

NOTICE OF BALLOTING 2025 DENTAL BOARD APPOINTMENTS

Greetings to all Maryland licensed dentists and dental hygienists:

It is once again time to hold elections for membership on the Maryland State Board of Dental Examiners. All Maryland licensed dentists and dental hygienists are urged to consider becoming a Board member and/or vote for candidates online. The Board has contracted with *Election Trust*, an independent, third-party election administrator to conduct the balloting.

Vacancies:

Dentists (*1 vacancy for 2025 appointment*)

Chiyo Gomez Alie, D.D.S. will conclude her first 4-year term and will seek reappointment.

Since there will be 1 vacancy, each dentist will be permitted to cast 1 vote.

Dental Hygienists (*2 vacancies for 2025 appointments*)

Joy Void-Holmes, D.H.Sc., R.D.H. will conclude her first 4-year term and will not seek reappointment.

Cynthia Zeder, R.D.H. will conclude her first 4-year term and will not seek reappointment.

Since there will be 2 vacancies, each dental hygienist will be permitted to cast 2 votes.

Eligibility-Dentist: A dentist Board member must meet the qualifications contained in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Health Occupations Article, § 4-202(c). It states:

Each dentist Board member:

- (1) *Shall be an individual of recognized ability and honor;*
- (2) *Shall be a practicing holder of a general license to practice dentistry who has practiced dentistry actively in this State for at least 5 years immediately before appointment;*
- (3) *Shall be a resident of this State; and*
- (4) *In the case of a Board member belonging to an association whose members are regulated by the Board, may not be:*
 - (i) *An officer of the association;*
 - (ii) *A member of the association's governing board or committee;*
 - (iii) *A member of the association's House of Delegates; or*
 - (iv) *A voting member of a committee of the association that contributes to the establishment of governmental, regulatory, or legislative policy objectives of the association.*

Eligibility-Dental Hygienist: A dental hygienist Board member must meet the qualifications contained in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Health Occupations Article, § 4-202(d). It states:

Each dental hygienist Board member:

- (1) Shall be a practicing holder of a general license to practice dental hygiene who has practiced dental hygiene actively in this State for at least 3 years immediately before appointment;
- (3) Shall be a resident of this State; and
- (4) In the case of a Board member belonging to an association whose members are regulated by the Board, may not be:
 - (i) An officer of the association;
 - (ii) A member of the association's governing board or committee;
 - (iii) A member of the association's House of Delegates; or
 - (iv) A voting member of a committee of the association that contributes to the establishment of governmental, regulatory, or legislative policy objectives of the association.

Please note that candidates seeking Board membership will be asked on the Nomination Petition Form to affirm under the penalties of perjury that they meet the qualifications for Board membership set forth in Md. Code Ann., Health Occupations § 4-202(c) or § 4-202(d) as the case may be.

State dental organizations affiliated with a national organization and State dental hygienist organizations affiliated with a national organization may nominate a single candidate if they meet certain criteria and properly register with the Board. If the organization has previously registered, it need not re-register. State dental organizations affiliated with a national organization that have not previously registered may go to the Board's website to obtain the appropriate registration form. The following organizations have previously registered with the Board and need not re-register: the Maryland Academy of General Dentistry, the Maryland Society of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons, the Maryland State Dental Association, and the Maryland Dental Hygienists' Association. It is the obligation of each approved organization to keep the Board apprised of their current contact information.

Duration: Board members are appointed for 4-year terms. They may be reappointed for a second 4-year term. A term ends on May 31st of the appropriate year. After each election the Board submits the election results to the Governor. The names appearing on the list are those whose names appeared on the ballot. Each candidate's name will be submitted to the Governor along with the number of votes he or she received. The Governor is not obligated to appoint or reappoint any individual who received the greatest number of votes.

How to Apply: Please note that in order to become a candidate you must first be nominated. You may download a Nomination Petition Form for Dentists or a Nomination Petition Form for Dental Hygienists from the Board's website at www.health.maryland.gov/dental. Look for the "Dental Board Appointments – 2025" link. You may also call Sandra Sage, Computer Information Service Supervisor at 410-402-8536 and request that a form be mailed to you. Only dentists may nominate and vote for dentists, and only dental hygienists may nominate and vote for dental hygienists. **A nominee's name should exactly match the name that appears on his or her license. A curriculum vitae should also accompany the Nomination Petition Form submitted to the Board.** Note: the curriculum vitae will appear on the website of *Election Trust*. Therefore, only include information that you wish the public to view. Do not include your home address, home telephone number, date of birth, or other personal identifying information.

The required documents listed below may be found on the Dental Board’s website at www.health.maryland.gov/dental. Once on the website, open the link titled “Dental Board Appointments – 2025.” Then open the appropriate sub-link. In the event that the website is inaccessible, please call Ms. Sage for a copy of the appropriate form.

For Dentists

1) Nomination Petition Form and Curriculum Vitae: The Nomination Petition Form and your curriculum vitae must be filed with the Board on or before November 12, 2024.

For State Dental Organizations Affiliated with a National Organization

1) Registration Form for State Dental Organizations Affiliated with a National Organization: Must be received by the Board on or before November 6, 2024. This form is not required for those dental organizations listed above that have previously registered. Only one registration is required for all elections.

2) Nomination Petition Form for State Dental Organizations Affiliated with a National Organization: Must be received by the Board on or before November 12, 2024. Only State dental organizations that have registered with the Board may submit a nomination petition form.

For Dental Hygienists

1) Nomination Petition Form and Curriculum Vitae: The Nomination Petition Form and your curriculum vitae must be filed with the Board on or before November 12, 2024.

For State Dental Hygienist Organizations Affiliated with a National Organization

1) Registration Form for State Dental Hygienist Organizations Affiliated with a National Organization: Must be received by the Board on or before November 6, 2024. This form is not required for those dental hygienist organizations listed above that have previously registered. Only one registration is required for all elections.

2) Nomination Petition Form for State Dental Hygienist Organizations Affiliated with a National Organization: Must be received by the Board on or before November 12, 2024. Only State dental hygienist organizations that have registered with the Board may submit a nomination petition form.

Nomination Petition Forms and CVs should be filed with Ms. Sandra Sage, Computer Information Service Supervisor, Maryland State Board of Dental Examiners, Spring Grove Hospital Center, Benjamin Rush Building, 55 Wade Avenue / Tulip Drive, Catonsville, Maryland 21228 during normal business hours. Ms. Sage may be reached at 410-402-8536. If Ms. Sage is unavailable, the documents may be filed with Ms. Jameelah Richardson-Abakah, Executive Assistant, 410-402-8517, or another Administrative Unit employee. As previously stated, **it is highly recommended that all documents be hand-delivered.**

IMPORTANT NOTICE:

Complete Nomination Petition forms must physically be filed in the office of the Maryland State Board of Dental Examiners no later than 5:00 PM on November 12, 2024, regardless of any postmark. Forms that are filed late or incomplete forms will be invalid. Electronic signatures on separate sheets of paper will continue to be accepted by the Board. However, all signature submissions must be made at one time as part of one nomination petition form filing. As in years past, original signatures will also be accepted. Nomination petition forms filed piecemeal are invalid. Forms may not be e-mailed or faxed. There can be no exceptions. **Nominees, state dental organizations affiliated with a national organization and state dental hygienist organizations affiliated with a national organization are therefore strongly encouraged to arrange to have their nomination petition form hand delivered to the Board's offices at the earliest possible time.**

How to Vote:

Those who have an e-mail address on file with the Board will be sent an e-mail solicitation to vote. **That e-mail will contain a unique Voting PIN and a secure web link that will allow you to vote online from any smart-phone, tablet, laptop or desktop computer.** If you do not have an e-mail address on file with the Board, or if you do but wish to vote with a paper ballot you will be permitted to do so. You will be able to obtain a paper ballot by calling Ms. Sandra Sage at 410-402-8536. The paper ballot must be returned to *Election Trust* (not the Board).

Online ballots cannot be accepted after December 19, 2024.

Paper ballots cannot be accepted after December 19, 2024, regardless of any postmark.

Important Dates:

November 6, 2024: Last day for a State dental organization affiliated with a national organization to register with the Board to be eligible to nominate a candidate for the election.

November 12, 2024: Last day to file a Dentist Nomination Petition Form. A curriculum vitae must accompany the form. This is the last day for a properly registered State dental organization affiliated with a national organization to file a nomination petition form.

November 19, 2024: Those of you with e-mail addresses on file with the Board will be sent an e-mail solicitation to vote from the Board. The address of the e-mail will be that of vote@voteegrity.net. **That e-mail will contain a unique Voting PIN and a secure web link that will allow you to vote online from any smart-phone, tablet, laptop or desktop computer.** Once you have voted you will be able to download an acknowledgement of your vote. If you wish to use a paper ballot you must contact Ms. Sandra Sage at 410-402-8536. The paper ballot must be returned to *Election Trust*, not the Board.

November 19, 2024– December 19, 2024: Dates on which you must submit your **online** ballot.

December 19, 2024: Last day for *Election Trust* to receive your paper ballot. The paper ballot must be received by *Election Trust* on or before December 19, 2024, **regardless of its postmark.**

Therefore, if you elect to use a paper ballot, please arrange to have it delivered as soon as possible. Return the paper ballot to ***Election Trust, 600 Ericksen Avenue NE #102, Bainbridge Island, WA 98110.***

Additional Information:

In 2016 the Maryland General Assembly passed Senate Bill 42, Chapter 528, approved by the Governor on May 19, 2016. The law requires that dentists and dental hygienists be appointed by the Governor with the advice of the Secretary of the Department of Health, *and the advice and consent of the Maryland Senate*. Consequently, additional time will be required between the election and the actual appointment. In addition, candidates may be requested to appear before a General Assembly Senate committee.

The Board will post the results of the elections on its website soon after it receives the results of the election from ***Election Trust***.

This notice has been emailed and mailed to each Maryland licensed dentist to the email and physical address on file with the Board. It is your notice of the election. Because of the nature of computers and their security measures, some licensees may not receive the e-mail solicitation to vote. If you have an e-mail address on file with the Board and you have not received an e-mail solicitation to vote by **November 25, 2024**, you must call Ms. Sandra Sage at 410-402-8536 immediately. She will arrange for you to either cast an **online** ballot or a paper ballot. Note that the Board cannot take responsibility for invalid mail or e-mail addresses.

Questions and requests for paper ballots should be directed to Ms. Sandra Sage at 410-402-8536. **Paper ballots must be delivered to *Election Trust*. Please, do not send paper ballots to the Dental Board.**

The Maryland State Board of Dental Examiners is your Board. We urge you to actively participate in the election process.

Sincerely,

Stacey Scriven

Stacey Scriven
Executive Director