



110 Centerview Drive  
Post Office Box 11329  
Columbia, SC 29211-1329  
Phone: (803) 896-4599  
FAX: (803) 896-4719

South Carolina  
Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation

Board of Dentistry



Henry D. McMaster  
Governor

Emily H. Farr  
Director

**South Carolina Board of Dentistry Continuing Education  
and CPR Requirements**

Regulation 39-5(F) Requires continuing education (CE) every two years for dentists, hygienists, and dental technicians.

CE cycles run concurrent with the licensing/renewal cycles. CE hours must be earned between March 2 and March 1 of odd years, which means CE hours for the cycle for the licensing period **March 1, 2027, CE hours must be taken between March 2, 2025 and March 1, 2027.**

**All hours must be entered into CE Broker at [www.cebroke.com](http://www.cebroke.com).**

**Dentists, including volunteers and instructors, must complete at least twenty-eight (28) hours of qualified CE every CE cycle.**

- One hour must be in sterilization and infection control.
- If licensed to prescribed controlled substances, as is required in Section 40-15-145, two hours must be in prescribing and monitoring controlled substances.
- If holding a sedation permit, as is required in Section 40-15-420, four hours must be in pharmacology, anesthesia, emergency medicine, or sedation
- No more than 50% of a dentist's CE hours may be earned via online computer seminars.
  - Live, interactive webinars are considered live CE courses.
- If teaching a course at a CODA-approved dental college, a dentist may receive CE hours equal to the number of hours received by students taking the course, up to 25% of the required CE per licensing period.
- If teaching an approved CE seminar, a dentist may receive CE hours equal to the number of hours taught in the seminar for up to 25% of the required CE per licensing period.
- No more than 25% of a dentist's total CE can be earned through teaching, even if a licensee taught both a course or courses at a CODA-approved college and approved CE seminar(s).

**Dental Hygienists, including volunteers and instructors, must complete at least fourteen (14) hours of qualified CE every CE cycle.**

- One hours must be in sterilization and infection control.
- No more than 50% of a dental hygienist's CE may be earned via online computer seminars.
  - Live, interactive webinars are considered live CE courses.
- If teaching a course at a CODA-approved dental hygiene program, a dental hygienist may receive CE hours equal to the number of hours received by students taking the course, up to 25% of the required CE per licensing period.
- If teaching an approved CE seminar, a dental hygienist may receive CE hours equal to the number of hours taught in the seminar for up to 25% of the required CE per licensing period.

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- No more than 25% of a dental hygienist's total CE can be earned through teaching, even if a licensee taught both a course or courses at a CODA-approved college and approved CE seminar(s).

**Technicians must complete at least eight (8) hours of qualified CE every CE cycle.**

- Dental Technicians do not have a live hours requirement.

Qualified CE subjects for Board of Dentistry licensees include:

- medical and scientific subjects;
- clinical and technical subjects;
- risk management and infection control;
- dental radiology;
- CPR, diet and nutrition

Approved CE providers include:

- the American Dental Association, Academy of General Dentistry, American Dental Hygienists' Association, American Dental Assistants' Association, National Association of Dental Laboratories, or their local societies and associations;
- national, state, local, district dental specialty organizations recognized by the American Dental Association;
- dental colleges or schools accredited by the American Dental Association;
- American Academy of Dental Hygiene;
- other organizations, schools, and agencies approved by the State Board of Dentistry.

All licensees are required to maintain their CE records for at least three (3) years, and records must include:

- the courses taken,
- continuing education hours earned,
- date,
- sponsor,
- and subject matter.

All dentists and hygienists must be recertified in CPR every two years. If a licensee is certified annually, if the CPR provider is an approved CE provider, AND if the provider issues a certificate that includes the course name, CE hours earned, date, sponsor, and subject matter, then the licensee may count the annual CPR course towards their CE hours. Additionally, in order for CPR to count for CE, the course must specifically say that the CPR course is applicable for CE hours for dentists. (Biennial recertification does not count towards CE hours.) If a licensee presents a CPR course that is accepted for CE, the hours are limited to four (4) hours per renewal cycle.

CPR recertification must be live, **in-person**. You may not take the practical portion of the course online, even if it is live and interactive.

Board approved CPR courses and/or providers are:

- American Heart Association "BLS Healthcare Provider,"
- American Heart Association "Heartsaver CPR,"
- American Red Cross Adult and Pediatric CPR/AED

- American Red Cross Basic Life Support
- American Red Cross CPR/AED for Professional Rescuers
- American Safety & Health Institute,
- EMS Safety Services, Inc.
- Emergency Care & Safety Institute (ECSI)
- Health Education Solutions,
- National Safety Council, and
- Pacific Medical Training BLS Recertification Course
- ProCPR Trainings LLC dba ProCPR

Exemptions and Extensions:

- The Board of Dentistry may agree to issue a CE and/or CPR exemption or extension on request to those who are fully retired, disabled, or for extraordinary circumstances or hardships. CE and/or CPR exemptions or extensions are not automatic. Licensees must submit the request form **before renewing their license** each applicable renewal.
- **Active duty members of the United States military** are exempt from CE requirements but must submit their military orders to the Board at renewal.
- **Licensees serving a residency through a CODA-approved program** are exempt from the CE requirements; however, they must go into CE Broker and submit proof of their residency before renewing their license.
- Licensees are exempt from CE requirement for their first relicensure period.