

The AADB Dental and Dental Hygiene Licensure Compact:

Streamling Licensure Without Compromise

HOW?

Protects the public

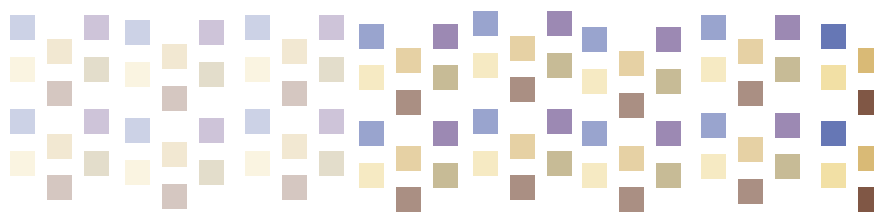
The AADB Dental and Dental Hygiene Licensure Compact protects the public in three different ways:



HOW?

Keeps states independent

The AADB Compact legislation ensures states maintain governing independence by ensuring that all rule making, the issuance of licenses and disciplinary actions remain within the power of each jurisdictions' board or existing authority. The AADB Compact Commission serves to represent stakeholders in licensure not to intervene.



Why?

Uniform Standards

Understanding that all persons issued a Compact License will qualify to practice in any Compact Member State, the AADB Compact Commission reviewed the initial licensure requirements of all 35 member boards of dentistry to establish uniform licensure requirements. These requirements pertain to education, disciplinary action, and competency to practice. These uniform standards ensure applicants must at a minimum:

- Graduate from a CODA-approved dental school.
- Pass the American Board of Dental Examiners, (ADEX) licensure exam, or be in practice 5 years having passed a regional licensing examination.
- Pass the written National Dental Board Exam administered by the Joint Commission on National Dental Examinations

In addition, applicants shall also:

- Possess a full and unrestricted dental license issued by a Member State Dental Board of the compact
- Never been convicted, received adjudication, deferred adjudication, community supervision or deferred disposition for any offense by a court of appropriate jurisdiction.
- Never been a subject of discipline by a board as determined by the AADB Compact bylaws and rules, through any adverse action, order or other restriction of the licensee by the board with the exception of failure to pay fees or failure to complete continuing education.
- Never had a state or federal drug registration, permit or license, restricted, suspended or revoked by the United States Drug Enforcement Administration or any State Board that oversees scheduled drug registrations.
- Cannot be currently under active investigation by a licensing agency or law enforcement authority in any state, federal or foreign jurisdiction.

By 2022, all AADB member boards, and 48 out of 50 US States accepted or required the ADEX licensure examination as the gold standard for establishing readiness to practice. The ADEX exam, administered in every US dental school, is the only examination that includes a hand-skills component to ensure potential licensees can perform dentistry without harm to the public. Commissioners evaluating these state requirements determined non-skills based examinations do not ensure competency to practice as defined by the majority of US jurisdictions and should not be permitted as a uniform licensure component.

Ask Us

how to update your planned legislation
to better protect patients, your state and your board.