

## **Information Relevant to Limited Registration and Special Registration**

The Dentists Registration (Amendment) Bill 2024 was passed at the Legislative Council on 10 July 2024. The amendments will come into operation on the day(s) to be appointed by the Secretary for Health by notice published in the Gazette.

Relevant details on the application for different types of registration of dentist in Hong Kong under the amended provisions will be promulgated at the website of the Dental Council of Hong Kong in due course.

Full version of the Dentists Registration (Amendment) Ordinance 2024 (“the Ordinance”) can be accessed via the website of the Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region Gazette as follows –

<https://www.gld.gov.hk/egazette/english/gazette/file.php?year=2024&vol=28&no=29&extra=0&type=1&number=22>

The relevant provisions regarding application for limited registration and special registration are extracted below for reference –

### **(a) Limited Registration**

#### **9C. *Application for limited registration***

- (1) *A person may apply to the Registrar for limited registration.*
- (2) *An application must—*
  - (a) *be made in the specified form; and*
  - (b) *be supported by a declaration by the applicant as to—*
    - (i) *whether the applicant has been convicted in Hong Kong or elsewhere of an offence punishable with imprisonment;*
    - (ii) *whether the applicant has been found guilty in Hong Kong or elsewhere of unprofessional conduct; and*
    - (iii) *whether, at the time of the application, the applicant is the subject of any criminal or disciplinary proceedings in Hong Kong or elsewhere.*

#### **9D. *Determination of application for limited registration***

- (1) *On receiving an application made in accordance with section 9C, the Registrar must refer the application to the Council.*
- (2) *The Council must approve the application if it is satisfied that—*
  - (a) *the applicant has been selected for—*
    - (i) *full-time employment as a person with limited registration in a Schedule 4 institution; or*
    - (ii) *an employment or an employment of a type determined under section 9E;*
  - (b) *the applicant has obtained a recognized non-Hong Kong qualification;*

- (c) *the applicant has had adequate and relevant full-time post-qualification clinical experience;*
- (d) *unless the applicant is a person with limited registration or a person with special registration when the application is made, or was such a person at any time before the application is made—the applicant is registered as a dentist under the law of a place outside Hong Kong;*
- (e) *the applicant has not been refused, under section 7A(3), to take the Licensing Examination; and*
- (f) *the applicant is of good character.*
- (3) *In approving an application, the Council—*
  - (a) *must specify a period not exceeding 3 years during which the registration is to be in force; and*
  - (b) *may impose any condition that the Council considers appropriate.*
- (4) *The Council must notify the Registrar of—*
  - (a) *the Council’s decision; and*
  - (b) *if the application is rejected—the reason for it.*
- (5) *On receiving a notification under subsection (4), the Registrar must notify the applicant in writing of—*
  - (a) *the Council’s decision; and*
  - (b) *if the application is rejected—the reason for it.*
- (6) *In this section—*

***recognized non-Hong Kong qualification (認可境外資格)***

*means a qualification obtained outside Hong Kong that is recognized by the Council for the purposes of this section as being sufficient evidence of the possession of the requisite knowledge and skill for the effective practice of dentistry.*

**9E. *Promulgation of employment for section 9D(2)(a)(ii)***

- (1) *The Council may, having regard to any representations made to it, determine for the purposes of section 9D(2)(a)(ii) an employment or a type of employment in respect of which limited registration is appropriate or necessary.*
- (2) *The Council must promulgate the determination by notice published in the Gazette.*
- (3) *A notice published under subsection (2) is not subsidiary legislation.*

[ Note:

- (1) Section 7A(3) of the Ordinance stipulates that “*The Council may refuse to allow a person to take the Licensing Examination if the person has, in any one part of the Licensing Examination, failed 5 times.*”
- (2) Schedule 4 Institutions include Department of Health, Hospital Authority, The University of Hong Kong and The Prince Philip Dental Hospital. ]

(b) **Special Registration**

**9J. Application for special registration**

- (1) *A person may apply to the Registrar for special registration.*
- (2) *An application must—*
  - (a) *be made in the specified form; and*
  - (b) *be supported by a declaration by the applicant as to—*
    - (i) *whether the applicant has been convicted in Hong Kong or elsewhere of an offence punishable with imprisonment;*
    - (ii) *whether the applicant has been found guilty in Hong Kong or elsewhere of unprofessional conduct; and*
    - (iii) *whether, at the time of the application, the applicant is the subject of any criminal or disciplinary proceedings in Hong Kong or elsewhere.*

**9K. Determination of application for special registration**

- (2) *The Council must approve the application if it is satisfied that—*
  - (a) *the applicant has been selected for full-time employment as a person with special registration in a Schedule 5 institution;*
  - (b) *the applicant has obtained a recognized non-Hong Kong qualification;*
  - (c) *either—*
    - (i) *the applicant has been awarded a Fellowship of the Academy of Medicine in the specialty of dental surgery; or*
    - (ii) *the Academy of Medicine has certified that the applicant has attained a professional standard equivalent to that recognized by the Academy for the award of a Fellowship of the Academy in the specialty of dental surgery;*
  - (d) *the applicant has had adequate and relevant full-time post-qualification clinical experience;*
  - (e) *unless the applicant is a person with limited registration or a person with special registration when the application is made, or was such a person at any time before the application is made—the applicant is registered as a dentist under the law of a place outside Hong Kong;*
  - (f) *the applicant has not been refused, under section 7A(3), to take the Licensing Examination; and*
  - (g) *the applicant is of good character.*

[ Note:

- (1) Section 7A(3) of the Ordinance stipulates that “*The Council may refuse to allow a person to take the Licensing Examination if the person has, in any one part of the Licensing Examination, failed 5 times.*”
- (2) Schedule 5 Institutions include Department of Health, Hospital Authority, The University of Hong Kong and The Prince Philip Dental Hospital. ]