

**2019 Legislation: HB 1317/ SB 5392**

<b>Practice Location</b>	<b>Supervision</b>	<b>Scope of Practice</b>	<b>Education /Licensure</b>	<b>Practice Plan</b>	<b>Commission Modification</b>
<p><b>A dental therapist may practice only in the following settings:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Federally qualified health centers;</li> <li>• Clinics operated by accredited schools of dentistry or dental hygiene;</li> <li>• Clinics operated by an Indian health service, Indian health service direct, tribal 638, or an urban Indian health program system of care, as those terms are defined in the Indian health care improvement act; or</li> <li>• Any other clinic or practice setting, including mobile or temporary dental clinics, where at least 35% of the total patient base of the</li> </ul>	<p><b>Definitions:</b></p> <p><u>Close supervision</u> means that a supervising dentist: (a) Has personally examined and diagnosed the patient and has personally authorized the procedures to be performed; (b) Is continuously on-site while the procedure is being performed; and (c) Is able to respond immediately in the event of an emergency.</p> <p><u>Off-site supervision</u> means supervision that does not require the dentist to be physically present or to personally examine or diagnose the patient.</p> <p><b>Supervision of a dental therapist:</b></p> <p>A dental therapist may only work under the level of supervision agreed upon with the dentist in the written practice Plan. <u>However, when authorized in the written practice plan, a</u></p>	<p><b>Proposed scope of practice for a dental therapist:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Oral health instruction and disease prevention education, including nutritional counseling and dietary analysis;</li> <li>• Preliminary charting of the oral cavity;</li> <li>• Making radiographs;</li> <li>• Mechanical polishing;</li> <li>• Prophylaxis;</li> <li>• Periodontal scaling and root planning;</li> <li>• Application of topical preventative or prophylactic agents, including fluoride varnishes and pit and fissure sealants;</li> <li>• Pulp vitality testing;</li> <li>• Application of desensitizing medication or resin;</li> <li>• Fabrication of athletic mouth guards;</li> <li>• Placement of temporary restorations;</li> <li>• Fabrication of soft occlusal guards;</li> <li>• Tissue conditioning and soft reline;</li> <li>• Atraumatic restorative therapy and interim restorative therapy;</li> </ul>	<p><b>To gain licensure a Dental Therapist must:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Complete a preceptorship of at least 400 hours under the close supervision of a dentist;</li> <li>• Pass an examination approved by the committee (Dental Hygiene Committee); and</li> <li>• Successfully complete a dental therapist program that is accredited, or has received initial accreditation, by the commission on dental accreditation.</li> </ul> <p><b>Limited licensure:</b></p> <p>Allows a limited license of 18 months. Gives dental therapists from other states or tribes authority to perform procedures that they were licensed to do that fall under scope of practice determined in this bill. <u>Limited licensure would take effect immediately following passage of legislation.</u></p>	<p><b>Dental therapists may only practice under a written practice plan agreement with a supervising dentist.</b></p> <p>The contract must contain the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The level of supervision required and practice settings where services may be provided;</li> <li>• Any limitations on the services or procedures the dental therapist may provide;</li> <li>• Age and procedure-specific practice protocols;</li> <li>• Procedures for creating and maintaining patient records treated;</li> <li>• A plan to manage medical emergencies;</li> <li>• A quality assurance plan;</li> <li>• Protocols for administering and dispensing medications;</li> <li>• Criteria for providing care to patients with specific medical conditions or complex medical histories;</li> </ul>	<p>Adds 2 dental therapists to DQAC.</p> <p>Dental therapists would fall under the purview of DQAC.</p>

<p>dental therapist:</p> <p>(a) Are enrolled in a Washington state Medicaid program; (b) Have a medical disability or chronic condition that creates a significant barrier to receiving dental care; or</p> <p>(c) Have annual incomes of less than 133% of the federal poverty level, and do not have dental coverage, either through Medicaid or private insurance.</p>	<p><u><a href="#">dental therapist may provide services without the prior examination or diagnosis of a dentist and without the dentist being on site when services are provided (off-site supervision).</a></u></p> <p>A supervising dentist may not supervise more than 5 dental therapists at one time.</p> <p><b>Supervision by a dental therapist:</b> A dental therapist may supervise up to four expanded function dental auxiliaries and dental assistants at any one time in a practice setting.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dressing changes;</li> <li>• Tooth reimplantation;</li> <li>• Administration of local anesthetic;</li> <li>• Administration of nitrous oxide;</li> <li>• Emergency palliative treatment of dental pain;</li> <li>• The placement and removal of space maintainers;</li> <li>• Cavity preparation;</li> <li>• Restoration of primary and permanent teeth;</li> <li>• Placement of temporary crowns;</li> <li>• Preparation and placement of preformed crowns;</li> <li>• Pulpotomies on primary teeth;</li> <li>• Indirect and direct pulp capping on primary and permanent teeth;</li> <li>• Stabilization of reimplanted teeth;</li> <li>• Extractions of primary teeth;</li> <li>• Suture placement and removal;</li> <li>• Brush biopsies;</li> <li>• Repair of defective prosthetic devices;</li> <li>• Recementing of permanent crowns;</li> <li>• Oral evaluation and assessment of dental disease and the formulation of an</li> </ul>	<p><b>Requirements for limited licensure:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Holds a valid license, certification, or recertification in another state, Canadian province, or tribe in the previous two years, that allows a similar scope of practice;</li> <li>• Is currently engaged in active practice (active practice means 560 of practice in the preceding 24 months) in another state, Canadian province, or tribe;</li> <li>• Has graduated from a dental therapy school accredited by the commission on dental accreditation;</li> <li>• Has passed the national dental therapy examination, or until the exam is developed, the national dental hygiene examination; and is licensed to practice in the previous two years;</li> <li>• Demonstrates knowledge of Washington state law on dental therapy;</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Protocols for situations where the dental therapist encounters a patient requiring treatment that exceeds the dental therapist's scope of practice or capabilities; and</li> <li>• Protocols for referring patients, when necessary, to dentists, physicians, advanced registered nurse practitioners, or other health care providers.</li> </ul> <p>Additionally, The supervising dentist is responsible for all services and procedures provided by the dental therapist as authorized in the practice plan contract.</p> <p>A dentist who enters into a written practice plan contract with a dental therapist will provide or arrange for another dentist or specialist to provide any necessary treatment that exceeds the dental therapist's scope of practice or capabilities.</p> <p>A dentist will also ensure that they or another dentist are available to</p>
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