



STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
PO Box 47852 · Olympia, Washington 98504-7852

**WASHINGTON DENTAL COMMISSION
BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES
Friday, January 16, 2026**

MEMBERS PRESENT

Bryan Swanson, DDS, Chair
Carolyn Spice, Public Member, Vice Chair
Marlynne Fulton, Public Member
Rayna Strong, DMD
Cheon Joo Yoon, DDS
Seung Yu, DDS
Ji Choi, DDS
Sarah Khan, DMD
Evelyn Harry, EFDA
Srinivasa R. Chandra, MD, BDS
Rama Oskouian, DMD
Ashley Ulmer, DDS
Nisha Sharoff, DDS
Miryam Nossa, EFDA
McKinley Rainey, Public Member

STAFF PRESENT

Bruce Bronoske Jr., Interim Executive
Director
Debbie Gardner, Program Manager
Cassandra Gerard, Administrative
Assistant
Lady Bah, Assistant Program Manager
Catharine Roner-Reiter, Supervising Staff
Attorney
Heather Carter, Assistant Attorney
General
Deonna Chartrey, Case Manager
Kitty Einert, Program Manager
Adriana Barcena, Program Manager
Benjamin Lee, Policy Analyst

MEMBERS ABSENT

Erich Jurges, DDS
Minou Karbakhsch, DDS

OPEN SESSION

OPEN SESSION – 10:02 a.m.

- 1. CALL TO ORDER** – Bryan Swanson, DDS, Chair
 - 1.1. Introduction of commission members and staff.
 - Ms. Gardner introduces commission members and staff.
 - 1.2. Public Comment.
 - Dr. Swanson opens the floor for public comment.
 - No comment received.

1.3. Approval of agenda.

- Dr. Swanson requests amending the agenda to include the addition of Item 9.2 – Active committee list.
- There is a motion to approve the amended agenda.
- The motion is moved and seconded.
- A vote is taken and unanimously passes.

1.4. Approval of December 5, 2025, business meeting minutes.

- There is a motion to approve the December 5, 2025, business meeting minutes.
- The motion is moved and seconded.
- A vote is taken and unanimously passes.

2. RULES HEARING – WAC 246-817-773, Continuing education for dentists administering sedation. Filed on December 1, 2025, as WSR 25-24-079.

2.1. The Commission will consider public comment and adoption of proposed rules regarding continuing education and training requirements for dentists administering sedation.

- The hearing begins at 10:08 a.m. and is held via Zoom webinar and in person at the Department of Health, TC2 Room 164, located at 111 Israel Road SE, Tumwater, WA 98501-5414.
- Dr. Swanson shares that the Commission is proposing amendments to WAC 246-817-773 to ensure clear continuing education (CE) and training requirements.
- Dr. Swanson shares that when the Commission last updated the rules for the administration of anesthetic agents for dental procedures, effective January 11, 2024, it was noticed upon implementation that some information did not transfer correctly, and provides an explanation of the proposed amendments.
- Dr. Swanson opens the rules hearing for public testimony.
- Dr. Robert Hsiung, an anesthesiologist with the Washington State Society of Anesthesiologists (WSSA), applauds the reasonable rule changes and shares that some WSSA members have concerns about not all CE being the same, and discusses potential competency-based language.
- Trish Flaig, Manager of Regulatory and Compliance Services at the Washington State Dental Association (WSDA), testifies in support of the proposed amendments and notes that the clarification of CE requirements will help practitioners understand and meet their obligations.
- Ms. Gardner summarizes a written comment that was reviewed by the Commission and is in opposition to the proposed amendments because they lack hands-on, competency-based requirements.
- Ms. Gardner shares that the Commission received an additional comment after the written comment deadline, which raises similar competency concerns and includes proposed amendments that would require a hands-on, skills-based

component with objective verification of competency for dentists who provide sedation and general anesthesia.

- The hearing is concluded at 10:17 a.m.
- Dr. Swanson asks the Commission to discuss accepting the late comment and encourages acceptance of the comment.
- There is a motion to accept the comment.
- The motion is moved and seconded.
- A vote is taken and unanimously passes.
- Dr. Swanson opens the discussion to the Commission.
- Dr. Yu addresses the comment concerns by noting the Commission's current requirements relating to anesthesia performance evaluations of emergency readiness protocols in a clinical setting, with demonstrated competency.
- No changes are recommended by the Commission.
- There is a motion to adopt the proposed rule as presented.
- The motion is moved and seconded.
- A vote is taken and unanimously passed by all present commission members; the rule is passed.
- The notice of adoption will be filed with the Code Reviser, and the rules will be effective 31 days from the date they are filed.

3. LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

3.1. The Commission will receive an update regarding the 2026 legislative session.

- Ms. Gardner reports that the 2026 legislative session began on January 12, 2026, and Dr. Yu and Dr. Oskouian are the 2026 legislative liaisons.
- Ms. Gardner provides an overview of the bills that are currently being monitored by program staff.
- Senate Bill 6138 – Requiring a multiprovider system be used for dental procedures where a patient is placed under deep sedation.
- Senate Bill 6146 – Expanding oral health equity and increasing access to preventive dental care.
- House Bill 2261 – Ensuring transparency in credentials and communications between patients and health care professionals.

4. RULES UPDATE

4.1. WAC 246-817-135, Dental licensure without examination – Eligibility and application requirements, and WAC 246-817-160, Graduates of nonaccredited schools.

- Ms. Gardner shares that a CR-102 was filed with the Code Reviser as WSR 26-03-002 on January 7, 2026.
- A notification was distributed to interested parties via GovDelivery on January 9, 2026, and a rules hearing is scheduled for March 6, 2026.

4.2. WAC 246-817-195, Licensure requirements for expanded function dental

auxiliaries (EFDAs).

- Ms. Gardner shares that a CR-103 was filed with the Code Reviser as WSR 26-01-125 on December 18, 2025.
- A notification was distributed to interested parties via GovDelivery on December 19, 2025, and the rule is effective January 18, 2026.

4.3. WAC 246-817-190, Dental assistant registration.

- Ms. Gardner shares that a CR-103 was filed with the Code Reviser as WSR 26-01-102 on December 16, 2025.
- A notification was distributed to interested parties via GovDelivery on December 16, 2025, and the rule is effective January 16, 2026.

4.4. Chapter 246-814 WAC, Access to dental care for children.

- Ms. Einert shares that a CR-102 was filed with the Code Reviser as WSR 26-02-062 on January 6, 2026.
- A notification was distributed to interested parties via GovDelivery on January 8, 2026, and a rules hearing is scheduled for February 10, 2026.

4.5. Chapter 246-817 WAC, Dentist and dental hygienist compact.

- Ms. Gardner shares that a CR-101 was filed with the Code Reviser as WSR 24-21-097 on October 17, 2024.

4.6. WAC 246-817-120, Examination content.

- Ms. Gardner shares that a CR-101 rule package is currently undergoing internal review.
- Once completed and published with the Code Reviser, interested parties will be notified.
- The Commission discusses assigning the rulemaking process to the Continuing Competency Committee.
- There is a motion to assign the rulemaking process to the Continuing Competency Committee.
- The motion is moved and seconded.
- A vote is taken and unanimously passes.

5. EDUCATIONAL OUTREACH COMMITTEE– Committee meeting held on December 8, 2025 – Marlynne Fulton, Public Member

- Ms. Fulton reports that the committee discussed articles for the upcoming March newsletter and encourages new commission members to submit short biographical profiles to be featured in a future newsletter.
- Ms. Fulton shares that the committee discussed article topics for publication in the WSDA magazine.

6. DENTIST AND DENTAL HYGIENIST COMPACT (DDH COMPACT) – DDH Compact Commission Meeting held on January 12, 2026 – Catharine Roner-Reiter, Supervising Staff Attorney

- Ms. Roner-Reiter shares that the DDH Compact Commission meeting included a presentation from the Rules Committee on the clinical assessment and

background check draft rules, and the DDH Compact Commission is working to get a notification sent out on the proposed rules.

- Ms. Roner-Reiter encourages interested parties to submit public comments on the proposed rules.
- Mr. Bronoske Jr. reiterates that DDH Compact Commission meetings are open to the public, discusses that the proposed rules would require a dentist who has successfully passed the Dental Licensure Objective Structured Clinical Examination (DLOSCE) to take an additional hands-on clinical assessment, and shares that Ms. Roner-Reiter is voting in opposition to this rule on behalf of Washington.

7. UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON SCHOOL OF DENTISTRY– Commission on Dental Accreditation (CODA) AEGD site visit on December 5, 2025 – Dr. Ashley Ulmer

- Dr. Ulmer shares that she attended the University of Washington (UW) School of Dentistry AEGD CODA site visit and highlights the opportunities that the UW AEGD program will provide for residents and communities in Washington State.

8. PUBLIC DISCLOSURE - The Commission will consider requests for approval from professional associations or educational organizations to receive lists and labels.

8.1. Xcel Seminars.

- Ms. Gardner shares the list and labels request from Xcel Seminars.
- There is a motion to approve the list and labels request from Xcel Seminars.
- The motion is moved and seconded.
- A vote is taken and unanimously passes.

9. OTHER

9.1. Correspondence regarding dental radiographs.

- Dr. Swanson shares that the Commission received correspondence regarding dental radiographs and asks the Commission and attendees for comments.
- No comments are received.
- Ms. Carter discusses the Commission’s interpretive statement on radiographs from 2017 and suggests that the Commission consider assigning the interpretive statement to a committee to review for potential changes or updates.
- There is a motion to assign the radiograph interpretive statement to the Continuing Competency Committee for review.
- The motion is moved and seconded.
- A vote is taken and passes unanimously.

9.2. Active committee list.

- Ms. Gardner shares that Dr. Ulmer will be joining the Independent Commission Committee, and asks commissioners to send an email if they would like to join any committees.

10. FUTURE BUSINESS

- Dr. Yu asks about the role of legislative liaisons.
- Mr. Bronoske Jr. shares that the legislative liaisons are the first point of contact if technical support is needed for bill analysis.
- Mr. Bronoske Jr. and Ms. Carter discuss that the Commission is prohibited from lobbying and reiterate the importance of commissioners clarifying that they are lobbying in a personal capacity if they choose to participate in legislation.

11. ADJOURN

- The meeting is adjourned at 10:42 p.m.

Submitted by:

Debbie Gardner, Program Manager
Washington Dental Commission

On file

Signature

Date

Approved by:

Bryan Swanson, DDS, Chair
Washington Dental Commission

On file

Signature

Date