
GOVERNMENT NOTICE

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

No. R. 783

10 October 2014

DENTAL TECHNICIANS ACT, (ACT NO. 19 OF 1979) AS AMENDED

REGULATIONS RELATING TO THE MANDATORY REGISTRATION OF INFORMALLY TRAINED DENTAL LABORATORY ASSISTANTS

The Minister of Health intends to make the Regulations in the Schedule, in terms of Section 50 (1) (r) read with Section 28 (3) of the Dental Technicians Act, 1979 (Act No.19 of 1979) as amended, on the recommendation of the South African Dental Technicians Council.

Interested persons are invited to submit any substantiated comments or representations in writing on the proposed amendments to the Director-General: Health, Private Bag X828, Pretoria, 0001 (for the attention of the Director-General: Health, Private Bag X828, Pretoria, 0001 (for the attention of the Director: Public Entities and Management), within three months from the date of publication of this Notice.

SCHEDULE

Definitions

1. In this Schedule any word or expression to which a meaning has been assigned to in the Act shall bear such meaning and, unless the context otherwise indicates-

“approved institution” means approved by the Council under this Act;

“Council” means the South African Dental Technicians Council referred to in Section 2 of the Act;

“dental laboratory assistant” means any person employed as such by a Dentist, Dental Technician or Dental Technologist who owns or owned a registered and lawful dental laboratory in terms of Section 28;

“employer” means the owner of a Dental Laboratory who employs an informally trained person;

“Informally trained person” means a person who has been employed in a dental laboratory in terms of Section 23A of the Act, and shall not mean a Dental Laboratory Assistant;

“laboratory” means a Dental Laboratory registered in terms of Section 30 of the Act;

“lawful/lawfully” means meeting the requirements of the Act in its broadest/widest context;

“the Act” means the Dental Technicians Act, 1979 (Act No.19 of 1979) as amended.

Procedure for application

2. Any person who wishes to register as a Dental Laboratory Assistant must lodge an application with the Registrar of the Council as follows:
 - 2.1 complete the application form attached as Annexure A to these regulations;
 - 2.3 attach the certified documents referred to in sub-regulation four (4) below;
and
 - 2.3 pay an application fee as per the amount to be determined by the Council from time to time.

Eligibility for registration

3. The Registrar shall on receipt of the application for registration as a Dental Laboratory Assistant refer the application to the Council or a Committee of the Council with the delegated authority to consider such applications.
 - 3.1 Applicants trained by Dentists may be subject to a written or oral and/or practical assessment as recommended by the Education Committee and approved by Council to prove their level of knowledge and competence as will any applicant who cannot prove a minimum of three (3) years consecutive and uninterrupted employment in a lawfully registered Dental Laboratory.
 - 3.2 The Registrar shall upon approval of such application record the name of the person registered on the relevant register as a Dental Laboratory Assistant and issue a registration certificate; and
 - 3.3 Any such certificate issued shall be returned to the Council upon the erasure of the name of such person in terms of the Act or shall be deemed to have been cancelled on the date of erasure.

Requirements for Registration

4. Any person who wishes to register as a Dental Laboratory Assistant shall comply with the following requirements:
 - 4.1 a certified qualification or equivalent qualification if available from an approved institution or as determined by the Council;
 - 4.2 proof of fulltime employment as a Dental Laboratory Assistant in a registered Dental Laboratory as referred to in 3.1 above;
 - 4.3 an affidavit or written confirmation by a Dental Technologist, Dental Laboratory contractor or a Dentist who is the lawful owner of a registered Dental Laboratory/employer that he or she has been employed by the

relevant laboratory/employer as a Dental Laboratory Assistant outlining the duties performed during the period of employment; and

- 4.4 any other requirements or evidence the Council may deem necessary.

Payment of Annual Registration Fees

5. Once registered with the Council as a Dental Laboratory Assistant pays annually to the Council a registration fees as per the amount to be determined by the Council from time to time. Failing to comply will result in the de-registration of a Dental Laboratory Assistant in accordance with the powers vested in the Council as defined in the Act.

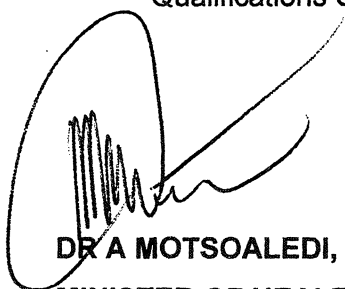
Deregistration and Disciplinary Process and Procedures

6. The Council will have the power to institute any inquiry into any complaint, charge or allegation of improper and disgraceful conduct against any registered Dental Laboratory Assistant as it applies to this group in accordance with the powers vested in the Council as defined in the Act.

General

7. No application for registration as a Dental Laboratory Assistant will be considered after the period of 180 days from the date of publication in the Gazette of these Regulations has expired and as such no informally trained Dental Laboratory Assistant shall have the right to apply for registration in terms of these regulations after the said expiry date.
8. Working as an unregistered Dental Laboratory Assistant will be deemed unlawful after the expiry date and the Council will execute its powers as defined in terms of the Act which includes action against those employing such unregistered Dental Laboratory Assistants.
9. Dentists with registered Dental Laboratories must employ a full-time registered Dental Technologist in order to employ a Dental Laboratory Assistant.

10. A Dental Laboratory Assistant must work under the constant supervision of a qualified Dental Technologist.
11. After the publication in the Gazette of these regulations and after the expiry date referred to in 7 has lapsed, no new names will be added to the register for Dental Laboratory Assistants as this category of worker will be replaced by midlevel workers (240 credit qualification) in accordance with the Higher Education Qualifications Sub-Framework (HEQSF).



DR A MOTSOLEDI, MP
MINISTER OF HEALTH
DATE: 9/9/2014