

**PROPOSED REGULATION OF THE
BOARD OF DENTAL EXAMINERS OF NEVADA**

LCB FILE NO. R052-26I

**The following document is the initial draft regulation proposed
by the agency submitted on 03/17/2026**

1. Implement NAC 631.028A - Priority processing of initial applications based on employment in a historically underserved community – [all new] A regulation relating to licensing of dental professionals; establishes practices for prioritizing licensure applications for those practitioners seeking employment in historically underserved communities. [Authority: AB 483.]

NAC (new, possibly 631.028A) Priority processing of initial applications based on employment in a historically underserved community. (AB483)

1. Any person applying for an initial dentist, dental hygienist, dental therapist, or expanded function dental assistant license may indicate on the application form that they qualify for priority processing if:

(a) They affirm in their application that, as part of their employment, they are reasonably expected to provide emergency and continuing dental care in a historically underserved community; and

(b) They include with the application a letter from an employer located in a historically underserved community notifying the Board of the applicants' imminent employment.

i. The employment letter must indicate that the applicant has already accepted the offer of employment; and

ii. The employment letter must include the expected start date of employment.

2. For purposes of this regulation, priority processing means:

(a) Upon initial receipt of a license application form and the required fee, the Board will, within seven business days of receipt, review the application to determine if it is a complete application packet. If it is complete, processing will move to the steps outlined in section (b). If it is not complete, the Board will orally or in writing notify the applicant of any missing documents necessary to consider the application file complete and eligible for final Board review and approval.

(b) Once the application packet is complete and contains all necessary items outlined in statute, regulation, or on the application form, the Board will, within 14 business days of the application packet being completed, review the application for licensing approval. A decision on licensing will be communicated within that 14 business-day time frame; if licensure is granted, the certificate will issue within 30-days of packet completion.

(c) Any periods of time between the initial notice of application packet completion requirements outlined in subsection (a) and application packet completion outlined in subsection (b) are not considered part of priority processing, as document ordering, receipt, and submission timeliness are dependent on applicant and external vendor actions and availability not controlled by the Board. The 14-day review and approval deadline noted under

subsection (b) commences on the business day immediately following the Board's receipt from an external entity the final outstanding required document needed for packet completion.

3. For purposes of this regulation, a "historically underserved community" is a geographic location (county, city, town, zip code area, etc.) in Nevada that is:

(a) Designated as a qualified census tract by the U.S. Secretary of Housing and Urban Development;

(b) A census tract where, in the immediately preceding census, at least 20 percent of households were not proficient in the English language; or

(c) Qualified tribal land under NRS 370.0325.

4. A license applicant who indicates they qualify for priority processing under this regulation must themselves determine whether their employer's location meets the definition of a historically underserved community; the Board will presume the validity of such an election and need not perform its own analysis of whether the geographic location of employment validly meets the definition of "historically underserved community." Later discovery of a fraudulent indication that an applicant qualified for priority processing based on employment in a historically underserved community can result in denial of the initial application, denial of renewal applications, or referral for disciplinary proceedings.