

G. Continuing Education Requirements for Dentists, Dentists Issued an Academic License, and Dental Hygienists

1. Effective March 1, 2016, every licensee with an active license in Colorado is required to complete 30 hours of Board approved continuing education during the 2 years preceding the next renewal period to ensure patient safety and professional competency, pursuant to section 12-35-139, C.R.S. Continuing education hours may only be applied to the renewal period in which they were completed.
2. This requirement does not apply to a licensee placing his/her license into inactive or retired status, or renewing such status. It only applies if renewing a license in active status, or reinstating or reactivating a license pursuant to paragraph 3 of this rule.
3. Effective March 1, 2018, a licensee with an expired license of less than 2 years or who has inactivated his/her license for less than 2 years is required to submit proof of having completed the required 30 hours of continuing education credit for the previous renewal period prior to reinstating/reactivating his/her license and may not apply those hours to the next renewal period.
4. If a license is issued within 1 year of a renewal date, no continuing education will be required for that first renewal period. If a license is issued outside of 1 year of a renewal date, then 15 hours of Board approved continuing education will be required for that first renewal period.
5. For dentists, including those issued an academic license, the Board automatically accepts any course or program recognized by any of the following organizations (or a successor organization):
 - a. American Dental Association (ADA) Continuing Education Recognition Program (CERP),
 - b. Academy of General Dentistry (AGD) Program Approval for Continuing Education (PACE),
 - c. American Medical Association (AMA) Physician Recognition Award (PRA) and credit system as Category 1 Credit, or
 - d. Commission on Dental Accreditation (CODA) accredited institutions.
6. For dental hygienists, the Board automatically accepts any course recognized in paragraph 5 above and sponsored or recognized by (or a successor organization):
 - a. The American Dental Hygienists' Association (ADHA) and its constituents and component societies, or
 - b. Local, state, regional, national, or international dental, dental hygiene, dental assisting, medical related professional organization, or study group that has a sound scientific basis, proven efficacy, and ensures public safety.
7. Current Basic Life Support (BLS) for healthcare providers is required of all licensees and all licensees will receive a maximum of 2 hours continuing education credit for completing.
8. At least 16 of the required 30 hours must be clinical or science based, or 8 of the required 15 if paragraph G.4 of this rule applies.
9. At least 50% of the required hours must be live and interactive.

10. A presenter of courses may submit course hours he/she presented, up to 6 total credits, towards his/her continuing education requirement. The presenter may receive credit one time for each course presented in a renewal period, up to 6 total credits for that renewal period.
11. A dentist renewing an anesthesia or sedation permit may apply continuing education credits specific to renewing his/her permit for anesthesia or sedation administration (17 hours every 5 years) to the 30 hours required to renew a license every 2 years. Anesthesia related hours may only be applied to the renewal period in which they were completed.
12. At the conclusion of each renewal period, licensees may be subject to a Board audit to verify compliance with continuing education requirements. Licensees shall assist the Board in its audit by providing timely and complete responses to the Board's inquiries.
13. A licensee must maintain copies of all completed Board approved coursework, including any certificates of completion, for at least 2 renewal periods after the continuing education was completed. The records shall document the licensee's course attendance and participation, and shall include at a minimum course sponsor, title, date(s), hours, and the course verification of completion certificate or form. Failure to meet this requirement may result in credit not being accepted for a course or courses, which may result in violation of the continuing education requirements of section 12-35-139, C.R.S., and this Rule III.
14. Failure to comply with the requirements of this rule is grounds for discipline, pursuant to section 12-35-129(1)(i), C.R.S.
15. The Board may excuse a licensee from all or any part of the requirements of this rule or grant an extension because of an unusual circumstance, emergency, special hardship, or military service. The licensee may apply for a waiver or an extension by submitting a written request, including supporting documentation for Board consideration at least 45 days before the renewal date.
16. Continuing education required as a condition of a disciplinary action cannot be applied towards the renewal requirements of a license or anesthesia/sedation permit.