

**ARTICLE 20-01  
GENERAL ADMINISTRATION**

Chapter

20-01-01 Organization of Board  
20-01-02 Definitions

**CHAPTER 20-01-01  
ORGANIZATION OF BOARD**

Section

20-01-01-01 Organization and Functions of Board of Dental Examiners

**20-01-01-01. Organization and functions of board of dental examiners.**

1. **History and functions.** In 1895 a five-member board of dental examiners was created to examine dentists as to their qualifications and to license and register qualified dentists.
2. **Board membership.** The board consists of nine members appointed by the governor. Six members must be licensed dentists, one member must be a licensed hygienist, one member must be a registered dental assistant, and one member must be an independent consumer member. ~~Members of the board serve five-year terms. No member may serve more than ten years or two 5-year terms of office.~~
3. **Board members.** Members of the board are elected by the board to fill the individual positions of president, president-elect, and secretary-treasurer. The position of executive director has been created to assist the secretary-treasurer.
4. **Per diem.** Each member of the board shall receive as compensation for each day actually engaged in the duties of the office per diem in the amount of two hundred dollars, and expense reimbursement as set forth by the office of management and budget.
5. **Inquiries.** Inquiries regarding the board may be addressed to the executive director of the board:

Rita M. Sommers, RDH, MBA Executive Director  
North Dakota State Board of Dental Examiners  
Box 7246  
Bismarck, ND 58507-7246  
www.nddentalboard.org  
701-258-8600

**History:** Amended effective October 1, 1988; November 1, 1988; July 1, 1993; May 1, 1996; June 1, 2002; July 1, 2004; April 1, 2006; January 1, 2011; July 1, 2022; October 1, 2024.

**General Authority:** NDCC 43-28-06

**Law Implemented:** NDCC 43-28-03, 43-28-05

**Commented [DS1]:** Housekeeping. This idea is spelled out more fully in statute. We're removing it because (a) this rule is not entirely consistent with the statute and (b) the section of rule is titled "Board membership" and not "terms." If in the future the Board seeks adoption of a rule explaining "terms", the rule would need to be more robust and accurate. Removing this language from this rule does not have any impact on Board member terms of office.

**Commented [DS2]:** Housekeeping. This language clarifies that in addition to being statutorily entitled to compensation, Board members are also entitled to reasonable expense reimbursement.

**Commented [DS3]:** Housekeeping. Updating this language to reflect that Ms. Sommers is no longer executive director, to make the reference to the executive more generic so rulemaking isn't needed whenever employees change, and to correct the title of the Board as spelled out in statute.