

COMPLYING WITH CONTINUING EDUCATION AND TRAINING REQUIREMENTS

PDA's guide will help you stay compliant with Pennsylvania laws and regulations.

Pennsylvania dental licenses renew on April 1 of each odd-numbered year. During the two-year period prior to renewal, (All credits must be completed during the two-year period prior to renewal, April 1 of an odd-numbered year to March 31 of an odd-numbered year), the State Board of Dentistry requires the following minimum number of credits:

- 30 hours for dentists
- 15 hours (as part of the above 30-hour requirement) for anesthesia permit holders
- 20 hours for dental hygienists
- 5 hours (as part of the above 20-hour requirement) for public health dental hygienists in public health related courses.
- 3 hours (as part of the above 20-hour requirement) for dental hygienists with a local anesthesia permit.
- 10 hours for EFDAs

CE credit hours must be completed in subject areas directly related to the maintenance of the clinical competence of a dentist, dental hygienist or expanded function dental assistant (EFDA).

You should also be aware that other governmental agencies, such as the Department of Environmental Protection, require additional CE and/or training, but not as a condition of license renewal.

***Minimum 50% of hours must be live lecture.*

OTHER STATE BOARD OF DENTISTRY REQUIREMENTS:

SUBJECT AREA	NUMBER OF CREDIT HOURS	PURPOSE/OPTIONS
Anesthesia	<p>Dentists with an unrestricted or restricted permit I are required to have 15 of their 30 hours in anesthesia related courses.</p> <p>Dentists with a restricted permit II do not need to fulfill any CE requirement in order to maintain the permit.</p> <p>Dentists who are non-permit holders, but use the services of an anesthesia provider with an unrestricted or restricted permit I must have 5 hours of CE, which can be applied to the 30 hours required.</p>	
CPR	<p>CPR is a requirement separate from the CE required for re-licensure and cannot be counted toward the required hours. PDA suggests the American Heart Association's "Healthcare Provider" course or a course offering a certification card that states "Infant, Child and Adult CPR."</p>	<p>Licensees and certificate holders (dentists, hygienists and EFDAs) MUST obtain current certification in infant, child, and adult cardiopulmonary resuscitation.</p>
ACLS/PALS/BLS	<p>Unrestricted and permit I holders are required to maintain certification in ACLS (if treating adults) and PALS (if treating children under age 18). Appropriately trained auxiliary personnel working directly with the permit holder must maintain certification in BLS.</p>	

OTHER STATUTES OR REGULATIONS:

SUBJECT AREA	NUMBER OF CREDIT HOURS	PURPOSE/OPTIONS
Child Abuse	New applicants for licensure must obtain 3 hours of training. Current licensees must obtain 2 hours of child abuse recognition and reporting CE biennially. All courses must be taken with an approved provider.	Fulfills Department of Human Services' Act 31 mandatory CE requirements for dentists, hygienists and EFDAs. PDA's CE course fulfills the two-hour requirement for re-licensure or recertification.
Opioids	Current licensees who have or use a DEA number must obtain 2 hours of training in pain management, identification of addiction or the practices of prescribing or dispensing of opioids. New licensees have 12-months from the date of initial licensure to obtain 2 hours of training in pain management or identification of addiction AND 2 hours in the practices of prescribing or dispensing of opioids. All courses must be taken with an approved provider.	Fulfills Act 124 mandatory CE requirements for dentists who have a DEA number or use a DEA number of another person or entity (as permitted by law). Check the Prerecorded Events tab at www.padental.org/calendar for PDA's online CE course, "Pain Management Alternatives & Identification of Addiction," worth 2 CE credits for those who successfully complete a short quiz after reviewing the course.
Radiology	<p>Offices that conduct "high-risk" procedures (dental offices with CBCT machines) are required to complete continuing education at least every 2 years. All other offices are considered "low-risk" and are required to complete continuing education at least every 4 years. Continuing education must address radiation safety, biological effects, quality assurance and quality control. CE verification of attendance forms must be retained for 5 years and available for inspection by DEP.</p> <p>Requirement separate from re-licensure.</p> <p>Department of Environmental Protection recommends that individuals obtain 2 contact hours (classroom setting), or 4 hours, of CE to ensure full compliance with the law.</p>	<p>Fulfills Department of Environmental Protection regulations for qualified dental personnel.</p> <p>Radiology requirements apply to any individual who operates an X-ray machine.</p> <p>Check the Prerecorded Events tab at www.padental.org/calendar for PDA's online CE course, "Radiation Protection Update," worth 2 CE credits for those who successfully complete a short quiz after reviewing the course.</p>
Infection Control	All licensees and certificate holders (dentists, hygienists and EFDAs) must adhere to current federal Center for Disease Control guidelines.	<p>CDC guidelines address basic hygiene, educating staff, bloodborne pathogens, sterilization, and environmental and infection control.</p> <p>Access the CDC guidelines at: http://www.cdc.gov/oralhealth/infectioncontrol/index.htm. Take PDA's webinar and online quiz for CE credit available at www.padental.org/infectioncontrol.</p>