

Code of Alabama

Title 16. Education.

Chapter 47. University of Alabama.

Article 3. Dental College of Alabama.

Division 2. Board of Dental Scholarship and Loan Awards.

Ala.Code 1975 T. 16, Ch. 47, Art. 3, D. 2, Refs & Annos

Currentness

Ala. Code 1975 T. 16, Ch. 47, Art. 3, D. 2, Refs & Annos, AL ST T. 16, Ch. 47, Art. 3, D. 2, Refs & Annos

Current through the end of the 2023 First Special, Regular, and Second Special Sessions. Some provisions may be more current; see credits for details.

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KeyCite Red Flag - Severe Negative Treatment

KeyCite Red Flag Negative Treatment § 16-47-70. Board of Dental Scholarship Awards --Created; authorization to establish scholarships; compositions; terms of members. Repealed by Acts 1977, No. 662, p. 1121, § 8, effective May 23, 1977.

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Chapter 47. University of Alabama. (Refs & Annos)

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Ala.Code 1975 § 16-47-70

§ 16-47-70. Board of Dental Scholarship Awards --Created; authorization to establish scholarships; compositions; terms of members. Repealed by Acts 1977, No. 662, p. 1121, § 8, effective May 23, 1977.

Currentness

Ala. Code 1975 § 16-47-70, AL ST § 16-47-70

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KeyCite Red Flag - Severe Negative Treatment

KeyCite Red Flag Negative Treatment § 16-47-71. Board of Dental Scholarship Awards -- Powers and duties. Repealed by Acts 1977, No. 662, p. 1121, § 8, effective May 23, 1977.

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Ala.Code 1975 § 16-47-71

§ 16-47-71. Board of Dental Scholarship Awards -- Powers and duties.  
Repealed by Acts 1977, No. 662, p. 1121, § 8, effective May 23, 1977.

Currentness

Ala. Code 1975 § 16-47-71, AL ST § 16-47-71

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KeyCite Red Flag - Severe Negative Treatment

KeyCite Red Flag Negative Treatment § 16-47-72. Types of scholarships. Repealed by Acts 1977, No. 662, p. 1121, § 8, effective May 23, 1977.

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Ala.Code 1975 § 16-47-72

§ 16-47-72. Types of scholarships. Repealed by Acts 1977, No. 662, p. 1121, § 8, effective May 23, 1977.

Currentness

Ala. Code 1975 § 16-47-72, AL ST § 16-47-72

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KeyCite Red Flag - Severe Negative Treatment

KeyCite Red Flag Negative Treatment § 16-47-73. Repayment of loans. Repealed by Acts 1977, No. 662, p. 1121, § 8, effective May 23, 1977.

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Ala.Code 1975 § 16-47-73

§ 16-47-73. Repayment of loans. Repealed by Acts 1977, No. 662, p. 1121, § 8, effective May 23, 1977.

Currentness

Ala. Code 1975 § 16-47-73, AL ST § 16-47-73

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KeyCite Red Flag - Severe Negative Treatment

KeyCite Red Flag Negative Treatment § 16-47-74. Contractual agreement of recipients; penalties for breach. Repealed by Acts 1977, No. 662, p. 1121, § 8, effective May 23, 1977.

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Ala.Code 1975 § 16-47-74

§ 16-47-74. Contractual agreement of recipients; penalties for breach.  
Repealed by Acts 1977, No. 662, p. 1121, § 8, effective May 23, 1977.

Currentness

Ala. Code 1975 § 16-47-74, AL ST § 16-47-74

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KeyCite Red Flag - Severe Negative Treatment

KeyCite Red Flag Negative Treatment § 16-47-75. Localities in need of dentists. Repealed by Acts 1977, No. 662, p. 1121, § 8, effective May 23, 1977.

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Article 3. Dental College of Alabama.

Division 2. Board of Dental Scholarship and Loan Awards. (Refs & Annos)

Ala.Code 1975 § 16-47-75

§ 16-47-75. Localities in need of dentists. Repealed by Acts 1977, No. 662, p. 1121, § 8, effective May 23, 1977.

Currentness

Ala. Code 1975 § 16-47-75, AL ST § 16-47-75

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Division 2. Board of Dental Scholarship and Loan Awards. (Refs & Annos)

Ala.Code 1975 § 16-47-76

§ 16-47-76. Board of Dental Scholarship and Loan Awards -- Creation; establishment of programs; composition of board.

Effective: July 1, 2022

Currentness

- (a) There is created and established a board to be known as the Board of Dental Scholarship and Loan Awards, which shall establish scholarships and loans to provide for and further dental education and training, in pursuance of a dental degree, of qualified applicants for admission to the University of Alabama School of Dentistry or any other dental school accredited by the Council on Dental Education of the American Dental Association. The board shall give first priority to Alabama residents who will attend dental school in Alabama. In no event shall awards to students attending out-of-state dental schools exceed the amount of awards available to students attending the University of Alabama School of Dentistry.
- (b) The board also shall establish the Alabama Dental Service Program as set out in Sections 16-47-77 through 16-47-81.
- (c) The board shall also establish the Alabama Rural Dental Health Scholars Program for the purpose of awarding scholarships to high school students who are interested in the practice of dentistry in rural areas.
- (d) The board shall adopt rules for the implementation and administration of the programs.
- (e) The board shall be composed of all of the following members:
- (1) A member of the Alabama Dental Association, appointed by the board of the Alabama Dental Association.
  - (2) One dentist elected from each component society of the Alabama Dental Association, whose terms of office shall be staggered, two dentists being elected for a term of one year, two dentists being elected for a term of two years, two dentists being elected for a term of three years, and two dentists being elected for a term of four years, and at the end of each term of office, successors shall be elected for a term of four years.
  - (3) The Director of the Office of Oral Health of the Alabama Department of Public Health.
  - (4) The Dean of the University of Alabama School of Dentistry or his or her designee.
  - (5) The Chair of the University of Alabama School of Dentistry Admissions Committee.



(f) The membership of the board shall be inclusive and reflect the racial, gender, geographic, urban, rural, and economic diversity of the state. The board shall annually report to the Legislature, by the second legislative day of each regular session, the extent to which the board has complied with the diversity requirements of this subsection.

(g) Annually, the board shall elect a chair from among its members. Fifty percent of the members of the board shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business at meetings.

(h) Members of the board may participate in a meeting of the board by means of telephone conference, video conference, or similar communications equipment by means of which all persons participating in the meeting may hear each other at the same time. Participation by these means shall constitute presence in person at a meeting for all purposes, including constituting a quorum.

#### **Credits**

(Acts 1977, No. 662, p. 1121, § 1; Act 2007-460, p. 962, § 1; Act 2016-261, p. 641, § 1; Act 2022-389, § 1.)

Ala. Code 1975 § 16-47-76, AL ST § 16-47-76

Current through the end of the 2023 First Special, Regular, and Second Special Sessions. Some provisions may be more current; see credits for details.

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Ala.Code 1975 § 16-47-77

§ 16-47-77. Board of Dental Scholarship and Loan Awards -- Powers and duties.

Effective: July 1, 2022

Currentness

(a) The Board of Dental Scholarship and Loan Awards may adopt reasonable rules not inconsistent with the laws of this state as may be necessary for the regulation of its proceedings and for the discharge of the duties imposed on it.

(b) The board shall receive and review all applications for scholarships and loans, shall make a careful and thorough investigation of the ability, character, and qualifications of each applicant, and shall be responsible for the further administration of the scholarships and loans, subject to the provisions of this article.

(c) The board shall annually calculate by geographic area a Dental Shortage Index by dividing the number of practicing dentists needed to meet the minimum number according to the federal standard used to determine Dental Health Care Professional Shortage Areas by the recommended minimum number of dentists for that geographic area.

(d)(1) Annually, on or before the first day of December, the board shall file a report on the condition, performance, and accomplishments of the awards programs to the Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Speaker of the House of Representatives, President Pro Tempore of the Senate, the chairs of the House and Senate Health Committees, the chairs of the Senate Committee on Finance and Taxation-Education and the House Ways and Means-Education Committee, the Deputy Director of the Legislative Services Agency-Fiscal Division, and the Finance Director.

(2) The board shall work with the Alabama Commission on the Evaluation of Services to develop, track, and collect the data and information necessary for the report.

(e) Any appropriation made to the Board of Dental Scholarship and Loan Awards or otherwise received by the board remaining at the end of any fiscal year shall remain with the board and shall not revert to any other fund.

#### **Credits**

(Acts 1977, No. 662, p. 1121, § 3; Act 2016-261, p. 641, § 1; Act 2022-389, § 1.)

Ala. Code 1975 § 16-47-77, AL ST § 16-47-77

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Ala.Code 1975 § 16-47-78

§ 16-47-78. Award types; operation of awards.

Effective: July 1, 2022

Currentness

(a) The board shall establish two types of awards as follows:

(1) A number of loans or nonrefundable scholarships for the Alabama Rural Dental Health Scholars Program established pursuant to Section 16-47-76 and operated by the College of Community Health Sciences at the University of Alabama and supported by the University of Alabama School of Dentistry.

(2) The board shall operate the Alabama Dental Service Program, under which loans may be awarded by the board to applicants of good character who are enrolled in the University of Alabama School of Dentistry or any other educational institution accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation of the American Dental Association or have recently completed a dental education or residency program. Loans awarded under the program shall be based in part on the economic need and scholastic ability of each applicant. For applicants it approves to participate in the program, the board may award each participant a loan worth up to the four-year cost of attendance based on in-state tuition and required fees at the University of Alabama School of Dentistry.

(b) The board may continue to make scholarship and loan awards in the same amount and under the same terms to any recipient who received a scholarship or loan from the board prior to July 1, 2022.

#### **Credits**

(Acts 1977, No. 662, p. 1121, § 4; Act 2006-301, p. 625, § 1; Act 2007-460, p. 962, § 1; Act 2009-654, p. 2014, §§ 1, 2; Act 2016-261, p. 641, § 1; Act 2019-131, § 1; Act 2022-389, § 1.)

Ala. Code 1975 § 16-47-78, AL ST § 16-47-78

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Ala.Code 1975 § 16-47-79

§ 16-47-79. Agreements for repayment of loans.

Effective: July 1, 2022

Currentness

(a) As a condition of approval by the board of a loan or loans under the Alabama Dental Service Program, each applicant shall enter into a written contract with the board, whereby the applicant shall agree to repay each annual loan received under the program by working, in full-time clinical practice as a licensed dentist in an area of critical need approved by the board, for five years. Each dentist repaying loans from the program by working in an area of critical need shall participate in the state Medicaid program.

(b) If the participant can demonstrate to the board's satisfaction that at least 30 percent of the participant's active patients were indigent or covered by Medicaid during the previous year, the participant shall receive an additional three months of service credit.

(c) Subject to approval by the board, a participant in the program may change the area of critical need where he or she will work to repay loans under the program, but in no case shall the participant work in full-time practice for less than four years in the new area of critical need.

(d)(1) An area of critical need shall be an area in Alabama with a rate above 49 percent under the most recent Dental Shortage Index. The board may also consider the percentage of practicing dentists in a geographic area that are over the age of 65 in determining an area of critical need.

(2) In no event shall a shortage area be considered an area of critical need unless it is determined to be a shortage area pursuant to the most recent Dental Shortage Index or is one of the top 40 percent of geographic areas most in need of a dentist as determined by the board.

(e) The board may allow a participant in the Alabama Dental Service Program to serve part time in an area of critical need that is one of the top eight percent of areas most in need of a dentist under the most recent Dental Shortage Index. The participant must spend an average of 20 hours a week on an annual basis practicing direct patient care in the designated county for a minimum of five years to qualify for full forgiveness of the loan.

#### **Credits**

(Acts 1977, No. 662, p. 1121, § 5; Act 2006-301, p. 625, § 1; Act 2007-460, p. 962, § 1; Act 2016-261, p. 641, § 1; Act 2022-389, § 1.)

Ala. Code 1975 § 16-47-79, AL ST § 16-47-79

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Ala.Code 1975 § 16-47-80

§ 16-47-80. Contractual agreement of recipients; penalties for breach.

Effective: July 1, 2022

Currentness

(a) Each recipient of a loan under this article shall enter into a contract with the Board of Dental Scholarship and Loan Awards whereby he or she agrees to repay the loan in a manner prescribed by the board not inconsistent with any provision of this article. Breach of contract by the recipient shall make the recipient immediately liable for the unpaid balance of the loan and shall constitute a ground for the revocation of the recipient's certificate or license to practice dentistry in the State of Alabama. In the event of death or total and permanent disability of the recipient to engage in the practice of dentistry, repayment of the loan may be excused by the board.

(b) The contract shall provide that if a breach of contract occurs prior to completion of the repayment obligations set forth in this article, a penalty equal to 100 percent of the remaining principal amount of all loans received by the recipient shall be assessed.

(c) The Attorney General of Alabama, upon request of the Board of Dental Scholarship and Loan Awards, shall institute proceedings in the name of the state for the purpose of recovering any amount due the state under the provisions of this article. All proceedings involving default or dispute of the contract shall be brought in the appropriate court of jurisdiction in Montgomery County, Alabama. The proceedings to have the dentist's certificate or license revoked shall be commenced upon the written complaint of the Board of Dental Scholarship and Loan Awards to the State Board of Dental Examiners. The proceedings shall be in accordance with the provisions of Alabama law pertaining to the revocation of licenses to practice dentistry. Notwithstanding any other provision of this section, applicants and participants in the Alabama Dental Service Program shall repay loans as called for in written contracts outlined in Section 16-47-79.

#### Credits

(Acts 1977, No. 662, p. 1121, § 6; Act 2016-261, p. 641, § 1; Act 2022-389, § 1.)

Ala. Code 1975 § 16-47-80, AL ST § 16-47-80

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Ala.Code 1975 § 16-47-81

§ 16-47-81. Localities in need of dentists.

Effective: July 1, 2022

Currentness

Any incorporated or unincorporated municipality or locality in the state having a population of less than 100,000 desiring additional dentists and wishing to be designated as a locality needing additional dentists may apply to the Board of Dental Scholarship and Loan Awards to be placed on a list of localities in need of additional dentists, which shall be maintained by the board. The application may be made either by the municipal governing body or by a petition signed by at least one twentieth of the qualified electors of the municipality or locality. If the board determines that the locality is in need of dentists, it shall place the locality on the list of localities in need of dentists from which recipients of scholarships may upon graduation select an area in which to practice. In compiling and maintaining the list, the board may place any locality thereon which, in its opinion, needs additional dentists. A locality on the list shall qualify as a place where participants in the Alabama Dental Service Program may work to repay loans awarded by the program.

#### **Credits**

(Acts 1977, No. 662, p. 1121, § 7; Act 2016-261, p. 641, § 1; Act 2022-389, § 1.)

Ala. Code 1975 § 16-47-81, AL ST § 16-47-81

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