

BOARD REGULATION NUMBER 41--CONTINUING EDUCATION

Purpose: To Establish Continuing Education Requirements of Dentists and Dental Hygienists.

1. Continuing Dental Education (CDE) requirements will be effective on July 1, 1993 immediately following adoption of this regulation by the Mississippi State Board of Dental Examiners, and the continuing education period shall be from January 1 through December 31 of each year effective January 1, 2014.
2. Every licensed dentist shall be required to have forty (40) hours documented, approved continuing education. Every year thereafter, each licensed dentist shall have forty (40) hours of continuing education for the previous two (2) consecutive years. Approved CDE shall consist of courses approved by the American Dental Association (ADA), Academy of General Dentistry (AGD), Mississippi Dental Association (MDA), Mississippi Dental Society (MDS), National Dental Association (NDA), or other courses or activities specifically approved by the Board for CDE credit. No more than four (4) hours per year on the subject of CPR (Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation) shall be allowed toward the two-year, forty-hour requirement, and dentists successfully completing an eight-hour, two-year CPR certification course are allowed to use four (4) hours each year, of the total eight (8) hours, toward fulfilling the two-year, forty-hour CDE requirement. Furthermore, licensees successfully completing a 16-hour Advanced Cardiac Life Support (ACLS) course may use eight (8) hours each year, of the total sixteen (16) hours, toward fulfilling the two-year, forty-hour CDE requirement, and licensees successfully completing an 8-hour ACLS course, a Board-approved general anesthesia review course, or an equivalent Board-approved course, may use four (4) hours each year, of the total eight (8) hours, toward fulfilling the two-year, forty-hour CDE requirement. Finally, dentists may attend courses offered and approved by any of the additional organizations listed in Section 3 of this Regulation and use such attendance as a means of fulfilling continuing education requirements.
3. Every licensed dental hygienist shall be required to have twenty (20) hours documented, approved continuing education. Every year thereafter, each licensed dental hygienist shall have twenty (20) hours of continuing education for the previous two (2) consecutive years. Approved CDE for dental hygienists shall consist of courses approved by the Mississippi Dental Hygienists' Association (MDHA), American Dental Hygienists' Association (ADHA), MDA, MDS, AGD, ADA, NDA, or other courses or activities specifically approved by the Board for CDE credit. No more than four (4) hours per year on the subject of CPR (Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation) shall be allowed toward the two-year, twenty-hour requirement, and dental hygienists successfully completing an eight-hour, two-year CPR certification course are allowed to use four (4) hours each year, of the total eight (8) hours, toward fulfilling the two-year, twenty-hour CDE requirement. Furthermore, licensees successfully completing a 16-hour Advanced Cardiac Life Support (ACLS) course may use eight (8) hours each year, of the total sixteen (16) hours, toward fulfilling the two-year, twenty-hour CDE requirement, and licensees successfully completing an 8-hour ACLS course, a Board-approved general anesthesia review course, or an equivalent Board-approved course, may use four (4) hours each year, of the total eight (8) hours, toward fulfilling the two-year, twenty-hour CDE requirement.
4. To fulfill the forty (40) required continuing education hours during the two-year reporting period, licensed dentists shall obtain a minimum of twenty (20) hours of clinical continuing education. To fulfill the twenty (20) required continuing education

hours during the two-year reporting period, licensed dental hygienists shall obtain a minimum of ten (10) hours of clinical continuing education. Clinical continuing education is defined as personal attendance at clinical courses pertaining to the actual delivery of dental services to patients.

5. Effective January 1, 2018, every dentist who prescribes, administers, or dispenses any controlled substance within the State of Mississippi, or who proposes to engage in the prescribing, administering, or dispensing of any controlled substance within the State of Mississippi, shall be required to obtain three (3) hours of continuing education every two (2) years regarding the prescription of opioids. Such continuing education shall be considered clinical continuing education and shall be exempt from the personal attendance requirement as heretofore required for clinical continuing education courses. In other words, as an alternative to personally attending courses regarding the prescription of opioids, dentists also may obtain this required clinical continuing education through Internet webinars and computer-based, video, audio, reading and/or correspondence/home study courses, and dentists must ensure compliance with the post-study examination requirements set forth in Section 7.
6. In addition to the providers listed in Sections 2 and 3 above, ADA-accredited dental, dental hygiene, and dental assisting teaching institutions may offer programs, seminars, or courses for dentists and dental hygienists as a means of fulfilling continuing education requirements. Prior to offering dental and dental hygiene continuing education programs, seminars, or courses, these institutions must request approval or sponsorship from the providers listed in Sections 2 and 3 above, or from the Board on a course-by-course basis. Approval or sponsorship of these programs, seminars, or courses must be clearly noted on seminar, program, or course brochures and all certificates of completion.
7. Continuing education credit will be given for computer-based courses, video courses, audio courses, reading, and/or correspondence/home study courses on a limited basis. All such above-enumerated courses shall be sponsored/approved by any one or more of those organizations listed in Sections 2 and 3 above, or licensed dentists and dental hygienists may obtain prior Board approval of any such courses on a course-by-course basis. In fulfilling the required continuing education hours set forth in Sections 2 and 3 for licensed dentists and dental hygienists, a maximum of twenty-five percent (25%) of the required coursework may be computer-based, video, audio, reading and/or correspondence/home study courses per two-year continuing education reporting period. Furthermore, a post-study examination must be a part of any of the above-enumerated courses, and licensed dentists and dental hygienists shall ensure they successfully complete and retain a copy of such post-study examination and any other documentation stipulated by Section 10. Internet and computer-based courses providing live interaction among presenters and course participants, e.g., webinars, and which also require a post-presentation examination following completion of such webinar, are exempt from the aforementioned twenty-five percent (25%) restriction, inasmuch as such live interaction is considered equivalent to personal attendance at continuing education courses. Provided the course directly relates to the practices of dentistry or dental hygiene, attendance at approved Continuing Medical Education (CME) courses may be used to satisfy the minimum continuing education requirements of Sections 2 and 3 above. Continuing education credit will be given for attendance at the business sessions of state and district meetings for those providers listed in Sections 2 and 3 above.

8. Instructors of Continuing Education Courses only shall receive one-time credit for a course, and shall receive the same credit for the course as participants.
9. Unless otherwise ordered by the Board, continuing education hours required by disciplinary order shall not be used to satisfy the continuing education requirements for license renewal.
10. A record of courses taken, the date, location, number of hours for such course, and certificates of attendance/successful course completion shall be kept by the dentist or hygienist for a minimum of three (3) years from the date of attendance and shall be made available for review at any time by any member of the Board or by any designated agent of the Board. Further, when a Board member or any designated agent thereof shall conduct any authorized investigation, any and all continuing education records will be reviewed and/or audited by such Board member or authorized agent during the course of the investigation. Finally, when any licensee is noticed to appear before the Board to show cause why that licensee's dental or dental hygiene license should not be suspended, revoked, or have other action taken against it, that licensee is required to present proof of compliance with this Regulation.
11. Each dentist or dental hygienist shall certify on the annual renewal form his or her compliance with the continuing education requirements stipulated herein.
12. False certification of the number of hours completed, or the failure to attend and complete the required amount of CDE shall subject the dentist or hygienist to disciplinary action, including revocation of license.
13. The following disciplinary actions will be taken against dentists and dental hygienists not meeting the requirements set forth in item number 11 above:

First Offense: Five Hundred and No/100 Dollars (\$500.00) fine.

Second Offense: One Thousand and No/100 Dollars (\$1,000.00) fine plus a thirty (30) day suspension of license.

Third Offense: Five Thousand and No/100 Dollars (\$5,000.00) fine plus a six (6) month suspension of license.
14. Any dentist or dental hygienist requesting a change from inactive to active status is not required to meet the continuing education or cardiopulmonary resuscitation requirements for the reporting period during which that dentist or dental hygienist was inactive. However, any dentist or dental hygienist requesting active status must, within the previous twelve (12) months prior to requesting active status, be current in cardiopulmonary resuscitation and have acquired twenty (20) and ten (10) hours of continuing education, respectively.
15. Any dentist or dental hygienist requesting reinstatement of a license which was voided for a failure to re-register or which was revoked must, within the previous twelve (12) months prior to requesting licensure reinstatement, be current in cardiopulmonary resuscitation and have acquired twenty (20) and ten (10) hours of continuing education, respectively.
16. The continuing education requirements outlined herein do not pertain to radiology courses/seminars or the mandatory radiologic safety courses and continuing

education as required by Miss. Code Ann. §§ 41-58-1, 41-58-3, and 41-58-5, and all radiology course offerings require such prior approval as that delineated in Board Regulation 25.

Regulation Forty-One adopted by the Mississippi State Board of Dental Examiners December 4, 1992; amended February 5, 1993; amended August 27, 1993; amended July 29, 1994; amended April 21, 1995; amended September 22, 1995; amended December 8, 1995; amended February 9, 1996; amended August 23, 1996; amended November 8, 1996; amended March 7, 1997; amended September 18, 1998; amended August 6, 2004; amended November 19, 2004; amended May 18, 2012; amended February 1, 2013; amended October 16, 2015; amended November 10, 2017.