

OHIO STATE DENTAL BOARD

Continuing Education Information

Pursuant to Ohio Revised Code Sections 4715.141, 4715.25, and 4715.53 licensed dentists (40 hours), dental hygienists (24 hours), and dental assistant radiographers (2 hours) are required to obtain continuing education (CE) in order to renew their Ohio licenses. Currently, dentists and dental hygienists must complete continuing education that reflects appropriate didactic and clinical training for subject matter as defined by the *American Dental Association's* (ADA) definition of dentistry, which states in pertinent part:

"Dentistry is defined as the evaluation, diagnosis, prevention and/or treatment (nonsurgical, surgical or relate procedures) of diseases, disorders and/or conditions of the oral cavity, maxillofacial area and/or the adjacent and associated structures and their impact on the human body..."

Therefore, course content must comply with the guidelines set forth in Ohio Revised Code Section 4715.141(A)(1) to (A)(7). Those guidelines are as follows:

- (1) Competency in treating patients who are medically compromised or who experience medical emergencies during the course of dental treatment;
- (2) Knowledge of pharmaceutical products and the protocol of the proper use of medications;
- (3) Competence to diagnose oral pathology;
- (4) Awareness of currently accepted methods of infection control;
- (5) Basic medical and scientific subjects including, but not limited to, biology, physiology, pathology, biochemistry, and pharmacology;
- (6) Clinical and technological subjects including, but not limited to, clinical techniques and procedures, materials, and equipment;
- (7) Subjects pertinent to health and safety.

Examples of course content which will not be considered acceptable for CE credit are; money management, personal finance or business, basic educational or cultural subjects not related to direct patient care, teaching of the use of the Internet, general physical fitness or personal health issues, presentations by political or public figures, motivational courses, or alternative medicine/theory which has no scientific basis, etc.

The Board has determined that the intent of dental and dental hygiene CE is to improve the clinical application of dentistry and dental hygiene to the citizens of the state of Ohio. Pursuant to Ohio Administrative Code Section 4715-8-01:

"Acceptable continuing education for all Ohio licensees is defined as educational and scientific courses given by board-approved sponsors consisting of activities designed to review existing concepts and techniques, to convey information beyond the basic dental education and to update knowledge on advances in scientific, non-clinical and clinical practice related subject matter, including ethics, regulatory compliance, risk management,

nutrition, and evidence-based dentistry wherein the objective is to improve the knowledge, skills and ability of the individual to provide the highest quality of service to the public and the profession.”

Additionally, dentists and dental hygienists who take the same exact course more than once during a biennium will only be permitted to claim the total continuing education hours for the first completion of the course.

Continuing education may be taken in **ANY** of the following categories of credit **NOT** to exceed the maximum number of hours indicated.

2016-2017 Biennium	
(A) Directly Interactive Presentation Format	No Maximum
(B) Supervised Self-instruction	No Maximum
(C) Non-clinical dental practice related	6.0 Hours Maximum
(D) Papers, publications & scientific presentations	4.0 Hours Maximum
(E) Teaching & research appointments	4.0 Hours Maximum
(F) Volunteer service as a clinician (Ohio only)	4.0 Hours Maximum 1.0 hour awarded for each 4.0 hours service
(G) Table clinics	2.0 Hours Maximum

IMPORTANT!

The Ohio State Dental Board does not approve individual courses/programs (except for those courses with specific requirements such as the medical emergency course for practice when the dentist is not present or those courses designated for anesthesia or conscious sedation permit renewal).

Recognition of a sponsor does not imply endorsement of the course/program content presented.

Any Ohio dental licensee who intends to renew their license at the end of the biennium (December 31, 2017 for dentists and dental hygienists and December 31, 2016 for dental assistant radiographers) must obtain the requisite number of CE hours (40 for dentists, 24 for dental hygienists and 2 for dental assistant radiographers) from a Board-approved or Board-accepted sponsor of continuing education. There are only two (2) types of **Board-approved** CE providers; Permanent Sponsors and Biennial Sponsors. **Board-accepted** sponsors are defined by policy as coursework provided by *American Dental Association Continuing Education Recognition Program* (ADA CERP) providers and *Academy of General Dentistry Program Approval for Continuing Education* (AGD PACE) providers so long as they remain in good standing and are in compliance with relevant recognition standards and the guidelines set forth in Ohio's Dental Practice Act (Ohio Revised and Administrative Codes Chapter 4715). Listings of approved ADA CERP and AGD PACE providers are available on-line at www.ada.org or www.agd.org.

Exemptions

The Board may excuse licensed dentists and/or licensed dental hygienists, as a group or as individuals, from all or any part of the continuing education requirements because of an unusual circumstance, emergency, or special hardship.

By policy, the following dental and dental hygiene licensees are exempt from obtaining continuing education during their first biennium of licensure:

- (1) Licensees who have graduated from an accredited dental or dental hygiene program during the biennium;
- (2) Licensees who are attending or have attended an ADA-accredited dental residency program or dental hygiene baccalaureate degree completion program during the biennium;
- (3) Dental licensees who are participating in or have participated in an ADA-accredited Fellowship during the biennium.

Dental and dental hygiene licensees who are unable to complete the required continuing education hours for the biennium due to unusual circumstance, emergency, or special hardship may apply to the Board for an extension or waiver by submitting a Request for Continuing Education Extension/Waiver form to the Board executive office. The form must be received with all supporting documentation in order to be considered by the Board's Education Committee and Supervisory Investigative Panel at a regularly scheduled Board meeting. The Request for Continuing Education Extension/Waiver form may be found here:

<http://www.dental.ohio.gov/Portals/o/EDUCATION/cewaiver.pdf?ver=2016-06-21-121502-297>