

Proposed Fast-track Regulation
18 VAC 60-10
Regulations Governing the Practice of Dentistry and Dental Hygiene

18 VAC 60-20-50. Requirements for continuing education.

- A. After April 1, 1995, a dentist or a dental hygienist shall be required to have completed a minimum of 15 hours of approved continuing education for each annual renewal of licensure. Continuing education hours for dentists in excess of the number required for renewal may be transferred or credited to another year for a total of not more than 15 hours. No more than five of the 15 hours may be obtained through home study or on-line course work; the remaining shall be live classroom or clinical hours.
- B. An approved continuing dental education program shall be relevant to the treatment and care of patients and shall be:
1. Clinical courses in dentistry and dental hygiene; or
 2. Non-clinical subjects that relate to the skills necessary to provide dental or dental hygiene services and are supportive of clinical services (i.e.; patient management, legal and ethical responsibilities, stress management). Courses not acceptable for the purpose of this subsection include, but are not limited to, estate planning, financial planning, investments, and personal health.
- C. Continuing education credit may be earned for verifiable attendance at or participation in any courses, to include audio and video presentations, which meet the requirements in subdivision B 1 this section and which are given by one of the following sponsors:
1. American Dental Association and National Dental Association, their constituent and component/branch associations;
 2. American Dental Hygienists' Association and National Dental Hygienists' Association, their constituent and component/branch associations;
 3. American Dental Assisting Association, its constituent and component/branch associations;
 4. American Dental Association specialty organizations, their constituent and component/branch associations;
 5. American Medical Association and National Medical Association, their specialty organizations, constituent and component/branch associations;
 6. Academy of General Dentistry, its constituent and component/branch associations;
 7. Community colleges with an accredited dental hygiene program if offered under the auspices of the dental hygienist program;

8. A college, university or hospital service which is accredited by an accrediting agency approved by the U. S. Office of Education;
 9. The American Heart Association, the American Red Cross and the American Cancer Society;
 10. A medical school which is accredited by the American Medical Association's Liaison Committee for Medical Education;
 11. State or federal government agencies (i.e.; military dental division, Veterans' Administration, etc.);
 12. The Commonwealth Dental Hygienists' Society; or
 13. Any other board approved programs.
- D. A licensee is exempt from completing continuing education requirements and considered in compliance on the first renewal date following his initial licensure.
- E. The board may grant an exemption for all or part of the continuing education requirements due to circumstances beyond the control of the licensee, such as temporary disability, mandatory military service, or officially declared disasters.
- F. A licensee is required to provide information on compliance with continuing education requirements in his annual license renewal. Following the renewal period, the board may conduct an audit of licensees to verify compliance. Licensees selected for audit must provide original documents certifying that they have fulfilled their continuing education requirements by the deadline date as specified by the board.
- G. All licensees are required to maintain original documents verifying the date and subject of the program or activity. Documentation must be maintained for a period of four years following renewal.
- H. A licensee who has allowed his license to lapse, or who has had his license suspended or revoked must submit evidence of completion of continuing education equal to the requirements for the number of years in which his license has not been active.
- I. Continuing education hours required by disciplinary order shall not be used to satisfy the continuing education requirement for license renewal.
- J. Failure to comply with continuing education requirements may subject the licensee to disciplinary action by the board.