

### 153.34 Discipline.

The board may issue an order to discipline a licensed dentist or dental hygienist, or registered dental assistant, for any of the grounds set forth in [this chapter](#), [chapter 272C](#), or [Title IV](#). Notwithstanding [section 272C.3](#), licensee or registrant discipline may include a civil penalty not to exceed ten thousand dollars. Pursuant to [this section](#), the board may discipline a licensee or registrant for any of the following reasons:

1. For fraud or deceit in procuring the license or registration or the renewal thereof to practice dentistry, dental hygiene, or dental assisting.
2. For being guilty of willful and gross malpractice or willful and gross neglect in the practice of dentistry, dental hygiene, or dental assisting.
3. For fraud in representation as to skill or ability.
4. For willful or repeated violations of [this chapter](#), this subtitle, or the rules of the board.
5. For obtaining any fee by fraud or misrepresentation.
6. For having failed to pay license or registration fees as provided herein.
7. For gross immorality or dishonorable or unprofessional conduct in the practice of dentistry, dental hygiene, or dental assisting.
8. For failure to maintain a reasonably satisfactory standard of competency in the practice of dentistry, dental hygiene, or dental assisting.
9. For a violation of a law of this state, another state, or the United States, without regard to its designation as either a felony or misdemeanor, which law relates to the practice of dentistry, dental hygiene, or dental assisting. A certified copy of the final order or judgment of conviction or plea of guilty in this state or in another state constitutes conclusive evidence of the conviction.
10. The revocation or suspension of a license or registration to practice dentistry, dental hygiene, or dental assisting or other disciplinary action taken by a licensing authority of another state, territory, or country. A certified copy of the record or order of suspension, revocation, or disciplinary action is conclusive or prima facie evidence.
11. Knowingly aiding, assisting, procuring, or advising a person to unlawfully practice dentistry, dental hygiene, or dental assisting.
12. For an adjudication of mental incompetence by a court of competent jurisdiction. Such adjudication shall automatically suspend a license or registration for the duration of the license or registration unless the board orders otherwise.
13. Inability to practice dentistry, dental hygiene, or dental assisting with reasonable skill and safety by reason of illness, drunkenness, or habitual or excessive use of drugs, intoxicants, narcotics, chemicals, or other types of materials or as a result of a mental or physical condition. At reasonable intervals following suspension or revocation under [this subsection](#), a dentist, dental hygienist, or dental assistant shall be afforded an opportunity to demonstrate that the dentist, dental hygienist, or dental assistant can resume the competent practice of dentistry, dental hygiene, or dental assisting with reasonable skill and safety to patients.
14. For being a party to or assisting in any violation of any provision of [this chapter](#).
15. For a dental hygienist, the practice of dentistry by the dental hygienist; and for a dentist, permitting the practice of dentistry by a dental hygienist by the dentist under whose supervision the dental hygienist is operating.

[C71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §153.34]

88 Acts, ch 1124, §1 – 4; 93 Acts, ch 41, §3; 2002 Acts, ch 1108, §21; 2007 Acts, ch 10, §138; 2009 Acts, ch 133, §192; 2010 Acts, ch 1069, §20; 2020 Acts, ch 1103, §18, 31

Referred to in §272C.3, 272C.4

2020 repeal of subsection 9 effective January 1, 2021; 2020 Acts, ch 1103, §31  
Subsection 9 stricken and former subsections 10 – 16 renumbered as 9 – 15