

State Board of Dentistry
Meeting Summary
August 28, 2026

Presentation from Christie DeWitt, Apprenticeship and Training Office, Department of Labor and Industry

- Responsible for overseeing development, registration, and compliance of all Registered Apprenticeship and Pre-Apprenticeship in PA.
- A Registered Apprenticeship program is a structured, employer-designed, paid training pathway combining on-the-job learning and classroom instruction that culminates in a portable, state and/or nationally recognized credential.
- Sponsors of an apprenticeship program include: employers, educational institutions, labor unions/industry associations, workforce development boards, and community-based organizations.
- When an occupation requires state credentialing or licensing, the Registered Apprenticeships integrate those mandatory requirements into the training pathway to ensure that apprentices meet regulatory standards.
- All clinical support activities are delegated and supervised according to the State Board of Dentistry's regulations.
- Apprentices must still comply with clinical, educational, and licensing requirements.
- Apprenticeship models primarily support operational, administrative, sterilization, and clinical support functions within a dental practice.
- Currently, there are three registered Dental Assistant apprenticeships in Pennsylvania.
- Five elements of the **Pre-Apprenticeship Program** (typically high school level):
 - Connection to existing apprenticeship programs into which successful pre-apprentices will advance and potentially gain advanced standing.
 - Approved training and curriculum.
 - Hands-on learning with a career focus.
 - Opportunity to earn an industry-recognized credential.
 - Access to support services and career counseling.

Regulatory Counsel Update

- **Anesthesia Permit Holders proposed rulemaking:** Dr. Funari advised Counsel that the proposed rulemaking should reference the most recently updated professional guidelines from AAOMS and AAPD for the administration of anesthesia in dental facilities.
- **General Revisions proposed rulemaking:** Counsel updated existing regulations to reflect changes to the licensing examination process, a new section on malpractice insurance requirements, requirements for temporary volunteer licenses, changes to requirements for dental restricted faculty licenses, and requirements for incorporated practices and ownership of dental practices, among other things. The board approved the draft Annex and Preamble for review by various Administrative offices and publication in the *Pennsylvania*

Bulletin as proposed rulemaking. Once published, the stakeholder community, as well as the House and Senate Licensure Committees and the Independent Regulatory Review Commission, will have 30 days in which to comment.

- **Mobile dental units proposed rulemaking:** The board is currently reviewing comments from the stakeholder community and tabled discussed on the proposed rulemaking until the November meeting.

Board Chair

- There are two (2) vacancies on the Board. One is in the process of being filled; the other is still pending.

Applications

- The SBOD approved Bucks County Community College's application to establish an Expanded Function Dental Assistant Program.

Miscellaneous

- The SBOD approved sending three representatives to the American Association of Dental Boards' Annual Meeting, October 17-18, 2026, in Maryland.

2026 Meeting Dates

November 13

2027 Meeting Dates

January 15

March 12

May 14

July 16

September 10

November 5