploma, degree, fellowship, membership, licence or certificate granted by—

(a) any university, college or other institution referred to in the Schedule; or

(b) any university, college or other institution conferring authority to practise dentistry in the county or place where granted and recognised by the Council as furnishing a sufficient guarantee of the possession of the requisite knowledge and skill for the efficient practice of dentistry;

“Minister” means the Minister for whom responsibility for Health is assigned;

“practice of dentistry” includes—

(a) the performance of any operation, and the treatment of any diseases, deficiencies, or lesions, on or of human teeth or jaws and the performance of radiographic work with human teeth or jaws;

L.R.O. 1/2006

- (b) the giving of any anaesthetic in connection with any operation on human teeth or jaws or supporting structures;
- (c) the performance of any operation on, or the giving of any treatment, advice or attendance to any person, as preparatory to or for the purpose of, or for, or in connection with the fitting, insertion, fixing, constructing, repairing or removing of artificial dentures or restorative dental appliances; or
- (d) the performance of any operation, the prescribing of any drug, the giving of any treatment, advice or attendance as is usually performed, prescribed or given by dentists;

“temporary enrolment” means enrolment under section 20(b) and in accordance with section 21;

“Training School for Dental Nurses” means the Training School for Dental Nurses established and operated by Government.

Establishment of Board.

3. There is established a body corporate called the Dental Board of Trinidad and Tobago (hereinafter referred to as “the Board”).

Persons eligible to be Board members.

4. (1) Dentists and dental auxiliaries are eligible to be members of the Board.

Ch. 29:50.

(2) For the purpose of electing the first Council under this Act, persons registered as dentists under the Medical Board Act are deemed to be the members of the Board.

Persons entitled to be registered. [31 of 1998].

5. (1) A person is entitled to be registered to practise dentistry on making application therefor where he—

- (a) is the holder of a diploma from a University, College or other Institution referred to in the Schedule;
- (b) shows to the satisfaction of the Council that he is of good character; and
- (c) pays such fees as may be prescribed.

(1A) Notwithstanding subsection (1)—

- (a) a person who is the holder of a diploma from the University of the West Indies Faculty of Medical Sciences Dental School is entitled to temporary registration; and
- (b) a person who has registered under paragraph (a) is entitled to full registration upon presentation of a certificate from the University of the West Indies Faculty of Medical Sciences Dental School certifying that he has successfully completed a one-year period of vocational training.

(2) Persons who immediately prior to the commencement of this Act were registered under Part II of the Medical Board Act* are entitled to be registered to practise dentistry. Ch. 29:50.

5A. (1) The Minister may by Order, after consultation with the Council, amend the Schedule by adding thereto or deleting therefrom any University, College or other Institution. Minister may amend Schedule. [31 of 1998].

(2) An Order made under subsection (1) shall be subject to affirmative resolution of Parliament.

6. An applicant for registration may be temporarily registered to practise dentistry under section 15(a) and in accordance with section 16 where he shows to the satisfaction of the Council that he is of good character and pays such fees as may be prescribed. Applicant may be temporarily registered.

7. A person is entitled to be enrolled to practise as a dental auxiliary on making application therefor where he— Persons entitled to be enrolled.

- (a) is the holder of a qualification which in the opinion of the Council assures the possession by the applicant of the requisite knowledge and skill;
- (b) shows to the satisfaction of the Council that he is of good character; and
- (c) pays such fees as may be prescribed.

*Part II of the Medical Board Act has since been repealed by Act No. 15 of 1980.

Applicant
may be
temporarily
enrolled.

8. An applicant for enrolment to practise as a dental auxiliary may be temporarily enrolled under section 20(b) and in accordance with section 21 where he shows to the satisfaction of the Council that he is of good character and pays such fees as may be prescribed.

Composition
of Council.
[31 of 1998].

9. (1) The Board shall be managed by a Council which shall consist of—

- (a) a Chairman who shall be President of the Board;
- (b) a Vice-Chairman who shall be Vice-President of the Board;
- (c) a Secretary who shall be Secretary of the Board;
- (d) a Treasurer who shall be Treasurer of the Board;
- (e) two other members;
- (f) two members appointed by the Minister of Health, one of whom shall be the Dentist holding the most senior dental post in the Ministry of Health, the other, a lay person to represent the general interests of the public;
- (g) two members appointed by and from the University of the West Indies Faculty of Medical Sciences Dental School who shall be dentists other than those who hold temporary registration.

(2) The members referred to in subsection (1)(a) to (e) shall be elected by and from among members of the Board who are dentists other than those who hold temporary registration.

(3) At the conduct of any meetings of the Council there shall be a quorum of five, at least one of whom shall be a member appointed under paragraph (g) and at least one of whom shall be a member appointed under paragraphs (a), (b), (c) and (d).

Election of
Council.
Ch. 29:50.

10. (1) Members of the Dental Registration Committee established under the Medical Board Act and holding office at the commencement of this Act shall continue to hold office and shall register dentists and enroll dental auxiliaries until the election of the first Council under this Act.

(2) Within one year of the coming into operation of this Act, the Chairman of the Dental Registration Committee referred to in subsection (1) shall convene in accordance with this Act a general meeting of registered members of the Board for the purpose of electing a Council.

(3) Candidates for election as Chairman or Vice-Chairman shall have at least five years standing as practising dentists.

10A. (1) Within one month of the coming into operation of the Dental Profession (Amendment) Act, 1998 the Chairman of the Council shall convene in accordance with this Act a general meeting of the Board for the purpose of electing a new Council.

New Council to be elected. [31 of 1998 3 of 1999]. *Act No. 31 of 1998.

(2) Members of the Council established under the Act and holding office at the commencement of the Dental Profession (Amendment) Act, 1998 shall continue to hold office until the election of the new council in accordance with subsection (1).

(3) Where within one month a general meeting is not convened in accordance with subsection (1) and notwithstanding section 9 the Minister shall appoint an Interim Council consisting of—

- (a) three dentists one of whom shall be the dentist holding the most senior dental post in the Ministry of Health;
- (b) a lay person;
- (c) a member of the Council established under the Act and holding office at the commencement of the Dental Profession (Amendment) Act, 1998 other than a person appointed under paragraph (a).

(4) The Interim Council shall within one month of appointment convene a general meeting of the Board to elect a new Council under the Act.

* The Dental Profession (Amendment) Act, 1998 (Act No. 31 of 1998) came into operation on 26th October 1998.

(5) Where a new Council is not elected in accordance with subsection (4) the Minister shall appoint for a period of six months a Second Interim Council consisting of—

- (a) three dentists one of whom shall be the dentist holding the most senior dental post in the Ministry of Health;
- (b) a lay person;
- (c) a dentist who has at least five years standing as a practising dentist and who shall act as Chairman of the Second Interim Council.

(6) The quorum of the Second Interim Council shall be four members including the Chairman.

(7) Where a member of the Second Interim Council resigns the Minister may appoint another person as a member of the Second Interim Council.

(8) The Second Interim Council shall within its term of appointment convene a general meeting of the Board to elect a new Council under the Act.

(9) The President shall by Order appoint an independent, fit and proper person to supervise the election to be held under subsection (8).

(10) Notwithstanding anything in subsection (5) the Second Interim Council shall demit office as soon as a Council is elected.

Registration by
Second Interim
Council.
[3 of 1999].

10B. (1) Notwithstanding anything in the Act or Dental Regulations, from the commencement of the Dental Profession (Amendment) Act, 1999 the Second Interim Council shall have the power to register dentists as members of the Board.

(2) A dentist may apply to the Second Interim Council for registration for membership of the Board in Form D.R. 1 set out in the Schedule to the Dental Regulations.

(3) Until a new Council is elected in accordance with section 10A(8) the functions of the Council to register dentists shall be performed by the Second Interim Council who shall have all the powers and duties vested in the Council for this purpose by the Act and the Regulations made thereunder.

(4) Where before the commencement of the Dental Profession (Amendment) Act, 1999 a dentist has paid the annual practice fee for the year 1999 in accordance with regulation 22(3) of the Dental Regulations such payment shall be deemed to have been made to the Council in accordance with regulation 22 and the Second Interim Council shall issue a practice certificate to the dentist and such certificate shall be valid as if issued by the Council.

11. Members of the Council shall hold office for a term of three years. Term of office of Council.

12. The functions of the Council shall be—

- (a) to determine and keep under review the professional qualifications and experience required of an applicant for registration or enrolment except applicants entitled to registration under section 5(1)(a);
- (b) to register dentists and enrol dental auxiliaries;
- (c) to regulate the training of persons enrolled as dental auxiliaries;
- (d) to publish for general information a list of universities, colleges or other institutions the diplomas of which are recognised by the Council;
- (e) to appoint a Board of Examiners for the purpose of conducting examinations required by this Act to be conducted;
- (f) to define the dental work which any class of dental auxiliary may undertake and the conditions, if any, under which a dental auxiliary may undertake such work;

Functions of Council.
[31 of 1998].

- (g) to ensure the maintenance of proper standards of professional conduct by dentists and dental auxiliaries;
- (h) to hold inquiries into allegations of improper or unprofessional conduct by dentists and dental auxiliaries and to discipline those found guilty.

Council may appoint committees.

13. (1) For the purpose of assisting it in the exercise of its functions the Council may appoint committees and in particular the Council shall appoint a Dental Enrolment Committee consisting of—

- (a) the Chairman of the Council who shall be the Chairman;
- (b) the Secretary of the Council who shall be the Secretary;
- (c) the dentist holding the most senior dental post in the Ministry of Health; and
- (d) two dental auxiliaries.

(2) A person shall not be enrolled as a dental auxiliary unless he has been recommended for enrolment by the Dental Enrolment Committee.

Register of Dentists.

14. (1) The Council shall cause to be kept a Register of Dentists hereinafter referred to as “the Register”.

(2) There shall be shown in the Register in respect of every person registered therein—

- (a) his name and address;
- (b) the description and dates of the diplomas of which he is the holder; and
- (c) the date of his registration.

(3) Subject to subsection (4), a person shall not practise as a dentist unless registered in accordance with this Act.

(4) Persons who immediately prior to the commencement of this Act were registered under Part II of the Medical Board Act* shall be entitled to be registered under this Act without making application therefor, and until their names are entered on the Register shall be deemed to be registered. Ch. 29:50.

(5) The Register shall be open at all reasonable times and subject to inspection by any person on payment of the prescribed fee.

15. The Council may in order to be satisfied that the qualification of an applicant for registration is sufficient to assure the possession by the applicant of the requisite knowledge and skill for the efficient practice of dentistry— Temporary registration and examination.

- (a) grant temporary registration and make recognition of the qualification conditional upon satisfactory performance during the period of temporary registration; or
- (b) make the recognition of the qualification conditional upon the passing of an examination conducted by the Board of Examiners appointed by the Council under section 12.

16. (1) In granting temporary registration, the Council shall specify— Conditions of temporary registration.

- (a) the period during which such registration shall remain in force;
- (b) the nature and character of the work which may be performed by the person to whom such registration has been granted,

and may impose such other terms and conditions as the Council may consider necessary.

(2) A person granted temporary registration shall have his name entered in a separate part of the Register and shall have entered against his name the terms and conditions in respect of which he was granted temporary registration.

*Part II of the Medical Board Act has since been repealed by Act No. 15 of 1980.

(3) Where upon the expiration of the period of temporary registration, the Council is satisfied that the person granted temporary registration has fulfilled all the terms and conditions imposed under this section and is a fit and proper person to practise dentistry, the Council shall grant full registration.

Roll of Dental Auxiliary.

17. (1) The Council shall cause to be kept separate Rolls for each class of dental auxiliary.

(2) There shall be shown in a Roll in respect of every person enrolled therein—

- (a) his name and address;
- (b) the description and date of his qualification; and
- (c) the date of his enrolment.

(3) Subject to section 18, a person shall not practise as a dental auxiliary unless enrolled in accordance with this Act.

(4) The Rolls shall at all reasonable times be open and subject to inspection on payment of the prescribed fee.

Grace period for enrolment of persons performing as dental assistants, etc.

18. Notwithstanding sections 30 and 31, where at the commencement of this Act a person is engaged in the work of a dental assistant, dental hygienist or a dental technician he may continue to be so engaged for a period not exceeding three months from the opening of the Roll in which he is eligible to be enrolled.

Opening of the Rolls.

19. The Roll for dental nurses shall be opened immediately upon the coming into operation of this Act and the other Rolls shall be opened on dates to be fixed by Order of the Minister on the advice of the Council, such dates being not earlier than three years from the coming into operation of this Act.

Temporary enrolment and examination.

20. The Council may in order to be satisfied that the qualification of an applicant for enrolment as a member of a class of dental auxiliary is sufficient to assure the possession by the

applicant of the requisite knowledge and skill for the performance of the duties prescribed in relation to that class of dental auxiliary—

- (a) make enrolment conditional on the passing of an examination conducted by the Board of Examiners; or
- (b) grant temporary enrolment.

21. (1) In granting temporary enrolment the Council shall determine—

Conditions of temporary enrolment.

- (a) the time during which such enrolment shall remain in force;
- (b) the nature and character of the work which may be performed by the person to whom temporary enrolment was granted,

and may impose such other terms and conditions as the Council may consider necessary.

(2) A person granted temporary enrolment shall have his name entered in a separate part of the Roll and shall have entered against his name the terms and conditions in respect of which he was granted temporary enrolment.

(3) Where upon the expiration of the period of temporary enrolment the Council is satisfied that the person granted temporary enrolment has fulfilled all the terms and conditions imposed under this section and is a fit and proper person to be enrolled, the Council shall grant full enrolment.

22. (1) The Council shall cause to be kept an Honour Roll and shall cause to be entered in the Honour Roll—

Honour Roll.

- (a) the name of a dentist who in the opinion of the Council has made a significant contribution in the field of dentistry; and
- (b) who because of infirmity of body or any other cause is unable to actively engage in the practice of dentistry.

(2) A dentist whose name is entered in the Honour Roll may perform such functions as the Council may specify.

Secretary to keep Register and Rolls.

23. The Secretary shall keep and maintain the Register and the Rolls in accordance with this Act and the Regulations and shall make such changes as are necessary to keep them up to date.

Publication of lists.

24. (1) The Secretary shall not later than 31st March in each year cause to be published in the *Gazette*—

- (a) a list of the names of all persons who at that time are registered as dentists;
- (b) a list of the names of all persons who at that time are enrolled as dental auxiliaries; and
- (c) a list of the names of all persons who at that time are entered on the Honour Roll.

(2) The Secretary shall as soon as is practicable cause to be published in the *Gazette*—

- (a) the name of a person who has been suspended or whose name has been removed from the Register or a Roll; and
- (b) the name of a person restored to the Register or a Roll.

Certificate of Secretary to be sufficient evidence.

25. In every case where proof of registration or enrolment is required, the production of a certificate under the hand of the Secretary showing that the person named therein is duly registered or enrolled shall be sufficient evidence in all Courts of the registration or enrolment of that person and the Register or Roll shall not be required to be produced and any such certificate shall be accepted without proof that the person signing is the Secretary.

Registration of higher or additional qualification.

26. A dentist or dental auxiliary who obtains a qualification higher than or additional to the qualification which he held at the time of his registration or enrolment and which is approved by the Council shall on payment of such fee as may be prescribed, be entitled to have such higher or additional qualification shown in the Register or Roll in substitution for or in addition to, as the case may be, the qualification previously shown.

27. The Treasurer shall manage the funds of the Board and shall make and render accounts of all moneys in accordance with the Regulations. Treasurer to keep accounts.

28. The Council shall cause to be removed from the Register or the Roll the name of any person— Removal from Register or Roll.

- (a) whose registration or enrolment has been obtained upon a false or fraudulent representation; or
- (b) whose higher diploma or higher qualification shown in the Register or Roll was obtained by a false or fraudulent representation.

29. (1) A dentist or dental auxiliary who is convicted in Trinidad and Tobago of an indictable offence or is convicted elsewhere of an offence which had it been committed in Trinidad and Tobago would be punishable on indictment, or who is guilty of unprofessional conduct, shall be liable to be dealt with as provided in subsection (2). Professional discipline.

(2) The Council may, and upon the application of any person shall, cause inquiry to be made into any allegation that a person referred to in subsection (1) was convicted or was guilty of unprofessional conduct and on proof thereof may—

- (a) censure or reprimand that person;
- (b) suspend that person; or
- (c) cause the name of that person to be removed from the Register or Roll, as the case may be.

(3) Any dentist or dental auxiliary who is the subject of inquiry under subsection (2) shall be informed in writing of the allegation against him.

(4) A dentist or dental auxiliary who fails to respond to an inquiry made of him by the Council within thirty days of despatch of the inquiry is liable to be suspended.

30. A person who, not being a dentist or dental auxiliary who— Holding out as dentist or dental auxiliary.

- (a) takes or uses any name, title or description implying or calculated to suggest that he is a dentist or dental auxiliary; or

- (b) advertises or holds himself out as a person authorised or qualified to practise dentistry or to perform the functions prescribed in relation to any class of dental auxiliary,

is liable on summary conviction to a fine of two thousand dollars.

Practice by unauthorised person.

31. (1) A person not being a dentist or dental auxiliary who practises dentistry whether for reward or not is liable on summary conviction to a fine of five thousand dollars and to imprisonment for one year.

- (2) The provisions of this section shall not apply to—
- (a) a person who is registered or enrolled under any other written law and who under the authority of that written law performs or provides any service which he is authorised to perform thereunder which service falls within the definition of the practice of dentistry;
 - (b) a student performing as such as part of his training;
 - (c) a person giving necessary aid gratuitously in cases of urgent need; or
 - (d) the domestic administration of family remedies.

Holding out as dental auxiliary of different class.

32. A dental auxiliary who uses any title or description reasonably calculated to suggest that he possesses any status or qualification connected with dentistry other than a status or qualification which he in fact possesses and which is indicated in the particulars entered in the Roll in respect of him is liable on summary conviction to a fine of two thousand dollars.

Performing as dental auxiliary of different class.

33. A dental auxiliary who practises dentistry other than as prescribed in relation to the class of dental auxiliary in which he is enrolled or who performs a type of dental work which he is not authorised to perform is liable on summary conviction to a fine of five thousand dollars and to imprisonment for six months.

Person suspended found practising.

34. A dentist or dental auxiliary who is suspended and who practises dentistry during his suspension is liable on summary conviction to the removal of his name from the Register or Roll as the case may be.

35. (1) A dental nurse is qualified to treat children only and such treatment shall be carried out in facilities or services operated or conducted by Government or under the direct or indirect supervision of a dentist in private clinics.

Dental nurses to treat children.

(2) A dental nurse who contravenes the provisions of this section is liable on summary conviction to the removal of his name from the Roll.

(3) In this section “children” means persons under the age of twelve years.

36. A person who procures his registration or enrolment or the registration or enrolment of any other person under this Act by wilfully making or causing to be made any false or fraudulent representation is liable on summary conviction to a fine of five thousand dollars and to imprisonment for one year.

False representations with a view to obtaining registration or enrolment.

37. A person aggrieved by the refusal of the Council to register or enrol him, as the case may be, or by the removal of his name from the Register or Roll or by his suspension from practising dentistry may within three months after the date on which notice is given to him by the Council of such refusal, removal or suspension, appeal against the Council’s decision to a Judge in Chambers and the Judge shall give such direction in the matter as he may think proper, including a direction as to costs.

Appeal to Judge in Chambers.

38. The Board shall at all times have a fixed address for the service of documents on the Board and that address shall be registered with the Registrar General as soon as is practicable and any change of address shall be registered within twenty-eight days of the change.

Service of documents on the Board.

39. No prosecution may be instituted for an offence under this Act except with the written consent of the Director of Public Prosecutions.

Authorisation to prosecute.

40. The Council may engage an Attorney-at-law to appear on its behalf in any legal proceedings and may apply any part of the funds of the Board towards the remuneration of such Attorney-at-law.

Retention of services of Attorney-at-law.

41. Fines paid under this Act shall be used for the purposes of the Board.

Fines for use of Board.

Funds of Board
to be used for
purposes of Act.

42. Any sum of money collected by the Board under this Act shall be applied towards the payment of expenses incurred in the proper administration of this Act and in all matters incidental thereto.

Advisory
Committee on
Dental
Auxiliaries.

43. There shall be established an Advisory Committee on Dental Auxiliaries (hereinafter referred to as “the Advisory Committee”) consisting of—

- (a) the dentist holding the most senior dental office in the Ministry of Health;
- (b) the Principal of the Training School for Dental Nurses;
- (c) a dentist who is a member of the Board and appointed by the Council;
- (d) two dental auxiliaries who are members of the Board elected by members who are also dental auxiliaries;
- (e) a dental auxiliary appointed by the Minister.

Functions of the
Advisory
Committee.

44. The Advisory Committee shall—

- (a) advise the Minister on matters relating to the administration of this Act in relation to dental auxiliaries; and in particular on the classification of offices and grades of dental nurses required and the scope and content of the programme of training to be followed by student dental nurses;
- (b) advise the Council in defining dental operations to be performed by dental nurses within the scope of their competence and the nature of their duties;
- (c) advise the Council in defining the dental work which a dental assistant, dental hygienist or dental technician may undertake and the conditions, if any, under which he may undertake them.

Regulations.

45. The Council may make Regulations with the approval of the Minister for carrying out the purposes and provisions of this Act and in particular may by such Regulations provide—

- (a) for the manner of applying for membership of the Board;
- (b) for the good government of the Board and for the proper conduct of its affairs;

- (c) for regulating the time, manner and place of meetings and proceedings of the Board and of the Council;
- (d) for the conduct of elections and all other matters arising out of or incidental to the elections;
- (e) for resignations and circumstances giving rise to vacancies on the Council;
- (f) for the conduct of examinations and the fees to be paid in respect of such examinations;
- (g) for the manner of applying for registration or enrolment, the procedure to be followed and the fees to be paid;
- (h) for the type of dental work which any class of dental auxiliary may undertake and the conditions, if any, under which he may undertake such work;
- (i) for the fees payable for inspection of the Register or Roll;
- (j) for the payment of any membership annual or special fees to be paid by dentists and dental auxiliaries;
- (k) for prescribing what constitutes unprofessional conduct;
- (l) for the manner in which disciplinary proceedings may be conducted;
- (m) for regulating the manner of applying and using the funds of the Board;
- (n) for the appointment and proceedings of committees;
- (o) for prescribing anything required or authorised by this Act to be prescribed.

46. The Minister shall within two years of the commencement of the Dental Profession (Amendment) Act, 1998 and at least once every five years thereafter, review, in collaboration with the Council the curriculum and training programme of the University of the West Indies Faculty of Medical Sciences Dental School and make recommendations thereon to the Council of the University of the West Indies.

Minister may review curriculum of Dental School. [31 of 1998].

[31 of 1998].

SCHEDULE

LIST OF DENTAL SCHOOLS

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

University of the West Indies, Faculty of Medical Sciences—Dental School

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

ALABAMA—*University of, School of Dentistry*

BAYLOR—*College of Dentistry*

BOSTON—*University, Henry M. Goldman School of Graduate Dentistry*

CALIFORNIA—*University of, Los Angeles School of Dentistry*

CALIFORNIA—*University of, San Francisco School of Dentistry*

CASE WESTERN RESERVE—*University School of Dentistry*

COLORADO—*University of, School of Dentistry*

COLUMBIA—*University of, School of Dental and Oral Surgery*

CONNECTICUT—*University of, School of Dental Medicine*

CREIGHTON—*University, Boyne School of Dental Science*

DETROIT—*University of, School of Dentistry*

EMORY—*University School of Dentistry*

FAIRLEIGH DICKENSON—*University School of Dentistry*

FLORIDA—*University of, College of Dentistry*

GEORGETOWN—*University School of Dentistry*

GEORGIA—*Medical College of, School of Dentistry*

HARVARD—*School of Dental Medicine*

HOWARD—*University College of Dentistry*

ILLINOIS—*University of, College of Dentistry*

INDIANA—*University School of Dentistry*

IOWA—*University of, College of Dentistry*

KENTUCKY—*University of, College of Dentistry*

LOMA LINDA—*University School of Dentistry*

LOUISIANA STATE—*University School of Dentistry*

LOUISVILLE—*University of, School of Dentistry*

LOYOLA—*University of, Chicago School of Dentistry*

MARQUETTE—*University School of Dentistry*

MARYLAND—*University of, at Baltimore, Baltimore College of Dental Surgery, Dental School*

MEHARRY—*Medical College School of Dentistry*

MICHIGAN—*The University of, School of Dentistry*

MINNESOTA—*University of, School of Dentistry*

MISSISSIPPI—*University of, School of Dentistry*

MISSOURI—*University of, Kansas City, School of Dentistry*

NEBRASKA—*University of, Lincoln College of Dentistry*

NEW JERSEY—*College of Medicine and Dentistry of, New Jersey
Dental School*

NEW YORK—*University College of Dentistry*

NEW YORK AT BUFFALO—*State University of, School of Dentistry*

NEW YORK AT STONY BROOK—*State University of, School of Dentistry*

NORTH CAROLINA—*University of, School of Dentistry*

NORTHWESTERN—*University Dental School*

OHIO STATE—*University of, School of Dentistry*

OKLAHOMA—*University of, School of Dentistry*

ORAL ROBERTS—*University of, School of Dentistry*

OREGON—*University of, School of Dentistry*

PACIFIC—*University of, School of Dentistry*

PENNSYLVANIA—*University of, School of Dental Medicine*

PITTSBURGH—*University of, School of Dental Medicine*

PUERTO RICO—*University of, School of Dentistry*

SOUTH CAROLINA—*Medical University of, College of Dental Medicine*

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA—*University of, School of Dentistry*

SOUTHERN ILLINOIS—*University at Edwardsville School of Dental Medicine*

TEMPLE—*University School of Dentistry*

TENNESSEE—*University of, School of Dentistry*

TEXAS—*University of, Health Science Centre at Houston, Dental Branch*

TEXAS—*University of, Dental School at San Antonio*

TUFTS—*University of, School of Dental Medicine*

VIRGINIA COMMONWEALTH—*University School of Dentistry*

WASHINGTON—*University School of Dental Medicine*

WASHINGTON—*University of, School of Dentistry*

WEST VIRGINIA—*University School of Dentistry*

CANADA

ALBERTA—*University of, Faculty of Dentistry*

BRITISH COLUMBIA—*University of, Faculty of Dentistry*

DALHOUSIE—*University of, Faculty of Dentistry*

LAVAL—*Universite Ecole de Medicine Dentaire*

MANITOBA—*University of, Faculty of Dentistry*

MCGILL—*University of, Faculty of Dentistry*

MONTREAL—*Universite de, Faculte de Medicine Dentaire*

SASKATCHEWAN—*University of, College of Dentistry*

TORONTO—*University of, Faculty of Dentistry*

WESTERN ONTARIO—*University of, Faculty of Dentistry*

LIST OF DENTAL SCHOOLS—Continued

UNITED KINGDOM

The School of Dentistry

The Queens University

Grosvenor Road, BELFAST BT12 6BP

The Dental School

St. Chad's Queensway, BIRMINGHAM, B4 6NN

The Dental School

Lower Maudlin Street, BRISTOL BS1 2LY

The Dental School

Welsh National School of Medicine

Heath, CARDIFF CF4 4XY

The Dental School and Hospital

University of Dundee

2 Park Place, DUNDEE DD1 4HR

The School of Dental Surgery

31, Chambers Street

EDINBURGH EH1 1JA

The Dental Hospital and School

378, Sauchiehall Street, GLASGOW G3 3JZ

The Dental School and Hospital

Blundell Street, LEEDS LS1 3ET

The School of Dental Surgery

Pembroke Place

P.O. Box 147 LIVERPOOL L69 3BX

The Dental School

Guy's Hospital

London Bridge, LONDON SE1 9RT

King's College Hospital

Dental School

Denmark Hill, LONDON SE5 9RS

The Dental School
London Hospital Medical College
Turner Street, LONDON E1 2AD

Royal Dental Hospital
School of Dental Surgery
Leicester Square, LONDON WC2H 7LJ

University College Hospital
Dental School
Mortimer Market, LONDON WC1E 6JD

Turner Dental School
Bridgeford Street
MANCHESTER, M15 6FH

The Dental School
Northumberland Road
NEWCASTLE-UPON-TYNE NE1 8TA

The School of Clinical Dentistry
Charles Clifford Dental Hospital
Wellesley Road, SHEFFIELD S10 2SZ

SUBSIDIARY LEGISLATION

DENTAL REGULATIONS

ARRANGEMENT OF REGULATIONS

REGULATION

1. Citation.
2. Interpretation.
3. Board membership.
4. Council elections.
5. Notice of election meetings.
6. Venue of election meetings.
7. Eligibility for membership of Council.
8. Nominations.
9. Resignation.
10. Removal of member.
11. Bye-elections.
12. Council meetings.
13. Special meetings.
14. Quorum.
15. Board meetings.
16. Form D.R. 1.
17. Board of Examiners.
18. Referral to Board of Examiners.
19. Examinations.
20. Requirements for registration.
21. Further requirements.
22. Fees payable and practice certificate.
23. Certificate of registration.
24. Duplicate Certificate.
25. Display of Certificate.
26. Additional or higher qualification.
27. Inspection of register.
28. Prohibition against advertising.

ARRANGEMENT OF REGULATIONS

REGULATION

29. What constitutes advertising.
30. Signs.
31. Size of letters.
32. Removal of signs.
33. Unprofessional conduct.

SCHEDULE.

[Subsidiary]

36/1982.
[134/1986].

DENTAL REGULATIONS

made under section 45

- Citation. **1.** These Regulations may be cited as the Dental Regulations.
- Interpretation. **2.** In these Regulations—
“Board” means the Dental Board of Trinidad and Tobago;
“Council” means the Council provided for by section 9 of the Act;
“Secretary” means the Secretary of the Board.
- Board membership. **3.** A dentist or dental auxiliary may apply to the Board for membership in the manner prescribed by the Council.
- Council elections. **4.** Members of the Board may be elected to the Council by secret ballot at an election meeting.
- Notice of election meetings. **5.** The Secretary shall give not less than fourteen days notice in writing to all members of the Board of every meeting, stating the venue thereof, to be held for the purpose of an election or bye-election to the Council, and where the notice is delivered by post the address of members as shown in the Register or Roll shall be used.
- Venue of election meetings. **6.** Every meeting to be held for the purpose of an election or bye-election to the Council shall be held either at the registered office of the Board or at such other venue in Port-of-Spain as the Board may decide.
- Eligibility for membership of Council. **7.** (1) A member of the Board is ineligible for election to the Council where—
 (a) he is not resident in Trinidad and Tobago; or
 (b) he is not in good financial standing.
(2) Nominations to the Council may be made and seconded only by members of the Board in good financial standing.

8. (1) The Board may decide whether nominations for election to the Council shall be made— Nominations.

- (a) in writing to the Secretary prior to the election meeting; or
- (b) at the election meeting.

(2) The decision of the Board is final.

9. (1) A member may resign from the Council by giving written notice of his resignation to the Secretary at least two months before the date on which the resignation is to take effect. Resignation.

(2) The Council may, where it is satisfied that circumstances justify a shorter period of notice of resignation, accept a shorter period.

10. (1) A member may be removed from office by members of the Council where— Removal of member.

- (a) he is absent from two consecutive meetings of the Council without a reasonable excuse accepted by at least four members of the Council;
- (b) he is guilty of unprofessional conduct;
- (c) he is unable to function effectively as a member because of infirmity; or
- (d) he defaults in the payment of fees prescribed by these Regulations.

(2) This Regulation does not apply to the dentist holding the most senior dental post in the Ministry of Health who is *ex officio* a member of the Council.

11. (1) Where a vacancy occurs on the Council at least six months before the expiration of a term of office a bye-election shall be held to fill the vacancy. Bye-elections.

(2) A member who is elected to the Council at a bye-election holds office for the remainder of the term of the member whom he succeeds.

LAWS OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

MINISTRY OF LEGAL AFFAIRS

www.legalaffairs.gov.tt

30

Chap. 29:54

Dental Profession

[Subsidiary]

Dental Regulations

Council meetings.

12. (1) Meetings of the Council are to be held at least six times a year at the office of the Council or at such other place as is indicated by the Secretary of the Council after consultation with the Chairman.

(2) Subject to regulation 5 the Secretary shall give notice in writing of every meeting of the Council to every member at least seven days before a meeting is convened, unless the meeting is one which is to be held within seven days of a previous meeting at which such date and time were fixed.

Special meetings.

13. (1) A member of the Council may request a special meeting of the Council, stating the purpose for which such a meeting is required.

(2) A request for a special meeting shall be supported by at least three other members.

(3) The Secretary shall within seven days of the receipt of the request convene a special meeting.

Quorum.

14. At every meeting of the Council five members, one of whom shall be the Chairman or the Vice-Chairman, constitute a quorum.

Board meetings.

15. (1) The Council shall call an annual general meeting of the Board not later than December every year.

(2) At every annual general meeting of the Board reports from the President and the Treasurer shall be presented for the information of the Board.

Form D.R. 1. Schedule.

16. (1) Application for registration as a dentist shall be made in the form set out as Form D.R. 1 in the Schedule.

(2) Application forms may be obtained from the registered office of the Board.

Board of Examiners.

17. The Council may appoint a Board of Examiners consisting of not less than six members at least four of whom shall be dentists.

18. (1) Where a person applies for registration as a dentist and— Referral to Board of Examiners.

- (a) the Council considers the qualifications of the applicant insufficient to practise dentistry in Trinidad and Tobago; or
- (b) a question arises about the diploma or certificate presented by the applicant,

the Council may refer the application to the Board of Examiners.

(2) On referral of an application, the Board of Examiners may recommend that the applicant take an examination following which the Board of Examiners may—

- (a) recommend to the Council that the name of the applicant be entered in the Register; or
- (b) recommend that the application be refused.

19. (1) Examinations shall be conducted by the Board of Examiners in April and November of every year. Examinations.

(2) The form of the examination may include any or all of the following:

- (a) a written paper;
- (b) clinical and oral examinations;
- (c) a practical examination; or
- (d) such other form as the Council may decide.

(3) A fee of one thousand dollars is payable by the applicant to the Treasurer of the Board before the applicant takes the examination.

20. An applicant for registration as a dentist who satisfies section 5 of the Act or who is recommended for registration by the Board of Examiners is entitled on payment of a fee of fifty dollars to be registered as a dentist. Requirements for registration.

21. (1) An applicant for registration as a dentist may be required to appear in person before the Council or to furnish such satisfactory references as to character as the Council may require. Further requirements.

(2) An applicant for registration as a dentist who is a national of Trinidad and Tobago shall obtain a Certificate of Identity and Good Character as set out in Form D.R. 1.

Form D.R. 1.

(3) A person applying for registration as a dentist who prior to his application has practised dentistry in a country other than Trinidad and Tobago shall furnish to the Council a letter or certificate of good standing from the governing dental body in the country in which he last practised dentistry.

Fees payable and practice certificate.

22. (1) A dentist shall pay to the Council an initial fee of six hundred dollars to engage in the practice of dentistry and an annual practice fee of six hundred dollars.

(2) A dentist who pays the annual practice fee is entitled to a Practice Certificate valid for the year in respect of which the practice fee is paid.

(3) The practice fee is payable in advance on or before the 31st day of December in the year preceding that for which the certificate is required.

(4) A dentist who fails to comply with subregulation (3) shall pay an additional practice fee of fifty dollars.

(5) A dentist employed in the Public Service and not allowed to engage in private practice because of his contract of service with the Government is exempted from paying the annual practice fee.

Certificate of registration. Schedule. Form D.R. 2.

23. A dentist is entitled to a Certificate of Registration issued by the Council in the form set out in the Schedule as Form D.R. 2.

Duplicate Certificate.

24. (1) A dentist may apply to the Council for a Duplicate Certificate of Registration or a Duplicate Practice Certificate where the original is lost or destroyed.

Schedule. Form D.R. 3.

(2) An application for a Duplicate Certificate shall be in the form set out in the Schedule as Form D.R. 3.

(3) A dentist is entitled to a Duplicate Certificate for a fee of fifteen dollars.

(4) A Duplicate Certificate shall be clearly marked “Duplicate”.

(5) A dentist who practises at more than one location is entitled to be issued with a Duplicate Certificate for each location but a fee of fifteen dollars is payable for each Duplicate.

25. (1) The Certificate of Registration or Duplicate and the Practice Certificate or Duplicate shall be prominently displayed at all times in the reception area of the dentist’s office. Display of Certificate.

(2) A dentist employed in the Public Service need not display his Certificate of Registration or his Practice Certificate when practising in a public office, clinic or other premises in the performance of his duties as a public officer.

26. Higher or additional qualifications may be entered in the Register on payment of a fee of twenty-five dollars. Additional or higher qualification.

27. The Register may be inspected at the registered office of the Board from 9.00 a.m. to 12.00 noon Mondays to Saturdays on payment of a fee of five dollars. Inspection of register.

28. (1) Subject to this regulation and regulation 29 a dentist may not advertise. Prohibition against advertising.

(2) A dentist may upon starting a practice for the first time in Trinidad and Tobago publish that fact in the press.

(3) The publication may not exceed one standard newspaper column in width and 2.5 cm in height, may not contain references to qualifications, procedures or equipment and may not appear for more than three days.

29. (1) Any publication by a dentist in a newspaper, broadcast or notice which includes — What constitutes advertising.

- (a) the name or professional address of the dentist; or
- (b) an indication of his profession; or
- (c) an indication that he is in practice,

may be regarded as advertising.

(2) Subregulation (1) does not apply to entries in normal type in a telephone directory or books on scientific or professional subjects or articles or correspondence in professional journals.

Signs.

30. (1) No dentist may erect on the premises where he practises more than two external signs indicating his vocational designation; one of which may be a suspended sign and one of which may be illuminated but not with an intermittent or neon type of illumination.

(2) The letters used on a sign may not exceed 10 cm in height.

Size of letters.

31. (1) Where an entrance sign is used words not exceeding 5 cm in height specifying office hours may be added to that sign.

(2) Where it is difficult to locate the dentist's office the words "Entrance On" may be added to the entrance sign.

Removal of signs.

32. The Council may in connection with a dental practice order the removal of any sign which by its nature, position, size or wording exceeds what is reasonably necessary to locate the premises where the dentist is practising.

Unprofessional conduct.

33. A dentist is guilty of unprofessional conduct who—

- (a) employs the services of any person to engage in the practice of dentistry without the dentist satisfying himself that the person employed is authorised by law to engage in such practice;
- (b) commits an offence under the Narcotic Control Ordinance involving the abuse of privileges conferred on dentists under that Ordinance;
- (c) commits an act of immorality, indecency or dishonesty or any other abuse of the professional relationship in which he stands to a patient;
- (d) makes any statement or signs any certificate or other document in his capacity as a dentist which he knows or has reasonable cause to believe is misleading or otherwise improper;

27 of 1961.

- (e) uses any title or description reasonably calculated to suggest that he possesses any professional status or qualifications other than one which he in fact possesses and which appears against his name in the Register;
- (f) engages in practice in a name other than that under which he appears in the Register; or
- (g) advertises or canvasses, whether directly or indirectly, for the purpose of obtaining patients or promoting his own professional advantage and this includes having any indication of his profession on the outside of any envelope being sent through the post.

SCHEDULE

Regulation 16.

FORM D.R. 1

DENTAL COUNCIL OF TRINIDAD
AND TOBAGO
115, ABERCROMBY STREET,
PORT-OF-SPAIN, TRINIDAD, W.I.

For Office Use Only

Fee

Application form for Registration as a
dentist under the Dental Profession
Act, Ch. 29:54.

Certificate No.

*(To be completed by the applicant in his
handwriting)*

Registration Date

I hereby apply to be registered as a Dentist
by virtue of the following
qualifications:

<i>Diploma(s)</i>	<i>Granting Authority</i>	<i>Granted on (day, month, year)</i>
-------------------	---------------------------	--

L.R.O. 1/2006

Full name of applicant (in BLOCK letters, surname underlined)

.....

Place of Birth Date of Birth

Male Female Nationality

Permanent Address (to appear in Dental Register)

.....

Address to which Certificate of Registration is to be sent (if different from above).

I declare that the foregoing particulars are correct, that I have not been suspended or disqualified or prohibited from practising dentistry or from being registered as a dentist in any country. I enclose a remittance of

..... in payment of the fee prescribed by these Regulations.

Date 20..... Signed

I wish to become a member of the Dental Board of Trinidad and Tobago. I understand that only members of the Board are entitled to elect members of the Council or to become members of the Council.

Date 20..... Signed

CERTIFICATE OF IDENTITY AND GOOD CHARACTER

I
(full name)

of
(Address in Trinidad and Tobago)

certify that I am well acquainted with
(Name of Applicant)

FORM D.R. 1—Continued

that he is the person he states himself to be in the foregoing declaration and that he is a person of good character.

Signature

Date

Occupation

IMPORTANT NOTICE

FIRST REGISTRATION

1. Applicants for registration are required to appear in person before the Dental Council and to produce the following documents:

- (a) Passport of evidence of identification and nationality;
- (b) Original Diploma(s) in Dentistry;
- (c) where applicable, a certificate from the appropriate governing body in the last country in which he/she practised indicating that he/she is in good professional standing.

2. The attention of applicants is drawn to section 31(1) of the Act which reads—

“31. (1) A person not being a dentist or auxiliary who practises dentistry whether for reward or not is liable on summary conviction to a fine of five thousand dollars or to imprisonment for one year or to both such fine and imprisonment.”.

3. On being registered the applicant is entitled to a Certificate of Registration and a Practice Certificate for the year of Registration. Registration Certificates and the current Practice Certificate shall be prominently displayed in his/her reception area at all times.

LAWS OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

MINISTRY OF LEGAL AFFAIRS

www.legalaffairs.gov.tt

38

Chap. 29:54

Dental Profession

[Subsidiary]

Dental Regulations

ANNUAL FEE FOR RETENTION IN REGISTER

For the retention of his name in the Register after the expiry of the Practice Certificate obtained on Registration the dentist must pay an annual practice fee of six hundred dollars. Prior notice of the date of payment of the fee together with a form of application for retention will be sent to the dentist's registered address.

Regulation 23.

FORM D.R. 2

DENTAL COUNCIL OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO
115, ABERCROMBY STREET,
PORT-OF-SPAIN,
TRINIDAD, W.I.

THIS CERTIFIES THAT

.....
of
.....
was duly admitted to practise Dentistry in Trinidad and Tobago on the
..... day of 20.....
Registration No

.....
President

.....
Secretary

FORM D.R. 3

DENTAL COUNCIL OF TRINIDAD
AND TOBAGO
115, ABERCROMBY STREET,
PORT-OF-SPAIN,
TRINIDAD, W.I.

For Office Use Only

Fee

Certificate No.

Registration Date

**APPLICATION FORM FOR DUPLICATE CERTIFICATE
OF REGISTRATION OR
DUPLICATE PRACTICE CERTIFICATE**

I hereby apply for a Duplicate Certificate of Registration or Duplicate Practice Certificate.

I enclose a remittance of \$..... for each Certificate requested.

Reason(s) for request

.....

.....

Date20..... Signed

FORM D.R. 4

DENTAL COUNCIL OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO
115, ABERCROMBY STREET,
PORT-OF-SPAIN,
TRINIDAD, W.I.

**APPLICATION FORM FOR
RETENTION OF NAMES ON THE
DENTAL REGISTER**

For Office Use Only
Fee
..... Certificate No.
..... Registration Date

(To be completed by the applicant in his handwriting)

I hereby apply to have my name retained in the Dental Register for the year

Full name of applicant (in BLOCK letters surname underlined)

.....
Permanent address (To appear in Dental Register)

.....
Address to which practising certificate is to be sent

.....
Original Registration No.

.....

I declare that I have not been suspended or disqualified or prohibited from practising Dentistry or from being registered as a Dentist in any country.

I enclose a remittance of \$ in payment of the fee prescribed in the Regulations made under the Dental Profession Act, Ch. 29:54.

Date Signed

I wish to become/remain a member of the Dental Board of Trinidad and Tobago.

I understand that only members of the Board are entitled to elect members of the council or become members of the council.

Date Signed

DENTAL PROFESSION (DENTAL ASSISTANTS) ORDER 138/1997.

made under section 19

1. This Order may be cited as the Dental Profession (Dental Assistants) Order. Citation.

2. The Roll for Dental Assistants shall be opened on 16th June, 1997. Roll opened.

**APPOINTMENT OF AN ELECTION SUPERVISOR
(DENTAL COUNCIL ELECTIONS) ORDER** 153/1999.

made under section 10A (9)

1. This Order may be cited as the Appointment of an Election Supervisor (Dental Council Elections) Order. Citation.

2. Justice James Davis is hereby appointed to supervise the election of a new Council under section 10(8) of the Dental Profession Act. Appointment of Supervisor. Ch. 29:54.