

# SENATE BILL 792

J2

5lr2894  
CF HB 573

---

By: **Senator Mautz**

Introduced and read first time: January 28, 2025

Assigned to: Finance

---

Committee Report: Favorable with amendments

Senate action: Adopted

Read second time: February 24, 2025

---

## CHAPTER \_\_\_\_\_

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **State Board of Dental Examiners – Expanded Function Dental Assistants –**  
3 **Education and Reinstatement**

4 FOR the purpose of authorizing the State Board of Dental Examiners to approve a certain  
5 course of study for expanded function dental assistant certification; requiring that a  
6 course of study for initial dental assistant certification include ~~an option for an a~~  
7 certain number of hours of in-person and online ~~course of study when appropriate~~  
8 instruction; requiring the Board to reinstate an expired expanded function dental  
9 assistant certification only under certain circumstances; requiring the Board to  
10 adopt certain regulations relating to continuing education for expanded function  
11 dental assistants; and generally relating to expanded function dental assistants.

12 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
13 Article – Health Occupations  
14 Section 4–302.1  
15 Annotated Code of Maryland  
16 (2021 Replacement Volume and 2024 Supplement)

17 BY adding to  
18 Article – Health Occupations  
19 Section 4–311.1  
20 Annotated Code of Maryland  
21 (2021 Replacement Volume and 2024 Supplement)

---

### EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

Underlining indicates amendments to bill.

~~Strike out~~ indicates matter stricken from the bill by amendment or deleted from the law by amendment.



1 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,  
2 That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

3 **Article – Health Occupations**

4 4–302.1.

5 (a) To qualify for a certificate to be an expanded function dental assistant, an  
6 applicant shall be an individual who meets the requirements of this section.

7 (b) The applicant must be of good moral character.

8 (c) The applicant must be at least 18 years old.

9 (d) The applicant must:

10 (1) Be a high school graduate or have attained a high school equivalency;

11 (2) Have successfully completed a course of study approved, subject to  
12 subsection (e) of this section, by the Board related to the intraoral procedure for which the  
13 applicant has applied for a certificate;

14 (3) Have the appropriate certification from the Dental Assisting National  
15 Board;

16 (4) Have passed any examination provided for in a regulation adopted by  
17 the Board; and

18 (5) Submit to a State criminal history records check.

19 (e) The Board may not approve a course of study under subsection (d)(2) of this  
20 section unless the course of study is part of:

21 (1) A U.S. Department of Labor Job Corps dental assisting program;

22 (2) A dental assisting program located within an institution of  
23 postsecondary education that is accredited by an accrediting institution recognized by the  
24 U.S. Department of Education;

25 (3) A dental assisting program that is located within a high school and is  
26 recognized by an accrediting body recognized by the U.S. Department of Education or the  
27 high school accrediting body of a state; [or]

28 (4) A dental assisting program that is accredited by the Council on Dental  
29 Accreditation, or a successor organization;

1           **(5) A DENTAL ASSISTING COURSE OR PROGRAM OFFERED BY THE**  
 2 **DALE FOUNDATION, AN AFFILIATE OF THE DENTAL ASSISTING NATIONAL BOARD,**  
 3 **OR ANY SUCCESSOR ENTITY; OR**

4           **(6) AN ORTHODONTIC DENTAL ASSISTING COURSE OR PROGRAM**  
 5 **OFFERED BY THE TRAPEZIO ORTHODONTIC ASSISTANT TRAINING SOLUTIONS, OR**  
 6 **ANY SUCCESSOR ENTITY.**

7           **(F) (1) A COURSE OF STUDY FOR INITIAL CERTIFICATION UNDER THIS**  
 8 **SECTION SHALL INCLUDE, ~~WHEN APPROPRIATE, AN OPTION FOR AN ONLINE COURSE~~**  
 9 **~~OF STUDY~~ AT LEAST 35 HOURS OF INSTRUCTION CONSISTING OF BOTH ONLINE AND**  
 10 **IN-PERSON INSTRUCTION.**

11           **(2) THE BOARD SHALL ADOPT REGULATIONS SPECIFYING THE**  
 12 **REQUIRED NUMBER OF HOURS FOR IN-PERSON INSTRUCTION, ONLINE**  
 13 **INSTRUCTION, AND CLINICAL HANDS-ON TRAINING.**

14 **4-311.1.**

15           **(A) THE BOARD SHALL REINSTATE AN EXPANDED FUNCTION DENTAL**  
 16 **ASSISTANT CERTIFICATE THAT IS EXPIRED ONLY IF THE HOLDER:**

17           **(1) SUBJECT TO SUBSECTION (B) OF THIS SECTION, HAS COMPLETED**  
 18 **THE CONTINUING EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS SET BY RULE AND REGULATION OF**  
 19 **THE BOARD;**

20           **(2) HAS SUBMITTED A RENEWAL APPLICATION TO THE BOARD**  
 21 **BEFORE THE DEADLINE SET BY THE BOARD; AND**

22           **(3) PAYS TO THE BOARD A RENEWAL FEE SET BY THE BOARD.**

23           **(B) THE BOARD SHALL ADOPT REGULATIONS REQUIRING CONTINUING**  
 24 **EDUCATION, INCLUDING CLINICAL HANDS-ON TRAINING, FOR EXPANDED FUNCTION**  
 25 **DENTAL ASSISTANTS TO:**

26           ~~**(1) INCLUDE AN OPTION FOR AN ONLINE COURSE OF STUDY; AND**~~

27           ~~**(2) BE BE OFFERED BY:**~~

28           ~~**(1) DENTAL STATE-BASED DENTAL PROFESSIONAL SOCIETIES**~~  
 29 **AFFILIATED WITH NATIONAL DENTAL ORGANIZATIONS; AND**

30           ~~**(2)**~~ **ENTITIES LISTED IN § 4-302.1(E) OF THIS SUBTITLE.**

1 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
2 October 1, 2025.

Approved:

---

Governor.

---

President of the Senate.

---

Speaker of the House of Delegates.