



## NOTICE OF TEXT [Authority G.S. 150B-21.2(c)]

OAH USE ONLY

VOLUME:

ISSUE:

CHECK APPROPRIATE BOX:

Notice with a scheduled hearing

Notice without a scheduled hearing

Republication of text. Complete the following cite for the volume and issue of previous publication, as well as blocks 1 - 4 and 7 - 14. If a hearing is scheduled, complete block 5.

Previous publication of text was published in Volume: Issue:

1. Rule-Making Agency: [Board of Dental Examiners](#)

2. Link to agency website pursuant to G.S. 150B-19.1(c): [www.ncdentalboard.org](http://www.ncdentalboard.org)

3. Proposed Action -- Check the appropriate box(es) and list rule citation(s) beside proposed action:

ADOPTION: [21 NCAC 16H .0106](#)

AMENDMENT: [21 NCAC 16H .0105](#)

REPEAL:

READOPTION with substantive changes:

READOPTION without substantive changes:

REPEAL through READOPTION:

4. Proposed effective date: [08/01/2026](#)

5. Is a public hearing planned? [Yes](#)

If yes:

Date	Time	Location
<a href="#">04/16/2026</a>	<a href="#">6:30 pm</a>	<a href="#">2000 Perimeter Park Drive, #160, Morrisville, NC 27560</a>

6. If no public hearing is scheduled, provide instructions on how to demand a public hearing:

**7. Explain Reason For Proposed Rule(s):**

21 NCAC 16H .0105 is proposed for amendment and 21 NCAC 16H .0106 is proposed for adoption to set forth requirements for dental radiology instructors.

**8. Procedure for Subjecting a Proposed Rule to Legislative Review:** If an objection is not resolved prior to the adoption of the rule, a person may also submit written objections to the Rules Review Commission. If the Rules Review Commission receives written and signed objections in accordance with G.S. 150B-21.3(b2) from 10 or more persons clearly requesting review by the legislature and the Rules Review Commission approves the rule, the rule will become effective as provided in G.S. 150B-21.3(b1). The Commission will receive written objections until 5:00 p.m. on the day following the day the Commission approves the rule. The Commission will receive those objections by mail, delivery service, hand delivery, or email. If you have any further questions concerning the submission of objections to the Commission, please call a Commission staff attorney at 984-236-1850.

**Rule(s) is automatically subject to legislative review. Cite statutory reference:**

**9. The person to whom written comments may be submitted on the proposed rule(s):**

Name: Bobby White  
Address: 2000 Perimeter Park Drive, Suite 160  
Morrisville, NC 27560  
Phone (optional):  
Fax (optional):  
EMail (optional)

**10. Comment Period Ends:** 05/15/2026

**11. Fiscal impact. Does any rule or combination of rules in this notice create an economic impact? Check all that apply.**

No fiscal note required

**12. Rule-making Coordinator:**

Name: Whitney S. Waldenberg  
919-610-0573  
whitney@brokerlawfirm.com

**Agency contact, if any:**

Name:  
Phone:  
Email:

**13. The Agency formally proposed the text of this rule(s) on**

**Date:** 02/13/2026

1 21 NCAC 16H .0105 is proposed for amendment as follows:

2  
3 **21 NCAC 16H .0105 DENTAL RADIOLOGY COURSE AND EXAMINATION REQUIREMENTS**

4 (a) If a dental radiology course and the course's final examination meet the requirements of this Rule, the Board will  
5 recognize the course and final examination as satisfying the dental radiology training and equivalency examination  
6 requirements set out in G.S. 90-29(c)(12).

7 (b) For the Board to recognize a dental radiology course and its final examination:

8 (1) The course shall include at least 7 hours of didactic, lecture-based instruction and at least 14 hours  
9 of laboratory instruction.

10 (2) The course curriculum shall include instruction and training in clinical dental radiology, in the  
11 production and use of dental x-rays, and on digital x-ray equipment. The course shall enable the  
12 student to:

13 (A) identify in sequence the steps necessary for operating dental x-ray equipment;

14 (B) identify the requirements of a diagnostic digital image;

15 (C) differentiate the effect of variations in amperage, kilo-voltage, distance, and exposure time  
16 on the resulting digital images;

17 (D) identify the terms used to measure radiation;

18 (E) establish guidelines for maintaining radiation safety and the ALARA ("as low as  
19 reasonably achievable") principle;

20 (F) follow principles of radiologic health practices and radiation biology;

21 (G) identify radiation safety techniques and monitoring devices;

22 (H) identify the parts and identification marks on dental x-ray sensors;

23 (I) identify and compare intraoral sensors according to size and customary usage;

24 (J) identify methods of sensor handling and storage;

25 (K) identify and perform in sequence the steps in processing digital images;

26 (L) differentiate between preliminary interpretation and diagnosis of the digital images;

27 (M) identify the anatomical landmarks of the face and skull;

28 (N) identify any dental radiograph according to its location in the maxilla or mandible, and  
29 position it on a digital image mount;

30 (O) identify the types of radiographic errors caused by faulty exposure techniques;

31 (P) identify the types of radiographic errors caused by incorrect digital mount positioning and  
32 angulation of the central ray;

33 (Q) identify the types of radiographic errors caused by faulty digital processing techniques;

34 (R) identify the conditions that cause digital images to be fogged;

35 (S) identify the advance preparations necessary before exposing digital images;

36 (T) carry out the task of digital image exposure to completion;

- 1 (U) use the paralleling technique to produce digital images of diagnostic quality addressing  
2 contrast, density, and definition;
- 3 (V) explain the principles of digital imaging and quality assurance;
- 4 (W) identify errors when using digital imaging in technique and processing;
- 5 (X) explain the utilization of beam aligning devices; and
- 6 (Y) describe the use of hand-held radiation exposure devices following guidelines from the  
7 Radiation Protection Section of the Department of Health and Human Services, Radiology  
8 Compliance Branch ("Radiation Protection Section"), which are incorporated by reference,  
9 including subsequent amendments and editions, and are available at no cost online at  
10 [www.ncradiation.net/Xray/dentdose.htm](http://www.ncradiation.net/Xray/dentdose.htm).
- 11 (3) The laboratory portion of the course shall have no more than six students per instructor, and shall  
12 include practice on dental radiography manikins. Students shall not practice on peer students unless  
13 the unit is turned off and all requirements of the Board's sterilization and infection control rule, 21  
14 NCAC 16J .0103, are satisfied. Students shall be required to achieve a passing score of at least 80  
15 percent on a written examination on radiation safety prior to taking radiographs.
- 16 (4) To complete the course, students shall be required to achieve a passing score of at least 80 percent  
17 on a written examination upon completion of the didactic, lecture-based portion of the course and  
18 to achieve a passing score of at least 80 percent on a final laboratory examination. The final  
19 laboratory examination shall be conducted on a manikin and include completion of a full mouth  
20 series.
- 21 (5) The facility used as the training location for the course shall:
- 22 (A) assume all overhead costs involved in offering the course;
- 23 (B) comply with the Board's rules regarding sanitation, sterilization, and infection control set  
24 out in 21 NCAC 16J, the applicable guidelines of the Radiation Protection Section, and the  
25 OSHA guidelines and standards related to dentistry, which are incorporated by reference,  
26 including subsequent amendments and editions, and are available at no cost online at  
27 [www.osha.gov/dentistry/standards](http://www.osha.gov/dentistry/standards);
- 28 (C) provide access to a room large enough to accommodate the number of participants for  
29 lecture purposes;
- 30 (D) have the number of x-ray machines necessary based on the course curriculum and  
31 enrollment to ensure there are no more than two students per machine; and
- 32 (E) have facilities for digital radiography.
- 33 (6) The didactic and laboratory portions of the course shall be taught by:
- 34 (A) an instructor of dental radiography at an institution accredited by the Commission on  
35 Dental Accreditation ("CODA"), a list of which is available at no cost at [www.ada.org/coda](http://www.ada.org/coda)  
36 and is incorporated by reference, including subsequent amendments and editions; or

1 (B) an instructor who has successfully completed a Board-approved radiology instructor course  
2 set forth in 16H.0106 ~~an instructor who has received a certification to teach dental~~  
3 ~~radiography from a CODA-accredited institution,~~ and has completed three hours of  
4 continuing education in the area of radiology every other year. The continuing education  
5 courses shall be offered by Board-approved continuing education course sponsors as set  
6 out in 21 NCAC 16I .0202 or 21 NCAC 16R .0202.

7 (7) The course sponsor shall provide students with all supplies.

8 (8) Course advertising shall comply with the Board's rules regarding advertisement of dental services  
9 set out in 21 NCAC 16P.

10 (c) A course sponsor seeking Board recognition of a dental radiology course shall submit to the Board office:

- 11 (1) the course outline, syllabus, and handouts;
- 12 (2) slides and other lecture materials;
- 13 (3) examinations and grading criteria; and
- 14 (4) the name, resume, and verification of credentials satisfying Subparagraph (b)(6) of this Rule for all  
15 course instructors.

16 (d) After the course sponsor submits all the information and documents required by Paragraph (c) of this Rule, the  
17 course will be reviewed by the Board for compliance with this Rule at the next scheduled Board meeting. The Board  
18 may delay reviewing a course until a later meeting if the Board's workload makes the review impracticable. If the  
19 Board delays reviewing a course, it shall notify the course sponsor. A course shall be recognized by a majority vote  
20 of the Board. A list of recognized courses is available on the Board's website at [www.ncdentalboard.org](http://www.ncdentalboard.org).

21 (e) Upon receipt of evidence that a previously recognized course is not in compliance with this Rule, the Board will  
22 notify the course sponsor in writing of each item of noncompliance. Within 30 days from the date of the notice of  
23 noncompliance, the course sponsor shall provide a written response to the Board office which shall respond to each  
24 item of noncompliance. The response shall provide documentation of corrections made, and shall show each item is  
25 in compliance with this Rule. If the course sponsor fails to respond or correct noncompliance, the Board's recognition  
26 of the course shall be withdrawn. As of the date recognition is withdrawn, the course and its examination shall not  
27 satisfy the dental radiology training and equivalency examination requirements set out in G.S. 90-29(c)(12).

28  
29 *History Note:* Authority G.S. 90-29(c)(12); 90-48;  
30 Eff. July 1, ~~2023-2023~~;  
31 Amended Eff. \_\_\_\_\_.  
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1 21 NCAC 16H .0106 is proposed for adoption as follows:

2  
3 **21 NCAC 16H .0106 DENTAL RADIOLOGY INSTRUCTOR COURSE REQUIREMENTS**  
4

5 (a) All instructors of a dental radiology course shall successfully complete a Board-approved instructor's course that  
6 covers the following topics:

7 (1) foundational concepts of teaching including developing a syllabus, establishing course objectives,  
8 adjusting to different learning styles, and developing grading criteria;

9 (2) a review of basic radiography, including:

10 (A) radiation history and physics;

11 (B) radiography techniques;

12 (C) radiography errors;

13 (D) radiography equipment, including hand-held devices;

14 (E) patient protection; and

15 (F) anatomy;

16 (3) a review of sanitation, sterilization, and infection control standards and techniques, including the  
17 Rules in Subchapter 16J;

18 (4) guidance on educational activities designed for the laboratory portion of the dental radiography  
19 course including demonstrations of shadow casting, paralleling technique, patient shielding and safe  
20 operator distancing; evaluation of occupational dose limits, and labeling diagrams of radiography  
21 equipment;

22 (5) administration of written examinations to students;

23 (6) examination of students' clinical skills in the laboratory including:

24 (A) evaluation and correction of student errors in radiographs;

25 (B) explanation of the physics and geometry of bisecting and paralleling techniques; and

26 (C) demonstration and explanation to students of inaccuracies in angulation;

27 (7) a review of the requirements set forth in the following:

28 (A) Rule 16H.0105 of this Section;

29 (B) 10A NCAC 15;

30 (C) The Radiation Protection Guide for medical, dental and veterinary arts published by the  
31 Radiation Protection Section of the Division of Health Services of the North Carolina Department  
32 of Health and Human Services available at no cost at  
33 <https://radiation.ncdhhs.gov/xray/documents/healartsprog.pdf>;

34 (D) The Hand-Held Dental X-Ray Guide published by the Radiation Protection Section of the  
35 Division of Health Services of the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services  
36 available at no cost at <https://radiation.ncdhhs.gov/xray/documents/handhelddentgud.pdf>; and

1                   (E) Entrance Skin Exposure Facts - Dental published by the Radiation Protection Section of the  
2                   Division of Health Services of the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services  
3                   available at no cost at <https://radiation.ncdhhs.gov/xray/documents/eseguide.pdf>

4 (b) The instructor course may apply toward fulfillment of the continuing education requirements, including the  
5 requirements of NCAC 16H.0105(b)(6)(B), and all existing dental radiology instructors must successfully complete  
6 the instructor course on or before December 31, 2028.

7 (c) Beginning on January 1, 2029, all instructors must complete a Board-approved instructor’s course before teaching  
8 a dental radiology course.

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10 *History Note:*    Authority G.S. 90-29(c)(12); 90-48;

11                   Eff. \_\_\_\_\_  
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