

Department of Legislative Services  
Maryland General Assembly  
2023 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE  
Third Reader - Revised

House Bill 1159

(Delegate Cullison, *et al.*)

Health and Government Operations

Finance

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State Board of Dental Examiners - University of Maryland School of Dentistry  
Faculty - Qualifying for Examination

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This bill expands the qualifications by which a faculty member at the University of Maryland School of Dentistry (UMSOD) trained at a foreign dental school may qualify to take an examination offered by the American Board of Dental Examiners, Inc. (ADEX). A faculty member may qualify if they are a general dentist who (1) has successfully completed a general dental practice residency or advanced education in a general dentistry program or (2) is board certified by the American Board of General Dentistry. As under current law, to qualify to take the examination, the faculty member must also be (1) a full-time faculty member at UMSOD who has completed at least seven consecutive years as a full-time faculty member and (2) submit to the State Board of Dental Examiners (BDE) a specified written letter of support from UMSOD.

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**Fiscal Summary**

**State Effect:** BDE special fund revenues increase minimally beginning in FY 2024 from license fees as a result of additional dentists seeking licensure under the bill. Any additional workload can be handled with existing budgeted resources.

**Local Effect:** None.

**Small Business Effect:** None.

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**Analysis**

**Current Law:** Under the Health Occupations Article, an individual must obtain a license from BDE to practice dentistry or dental hygiene. BDE is mandated to protect the public

by regulating the practice of dentistry and dental hygiene in Maryland. Among the enumerated duties, BDE issues licenses, adopts standards of practice, investigates complaints based on alleged violations of regulations and statutes, and disciplines licensees.

Chapters 710 and 711 of 2018 authorized a dentist who is a faculty member at UMSOD and who was trained at a foreign dental school to apply to BDE for a general license to practice dentistry if the faculty member meets certain criteria. Specifically, BDE must qualify the faculty member to take an examination offered by ADEX if the faculty member:

- completes training in a dental specialty recognized by BDE;
- is board certified in a dental specialty recognized by BDE;
- is a full-time faculty member at UMSOD and has completed at least seven consecutive years as a full-time faculty member at the time of application; and
- submits a written letter of support from UMSOD.

If the dentist receives a passing score on the ADEX examination, the dentist may apply for a general license to practice dentistry.

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### **Additional Information**

**Prior Introductions:** Similar legislation has not been introduced within the last three years.

**Designated Cross File:** None.

**Information Source(s):** University System of Maryland; Maryland Department of Health; Department of Legislative Services

**Fiscal Note History:** First Reader - March 6, 2023  
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