

## Notice of Balloting and 2019 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 to vote for candidates **online**. The Board has contracted with *Election Trust*, an independent, third-party election administrator to conduct the balloting.

In past elections dentist and dental hygienist Board members were appointed by the Governor with the advice of the Secretary of the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene. In 2016 the Maryland General Assembly passed Senate Bill 42, Chapter 528, Laws of Maryland 2016, 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.

Board members are appointed for 4-year terms. They may be reappointed for a second 4-year term. A term ends on May 31<sup>st</sup> 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 re-appoint any individual who received the greatest number of votes.

The Board seeks membership from diverse areas of the State. Therefore dentists and dental hygienists from all of the State's counties are encouraged to apply.

**For the 2019 appointments for dentists there will be 3 vacant positions: Ali Behnia, D.M.D. has concluded his second 4-year term and is not eligible for re-appointment. Louis DePaola D.D.S. has concluded his first 4-year term and is eligible for re-appointment; and Arpana S. Verma, D.D.S. has concluded her first 4-year term and is eligible for re-appointment. Since there are 3 vacancies each dentist will be permitted to cast a vote for 3 candidates.**

**For the 2019 appointments for dental hygienists there will be 1 vacant position. Jane S. Casper, R.D.H. has concluded her second 4-year term and is not eligible for re-appointment. Since there is 1 vacancy each dental hygienist will be permitted to cast a vote for 1 candidate.**

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. Alexandria Langston, Program Coordinator, at 410-402-8533. The paper ballot must be returned to *Election Trust* (not the Board).

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 [health.maryland.gov/dental](http://health.maryland.gov/dental). Look for the "Dental Board Appointments – 2019" link. You may also call Ms. Langston 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.

Please note that in addition to the Nomination Petition Form and curriculum vitae a nominee must also submit an on-line application to the Governor's Appointments Office. Please visit [govappointments.maryland.gov](http://govappointments.maryland.gov) and follow the directions. **The application must be completed and submitted to the Governor's Appointments Office on or before October 5, 2018.**

Extensions if any, granted by the Governor's Appointment's Office will not affect the October 5, 2018 due date for the filing of the Nomination Petition Form in the Board's offices. All candidates, including those nominated by a State dental organization affiliated with a national organization, or a State dental hygienist organization affiliated with a national organization must complete and submit the form to the Governor's Appointments Office.

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.

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.

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, and State dental hygienist 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 Dental Hygienists' Association, the Maryland Society of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons, and the Maryland State Dental Association. It is the obligation of each approved organization to keep the Board apprised of their current contact information.

**Please note the following important dates:**

**October 2, 2018:** Last day for a State dental organization affiliated with a national organization and a State dental hygienist organization affiliated with a national organization to register with the Board to be eligible to nominate a candidate for the election.

**October 5, 2018:** Last day to file a Dentist Nomination Petition Form and the last day to file a Dental Hygienist 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 and a State dental hygienist organization affiliated with a national organization to file a nomination petition form. It is also the last day to submit an application to the Governor's Appointments Office.

**October 18, 2018:** 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 *Election Trust*. **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. Alexandria Langston, Program Coordinator at 410-402-8533. The paper ballot must be returned to *Election Trust*, not the Board.

**October 18, 2018 – October 31, 2018:** Dates on which you must submit your **online** ballot.

**October 31, 2018:** Last day for *Election Trust* to receive your paper ballot. The paper ballot must be received by *Election Trust* on or before October 31, 2018 *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, P.O. Box 1902, Bellevue, WA 98009*.

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

## **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 October 5, 2018, regardless of any postmark.** Forms that are filed late, incomplete forms, forms that do not contain the original signature of the nominee, or forms that do not contain the original signatures of those in support of the nomination will be invalid. All original signatures must appear on one single form. Nomination petition forms filed piecemeal are invalid. Copies of signatures are invalid. Forms may not be e-mailed. 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.**

This notice has been mailed to each Maryland licensed dentist and dental hygienist to the address on file with the Board. The notice has also been e-mailed to each Maryland licensed dentist and dental hygienist who has an e-mail 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 **October 24, 2018**, you must call Ms. Alexandria Langston 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.

**Online** ballots cannot be accepted after **October 31, 2018**.

**Paper** ballots cannot be accepted after **October 31, 2018** regardless of any postmark.

### **Document Summary**

The documents listed below may be found on the Dental Board's website at [health.maryland.gov/dental](http://health.maryland.gov/dental). Once on the website open the link titled "Dental Board Appointments – 2019." Then open the appropriate sub-link. In the event that the website is inaccessible please call Ms. Langston for a copy of the appropriate form.

#### ***For Dentists***

**Nomination Petition Form and Curriculum Vitae:** The Nomination Petition Form and your curriculum vitae must be filed with the Board on or before October 5, 2018.

**Application – Governor's Appointments Office:** Must be completed and submitted by October 5, 2018.

*For State Dental Organizations Affiliated with a National Organization*

**Registration Form for State Dental Organizations Affiliated with a National Organization:** Must be received by the Board on or before October 2, 2018. This form is not required for those dental organizations listed above that have previously registered. Only one registration is required for all elections.

**Nomination Petition Form for State Dental Organizations Affiliated with a National Organization:** Must be received by the Board on or before October 5, 2018. Only State dental organizations that have registered with the Board may submit a nomination petition form.

*For Dental Hygienists*

**Nomination Petition Form and Curriculum Vitae:** The Nomination Petition Form and your curriculum vitae must be filed with the Board on or before October 5, 2018.

**Application – Governor’s Appointments Office:** Must be completed and submitted by October 5, 2018.

*For State Dental Hygienist Organizations Affiliated with a National Organization*

**Registration Form for State Dental Hygienist Organizations Affiliated with a National Organization:** Must be received by the Board on or before October 2, 2018. This form is not required for those dental hygienist organizations listed above that have previously registered. Only one registration is required for all elections.

**Nomination Petition Form for State Dental Hygienist Organizations Affiliated with a National Organization:** Must be received by the Board on or before October 5, 2018. Only State dental hygienist organizations that have registered with the Board may submit a nomination petition form.

*For All*

Nomination Petition Forms and CV’s should be filed with Murray Sherman, Legal Assistant, 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. Mr. Sherman can be reached at 410-402-8530. If Mr. Sherman is unavailable, the documents may be filed with Ms. Alexandria Langston or another Board employee. As previously stated, **because of time constraints it is highly recommended that all documents be hand-delivered.**

General questions and requests for paper ballots should be directed to Ms. Langston at 410-402-8533. Paper ballots must be delivered to *Election Trust*.

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

Sincerely,

Arthur C. Jee, D.M.D.  
Board President