



VELFERÐARRÁÐUNEYTIÐ

Ministry of Welfare

REGULATION **on the education, rights and obligations of dental technicians** **and clinical dental technicians for granting of licences,** **No. 1123/2012.**

SECTION I

General provisions.

Article 1

Scope.

This Regulation applies to dental technicians and clinical dental technicians holding licences from the Medical Director of Health under Articles 2 and 5.

SECTION II

Licence as a dental technician.

Article 2

Professional title.

The right to use the professional title of dental technician and to practise as such in Iceland is confined to those who have been granted a licence by the Medical Director of Health.

Article 3

Criteria for granting of a licence.

A licence under Article 2 may be granted to those who have completed a BS degree in dental technology from the Faculty of Odontology in the University of Iceland's School of Health Sciences.

A licence may also be granted on the basis of education from a state within the European Economic Area (EEA) and Switzerland. Recognition of professional qualifications and competence of a dental technician who meets the criteria of Directive 2005/36/EC, on the recognition of professional qualifications, with subsequent amendments, is subject to Regulation on recognition of professional qualifications and competence of healthcare practitioners from other EEA states, No. 461/2011, or to Nordic Convention on a common Nordic labour market for certain health professionals and veterinarians, No. 36/1993 (*cf.* Amendment No. 6/2001).

A licence may also be granted to those who have completed a comparable qualification from an educational institution in a state outside the EEA or Switzerland, which is recognised as such by Icelandic health authorities, and by health authorities in the state where the education took place.

Other criteria for the issue of a licence are subject to Article 13.

Article 4

Opinions.

Before a licence is granted under Article 2 on the basis of education outside Iceland under the third paragraph of Article 3, the Medical Director of Health shall elicit the opinion of the Faculty of Odontology of the University of Iceland's School of Health Sciences, with regard to whether the applicant fulfils the criteria for qualifications under the first paragraph of Article 3, for granting of a licence in dental technology.

The Medical Director of Health may elicit opinions from other bodies, as deemed necessary.

SECTION III

Licences as clinical dental technician.

Article 5

Professional title.

The right to use the title of clinical dental technician and to practise as such in Iceland is confined to those granted a licence by the Medical Director of Health.

Article 6

Criteria for granting of a licence as a clinical dental technician.

In order to be entitled to receive a licence as a clinical dental technician, the dental technician shall fulfil the following standards:

1. he/she shall be licensed as a dental technician under Article 2; and
2. he/she shall have completed recognised postgraduate study in clinical dental technology from a university which is recognised by the Icelandic health authorities and the health authorities of the state in which the education took place; and
3. he/she shall have worked as a clinical dental technician, after graduation under indent 2, with guidance for the equivalent of at least one year full-time. If he/she has worked less than full-time, the duration of employment shall be proportionately longer.

Further criteria for the granting of a licence are subject to Article 13.

Article 7

Opinions.

Before a licence is granted under Article 5 the Medical Director of Health shall elicit the opinion of the Faculty of Odontology in the University of Iceland's School of Health Sciences, with regard to whether the applicant fulfils the criteria of Article 6 for the granting of a licence as a clinical dental technician.

The Medical Director of Health may appoint a special committee to evaluate and comment upon applications for licences for clinical dental technicians.

The Medical Director of Health may elicit opinions from other bodies, as deemed necessary.

SECTION IV

Rights and obligations.

Article 8

Professional standards and responsibilities.

A dental technician under Article 2 and clinical dental technician under Article 5 shall show respect for the patient and perform his/her tasks vigilantly and conscientiously and in accordance with the professional standards required of the profession at any time.

A dental technician under Article 2 and clinical dental technician under Article 5 must be aware of his/her duties and respect ethical rules of the profession, maintain his/her knowledge and professional skill, and master innovations in his/her field of work.

A dental technician under Article 2 and clinical dental technician under Article 5 shall be familiar with legislation and regulations applying to healthcare practitioners and healthcare services, and other legislation and government directives, as applicable.

A dental technician under Article 2 and clinical dental technician under Article 5 is responsible for their work in accordance with the education he/she has received.

A dental technician may not work in a patient's oral cavity.

A clinical dental technician under Article 5 may work on the taking of impressions, fitting and construction and maintenance of complete and partial dentures (*cf.* however Article 11).

A dental technician under Article 2 and clinical dental technician under Article 5 shall recognise his/her professional limitations, and seek assistance or refer the patient to another healthcare practitioner as necessary, for instance if he/she judges that he/she cannot provide the patient with appropriate healthcare service.

Article 9

Duty to inform and keeping of medical records.

The duty of a dental technician under Article 2 and clinical dental technician under Article 5 to provide information to a patient is subject to the provisions of the Patients' Rights Act, No. 74/1997.

The duty of a dental technician under Article 2 and clinical dental technician under Article 5 to provide information to the Medical Director of Health, *inter alia* with respect to monitoring and for the purpose of producing health reports, is subject to the provisions of the Medical Director of Health and Public Health Act, No. 41/2007.

A dental technician under Article 2 and clinical dental technician under Article 5 shall, as appropriate, enter medical records in accordance with the provisions of the Medical Records Act, No. 55/2009, and regulations issued on the basis of the Act.

Article 10

Assistants and trainees.

A dental technician under Article 2 and clinical dental technician under Article 5 is responsible for assistants and trainees working under his/her management having sufficient competence and knowledge, and receiving the necessary guidance and instructions, to carry out tasks which he/she allots to them.

Article 11

Restrictions on professional rights of clinical dental technicians.

If a patient has one or more natural teeth in his/her oral cavity and a dental technician deems, after examination, and taking impressions if applicable, that partial dentures should be constructed for the patient, the dental technician shall, before the process of construction begins, refer the patient to a dentist for examination of the teeth, oral cavity and jaws, as well as necessary preparations.

An agreement regarding the construction of a partial denture shall be made in writing between a clinical dental technician and a dentist, before the clinical dental technician begins the process of construction of partial dentures; the dentist and the clinical dental technician shall agree a schedule of construction.

Notwithstanding the provisions of the second paragraph, a clinical dental technician may reconstruct partial dentures for a patient without referring him/her to a dentist, if a dentist has examined the patient in the previous twelve months, and if the reconstruction is performed in accordance with a previously agreed schedule of construction.

Article 12

Confidentiality.

A dental technician/clinical dental technician shall maintain the utmost confidentiality regarding anything of which he/she becomes aware in his/her work about a patient's health, condition, diagnosis, prognosis and treatment, and other personal information. This does not apply where other provisions are made by law, or where reasonable cause exists to breach confidentiality for reasons of urgent necessity.

A dental technician/clinical dental technician can be released from the obligation of confidentiality by the consent of a patient, or guardian if applicable.

The duty of confidentiality under this Article does not apply to cases in which the dental technician/clinical dental technician has a duty to report under other legal provisions. In such cases, the duty of the dental technician/clinical dental technician is to notify the relevant authority.

The duty of confidentiality of a dental technician/clinical dental technician is also subject to the provisions of the Patients' Rights Act, the Medical Records Act and other legislation as applicable.

SECTION V
Various provisions.

Article 13

*Further criteria for granting of licences
as a dental technician and clinical dental technician.*

An applicant for a licence as a dental technician under Article 2 and a clinical dental technician under Article 5 who is from a state outside the EEA and Switzerland, with which Iceland has not made an agreement on recognition of professional qualifications and competence, shall submit *inter alia* documentary evidence of nationality, content and duration of education, in addition to an examination certificate, a licence if the profession is an authorised profession in the applicant's state of origin, intended employment in Iceland, and any other documents and certificates deemed by the Medical Director of Health to be necessary for the issue of a licence.

Before an application for a licence is evaluated, a certified copy of an application for residence and work permits must be submitted, together with a contract of employment.

A requirement may be made for knowledge of the Icelandic language and Icelandic healthcare legislation, as well as other legislation and government directives, as deemed necessary in the work of a dental technician/clinical dental technician, especially with regard to patients' safety and communication with patients.

Should it not have been demonstrated, in the judgement of the Medical Director of Health, that the applicant's qualification fulfils the criteria under the first paragraph of Article 3 or Article 6, account being taken of professional experience, an applicant may be required to submit to a test of competence to demonstrate that he/she possesses the professional knowledge and competence required in a dental technician/clinical dental technician. An appropriate educational institution shall organise the test for the applicant in consultation with the Medical Director of Health.

Licences are issued when the applicant commences work in Iceland.

Article 14

Fees.

Fees for the issue of a licence are subject to Article 10 of the Treasury Supplementary Revenues Act, No. 88/1991.

Fees for all administration undertaken by the Medical Director of Health with regard to applications for licences, in addition to the fee under the first paragraph, and for tests of professional knowledge and competence, are subject to Regulation on fees for applications for healthcare practitioners' licences and specialist licences, No. 951/2012.

Article 15

General provisions.

The provisions of the Healthcare Practitioners Act, No. 34/2012, the Medical Director of Health and Public Health Act, No. 41/2007, the Medical Records Act, No. 55/2009, the Health Service Act, No. 40/2007, the Patients' Rights Act, No. 74/1997, and other legislation and government directives apply to dental technicians as applicable.

Article 16

Dental technicians with older qualifications.

Dental technicians holding journeyman or master's certificates, and clinical dental technicians who have gained professional rights before this Regulation took effect, fully retain their rights.

Article 17

Entry into force.

This Regulation, issued on the basis of Articles 5, 8, 30 and 31 of the Healthcare Practitioners Act, No. 34/2012, takes effect on 1 January 2013. From that time Regulation on professional rights of dental technicians, No. 904/2000, and Rules on restrictions to the professional rights of dental technicians, No. 937/2000, are abrogated.

Ministry of Welfare, 11 December 2012.

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