



## CONTINUING EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES IN CULTURALLY COMPETENT CARE FOR ORAL HEALTH PROFESSIONALS

As the population becomes more ethnically diverse, health care providers need to respond to patients' varied perspectives, values, and behaviors about health and well-being. Failure to understand and manage social and cultural differences may have significant health consequences for minority groups of various ethnic and/or cultural groups or linguistic backgrounds in particular. Culturally and linguistically appropriate services are increasingly recognized as an important strategy for improving quality of care for diverse populations as oral health disparities among cultural minority groups persist in the U.S.

Cultural competency can foster a greater understanding and appreciation of diverse patient populations, giving dental professionals additional information and insight to enrich patient care. The skills developed with cultural competency allow healthcare providers to understand and respect a patient's cultural identity.

The Board has developed the following short-list of continuing education experiences to assist dental professionals in locating existing continuing education courses addressing cultural competency. While there is no requirement to complete this continuing education relating to this subject, the Board encourages its licensees to consider these important learning opportunities. The Board does not endorse or recommend any particular course, but provides the following list to assist licensees in finding available continuing education.

### Cultural Competency Continuing Dental Education

U.S. Department of Health & Human Services

- [Cultural Competency Program for Oral Health Providers](#) (6 CEUs)

Phillips Oral Healthcare

- [Cultural Competence and the Dental Hygiene Process of Care](#) (1 CEU)

Quality Interaction in Partnership with Tufts University School of Medicine:

- Availability of the following courses may be found at [www.qualityinteractions.com](http://www.qualityinteractions.com)
  - Cross-Cultural Care: A Person-Centered Approach (1 CEU)
  - ResCUE Model™ for Cross-Cultural Clinical Care (.5 CEU)
  - Recognizing & Overcoming Unconscious Bias (.5 CEU)
  - Breaking Through Implicit Bias in Maternal Care
  - Disability Awareness and CUEs for Quality Interactions (1 CEU)
  - Creating a Welcoming Environment for LGBTQ Individuals (1 CEU)
  - Working with Specific Populations: Hispanic/Latino (.5 CEU)
  - Culturally Competent Care for the Medicare Population (.5 CEU)
  - Test Your Skills™: for Clinicians (1 CEU)
  - Test Your Skills™: for Healthcare Professionals (.5 CEU)
  - Quality Interactions with Diverse Populations (.5 CEU)
  - Clear Communication for Healthcare Professionals

When researching additional continuing education experiences, topics that address cultural competency include but are not limited to:

- Recognition of racial and ethnic oral health care disparities;
- How to increase awareness of patients' cultural beliefs and needs;
- Culturally and linguistically appropriate communication including barriers and facilitators to verbal, nonverbal and written communication.

If you locate a course not listed that addresses the problems of race and gender-based disparities in health care treatment decisions and is offered through a health care professional school, college, or other educational institution, please feel free to share the information with us and we will add the information to our current listing.