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STATE OF OKLAHOMA
BOARD OF DENTISTRY

New hygiene laser advanced procedure information:

The Board has received many questions regarding the laser advanced procedure for hygienists. The statute went into effect July 1, 2023, however, the rules are set to go into effect September 1, 2023. License renewal begins October 1, 2023 through December 31, 2023. The Board will have a grace period for lasers advanced procedures through January 1, 2024. This will allow time for hygienists to submit documentation to the Board to have this advanced procedure added to their 2024 license. If you are a hygienist that has been using a laser within the guidelines as listed by the rules in excess of two years, your supervising dentist may sign an affidavit as to your proficiency and you will be grandfathered in. Please fill out the application and submit it as soon as possible. The rules with the additional advanced procedures have been posted on the Boards website since November of 2022, and were on the agenda at the November 2022, January and March Board meetings for discussion and voting also. The Boards duty is to protect the public. Additionally, the Board is committed to continually review all of the statutes and rules regularly as dental practice evolves with new technology and procedures. The Board welcomes any written suggestions.



Oklahoma Board of Dentistry

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Oklahoma City, OK 73105

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Therapeutic Use of Lasers Application

\$10 check or money order- THE BOARD CANNOT ACCEPT CASH

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY WITH BLUE OR BLACK INK

Dental Hygienist Name _____ OK RDH # _____

Current Mailing Address _____

City _____ State ____ Zip _____

Daytime Phone Number _____ Email Address _____

Please see the new Rule below. Your course will have to be approved by the Allied Health Committee and/or the Board.

(1) Therapeutic Use of Lasers

(a) A hygienist may apply for an Advanced Procedure permit for the therapeutic use of lasers under the direct/indirect supervision of a dentist.

(b) Definition: A hygienist with an advanced procedure permit to use a laser may be used, but limited to soft tissue decontamination, sulcular bacterial reduction, tissue disinfection.

(c) Requirements:

1. The hygienist must successfully complete an educational program as approved by the Board on laser use that is a minimum of 8 hours and includes both didactic and live, in-person clinical simulation training;
2. A certificate of successful course completion from the dental laser training entity shall be submitted to the Board of Dentistry.
 - (i.) A hygienist may use the laser within the scope of hygiene practice;
 - (ii.) A laser may not be used for the intentional cutting of hard or soft issue;
 - (iii.) All lasers must be used in accordance with accepted safety guidelines and approved by the United States Federal Drug Administration for use in dentistry.
 - (iv.) When utilizing a laser pursuant to this Rule, at a minimum, the type of laser, settings used and details of procedures performed, must be documented in the patient's record.

➤ **Proof of an 8 hour or more course** _____

