Delaware Laws & Rules

Updated: 30 January 2025

Initial Licensure Examination Requirements

Delaware Practical Board Examination and **one** of the following:

- -Proof (such as a letter from the sponsoring institution) that you have one year of experience as a dental intern in a CODA-accredited general practice residency sent directly from the sponsoring institution to the Board office.
- -Tax form W-2s or other proof that you have practiced actively for three years in another jurisdiction (state, U.S. territory or District of Columbia).
- -Proof (such as a letter from the sponsoring institution) that you have completed four or more years in a CODA-approved specialty residency, sent directly from the sponsoring institution to the Board office.

(Source: Delaware Dentist License Requirements)

General Licensure Requirements

Delaware Code, Title 24, Chapter 11 CHAPTER 11. Dentistry and Dental Hygiene Subchapter II. Dentistry and Dental Hygiene § 1121 License required.

§ 1121. License required.

- (a) No person shall practice dentistry or dental hygiene or hold himself or herself out to the public in this State as being qualified to practice dentistry or dental hygiene or use in connection with the person's name, or otherwise assume or use, any title or description conveying or tending to convey the impression that the person is qualified to practice dentistry or dental hygiene unless such person has been duly licensed under this chapter.
- (b) A dental hygienist licensed under this chapter shall practice dental hygiene only under the general supervision of a licensed dentist, in the office of the licensed dentist or in any public school or other public institution of this State.
- (c) A licensed dental hygienist may practice under the general supervision of the State Dental Director, or the State Dental Director's designee, who shall be a licensed Delaware dentist, in schools and state institutions. A licensed dental hygienist may also practice under the general supervision of the State Dental Director, or the State Dental Director's designee, who shall be a Delaware licensed dentist, in federally qualified health centers, nonprofit organizations, and other locations as designated by the Delaware Health Care Commission in consultation with Delaware Institute for Dental Education and Research. The protocols under which hygienists practice in these settings will be established by the State Dental Director and shall be subject to the approval of the Delaware State Board of Dentistry and Dental Hygiene.
- (d) The State Dental Director must be a Delaware licensed dentist or have a community health license under § 1132B of this title. The State Director is an employee of a government-operated dental clinic.
- (e) Whenever a license to practice as a dentist or dental hygienist in this State has expired or has been suspended or revoked, it shall be unlawful for the person to practice dentistry or dental hygiene in this State.

73 Del. Laws, c. 332, § 1; 70 Del. Laws, c. 186, § 1; 77 Del. Laws, c. 463, § 3; 83 Del. Laws, c. 420, § 1;

§ 1122. Qualifications of applicant for Delaware-specific dental license; report to Attorney General.

- (a) An applicant who is applying for licensure as a dentist under this section shall submit evidence, verified by oath and satisfactory to the Board, that the applicant meets all of the following:
- (1) Has received a degree in dentistry from an accredited dental college or university accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation of the American Dental Association.
- (2) Before matriculating in a dental college or university, has completed at least 2 years of undergraduate study in an accredited college or university.
- (3) Meets 1 of the following:

- a. Has acquired 1 year's experience as a dental intern within a general practice residency accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation of the American Dental Association ("CODA").
- b. Has completed a CODA-approved specialty residency with those specific rotations identified in the Board's rules and regulations.
- (4) Has achieved a passing score on the Delaware jurisprudence and National Board of Dental Examiners' examinations.
- (5) Has successfully completed the Delaware practical examination under § 1123 of this title.
- (b) An applicant who is applying for licensure as a dental hygienist under this chapter shall submit evidence, verified by oath and satisfactory to the Board, that such person has:
- (1) Graduated from high school or has received a general equivalency diploma (G.E.D.).
- (2) Graduated from a dental hygiene college or university program accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation of the American Dental Association of at least 2 academic years' duration; or
- (3) Graduated, prior to 1953, from a dental hygiene program of at least 1 year's duration, which program had been approved by the Board at the time of the person's graduation; and
- (4) Achieved the passing score on all examinations prescribed by the Board.
- (c) All applicants shall have complied with the following conditions:
- (1) Shall submit proof of current certification in cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) technique in accordance with regulations adopted by the Board.
- (2) Shall not have been the recipient of any administrative penalties regarding the applicant's practice of dentistry or dental hygiene, including but not limited to fines, formal reprimands, license suspension or revocation (except for license revocations for nonpayment of license renewal fees), or probationary limitations, or have entered into any "consent agreements" which contain conditions placed by a Board on the applicant's professional conduct and practice, including any voluntary surrender of a license while under investigation the Board may determine, after a hearing or based on the documentation submitted, whether such administrative penalty is grounds to deny licensure.
- (3) Shall not have any impairment related to drugs or alcohol that would limit the applicant's ability to undertake the practice of dentistry or dental hygiene in a manner consistent with the safety of the public.
- (4) Does not have a criminal conviction for a crime substantially related to the practice of dentistry or dental hygiene. If however, after considering the factors set forth under \S 8735(x)(3) of Title 29 through a hearing or review of documentation, the Board determines that granting a waiver would not create an unreasonable risk to public safety, the Board shall, by an affirmative vote of a majority of the quorum, waive this paragraph (c)(4). No waiver may be granted for a conviction of a felony sexual offense. A conviction for a felony sexual offense shall be considered, notwithstanding the time limitation set forth in \S 8735(x)(4) of Title 29. a.-e. [Repealed.]
- (5) Shall not have engaged in any of the acts or offenses that would be grounds for disciplinary action under this chapter, and shall not have been the recipient of any administrative penalties regarding that applicant's practice as a dentist or dental hygienist, including but not limited to fines, formal reprimands, license suspensions or revocation, (except for license revocations for nonpayment of license renewal fees), probationary limitations, nor entered into any consent agreements which contain conditions placed by a Board on that applicant's professional conduct and practice, including any voluntary surrender of a license. The Board may determine

after a hearing or review of documentation whether such administrative penalty is grounds to deny licensure.

- (6) Submit, at the applicant's expense, fingerprints and other necessary information in order to obtain the following:
- a. A report of the applicant's entire criminal history record from the State Bureau of Identification or a statement from the State Bureau of Identification that the State Central Repository contains no such information relating to that person.
- b. A report of the applicant's entire federal criminal history record pursuant to the Federal Bureau of Investigation appropriation of Title II of Public Law 92-544 (28 U.S.C. § 534). The State Bureau of Identification shall be the intermediary for purposes of this section and the Board of Dentistry and Dental Hygiene shall be the screening point for the receipt of said federal criminal history records.
- c. An applicant may not be certified to practice dentistry or dental hygiene until the applicant's criminal history reports have been produced. An applicant whose record shows a prior criminal conviction related to the practice of dentistry or dental hygiene may not be certified by the Board unless a waiver is granted pursuant to paragraph (c)(4) of this section.
- (7) Shall submit to the Board a sworn or affirmed statement that the applicant is, at the time of application, physically and mentally capable of engaging in the practice of medicine according to generally accepted standards, and submit to such examination as the Board may deem necessary to determine the applicant's capability.
- (d) Where the Board has found to its satisfaction that an applicant has been intentionally fraudulent, or that false information has been intentionally supplied, the Board shall deny the application and report its findings to the Attorney General for further action.
- (e) All individuals licensed to practice dentistry and dental hygiene in this State shall be required to be fingerprinted by the State Bureau of Identification, at the licensee's expense, for the purposes of performing subsequent criminal background checks. Licensees shall submit by January 1, 2016, at the applicant's expense, fingerprints and other necessary information in order to obtain a criminal background check.
- 73 Del. Laws, c. 332, § 1; 70 Del. Laws, c. 186, § 1; 74 Del. Laws, c. 262, § 22; 75 Del. Laws, c. 436, § 9; 77 Del. Laws, c. 199, § 7; 77 Del. Laws, c. 463, §§ 14-17; 78 Del. Laws, c. 44, §§ 11-13; 78 Del. Laws, c. 147, § 1; 79 Del. Laws, c. 277, § 3; 80 Del. Laws, c. 314, § 1; 83 Del. Laws, c. 420, § 2; 83 Del. Laws, c. 433, § 8;

§ 1123. Examinations.

- (a) (1) An applicant applying for licensure by examination shall successfully pass, with a score established by the Board, a validated practical examination prepared and administered by the Board.
- (2) The examination required under paragraph (a)(1) of this section must be validated as to content and scoring by a member of the faculty of an accredited school of dentistry who meets all of the following:
- a. Is not licensed to practice dentistry in this State.
- b. Is selected by the Division and the Board.
- (3) An applicant who has failed the practical examination 3 times may not take the examination again unless the applicant can provide evidence of mitigating circumstances to the satisfaction of the Board.
- (b) An applicant applying for licensure by examination shall submit evidence, verified by oath satisfactory to the Board, that the person meets the following:
- (1) If applying for licensure as a dentist, that the person meets all of the following:

- a. Has received a degree in dentistry from a dental college or university accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation of the American Dental Association.
- b. Has submitted proof satisfactory to the Board that the applicant has successfully completed the National Board of Dental Examiners' examinations in dentistry with a passing score established by the Board.
- c. Has successfully passed a written jurisprudence examination on Delaware laws pertaining to dentistry.
- (2) If applying for licensure as a dental hygienist, that the person meets all of the following:
- a. Has fulfilled the requirements under § 1122(b) of this title.
- b. Has submitted proof satisfactory to the Board that the applicant has successfully passed the National Board of Dental Examiners' examination in dental hygiene with a passing score established by the Board.
- c. Has successfully passed a written jurisprudence examination on Delaware laws pertaining to dental hygiene.
- (3) [Repealed.]
- (c) All examinations under this section must be approved by the Division and the Board.
- 73 Del. Laws, c. 332, § 1; 74 Del. Laws, c. 61, § 1; 77 Del. Laws, c. 463, § 18; 83 Del. Laws, c. 420, § 3;
- <u>Delaware Administrative Code, 1100 Board of Dentistry and Dental Hygiene</u>
 <u>4.0 Qualifications of Applicant; Education and Residency Requirements [24 Del.C. §1122(a)(3)]</u>
- 4.1 An applicant for licensure as a dentist shall have received one of the following: a doctoral degree from a US dental college accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation; or a doctoral degree from a dental college or university, plus a post-doctoral degree or certificate from a US CODA approved specialty program in Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery, Periodontics, Pediatric Dentistry, Endodontics, Orthodontics, or Prosthodontics.
- 4.2 An applicant for licensure as a dentist must have completed 1 year as a dental intern within a general practice residency accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation (CODA).
- 4.3 An applicant who has completed a CODA approved specialty residency of 4 years or more will be deemed to have satisfied the general practice residency requirement.
- 4.4 An applicant who has completed a CODA approved specialty residency of less than 4 years must demonstrate that the specialty residency program meets the following criteria:
- 4.4.1 The program must meet the goals, objectives, proficiencies and competencies set forth in Standard 2.4 of the CODA Accreditation Standards for Advanced Education Programs in General Practice Residency, ©2007.
- 4.4.2 The program must include a rotation of at least 70 hours in anesthesia and a rotation of at least 70 hours in medicine.
- 4.5 An applicant for licensure as a dentist by reciprocity who has had at least 3 years of active dental practice in another state or territory of the United States is not required to provide evidence of a general practice or specialty residency.
- 4.5.1 Active practice shall be defined as an average of at least 1000 hours of direct patient care per year. Satisfactory evidence of active practice may include, but is not limited to, W-2 forms, 1099 forms, tax returns, and/or written verification of hours from the dental practice administrator. The Board reserves the right to request supplemental verification and to reject incomplete documentation.

4.6 An applicant for licensure as a dental hygienist by reciprocity must demonstrate active practice during 3 of the 5 years immediately preceding the application in the state in which the applicant currently is or has been licensed.

4.6.1 Active practice shall be defined as an average of at least 350 hours of direct patient care per year. Satisfactory evidence of active practice may include, but is not limited to, W-2 forms, 1099 forms, tax returns, and/or written verification of hours from the dental practice administrator. The Board reserves the right to request supplemental verification and to reject incomplete documentation.

Delaware Administrative Code, 1100 Board of Dentistry and Dental Hygiene, 10.0 Practical (Clinical) Examination

10.1 No person shall be eligible to take the practical (clinical) examination in dentistry administered by the Delaware Board of Dentistry and Dental Hygiene unless the applicant has received a degree in dentistry from an accredited dental college or university accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation of the American Dental Association.

10.2 No person shall be eligible to take the practical (clinical) examination in dental hygiene administered by the Delaware Board of Dentistry and Dental Hygiene unless the applicant has graduated from a dental hygiene college or university program accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation of the American Dental Association of at least 2 academic years' duration or has graduated, prior to 1953, from a dental hygiene program of at least 1 year's duration which program had been approved by the Board at the time of the person's graduation.

10.3 The Board reserves the right to waive the requirement set forth above in sections 10.1 and 10.2 if the Applicant can establish to the satisfaction of the Board's Credentialing Committee that he or she is a student in good standing in an educational facility accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation of the American Dental Association and will graduate within sixty (60) days of the administration of the practical (clinical) examination with a degree in dentistry or dental hygiene.

10.4 Dentistry or dental hygiene candidates, other than dental hygiene candidates who qualify for licensure under 24 **Del.C.** §1124, must have passed the applicable practical clinical examination within five years of application for licensure in Delaware. The Board reserves the right to waive this requirement for just cause. 10.5 Prior to the examination, all candidates will be provided a copy of the Examination Guidelines, which can be found

at http://dpr.delaware.gov/boards/dental/exams/. The Board hereby adopts the guidelines in their entirety by reference.

10.6 Any dentistry or dental hygiene applicant who fails the practical clinical examination may appeal the Board's decision. Such appeal shall be filed in writing with the Director of the Division of Professional Regulation within 20 days of the date of notification by the Board. Appeals are based on the facts surrounding the examiners decisions during the examination. Appeals based on patient behavior, tardiness, or failure to appear will not be considered.

10.6.1 Appeal hearings shall be conducted in accordance with the Administrative Procedures Act, Chapter 101 of Title 29.

10.6.2 The Board's scoring of the examination is presumed correct, and the burden of proof at an appeal hearing is on the appellant to prove otherwise. The appeal is limited to a determination of whether there exists substantial evidence to support the judgment of the examiners at the time of the examination.

10.6.2.1 The appeal panel may only consider documents, radiographs, and materials submitted during the examination that remain in the possession of the Board. The panel will not consider documentation or evidence that was not part of the examination, including opinions of the candidate or any other party, academic

records, or letters of reference. The panel will not consider radiographs, photographs, or models of a patient taken after the completion of the examination.

Delaware Administrative Code 1100 Board of Dentistry and Dental Hygiene
4.0 Qualifications of Applicant; Education and Residency Requirements [24 Del.C. §1122(a)(3)]

- 4.1 An applicant for licensure as a dentist shall have received one of the following: a doctoral degree from a US dental college accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation; or a doctoral degree from a dental college or university, plus a post-doctoral degree or certificate from a US CODA approved specialty program in Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery, Periodontics, Pediatric Dentistry, Endodontics, Orthodontics, or Prosthodontics.
- 4.2 An applicant for licensure as a dentist must have completed 1 year as a dental intern within a general practice residency accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation (CODA).
- 4.3 An applicant who has completed a CODA approved specialty residency of 4 years or more will be deemed to have satisfied the general practice residency requirement.
- 4.4 An applicant who has completed a CODA approved specialty residency of less than 4 years must demonstrate that the specialty residency program meets the following criteria:
- 4.4.1 The program must meet the goals, objectives, proficiencies and competencies set forth in Standard 2.4 of the CODA Accreditation Standards for Advanced Education Programs in General Practice Residency, ©2007.
- 4.4.2 The program must include a rotation of at least 70 hours in anesthesia and a rotation of at least 70 hours in medicine.
- 4.5 An applicant for licensure as a dentist by reciprocity who has had at least 3 years of active dental practice in another state or territory of the United States is not required to provide evidence of a general practice or specialty residency.
- 4.5.1 Active practice shall be defined as an average of at least 1000 hours of direct patient care per year. Satisfactory evidence of active practice may include, but is not limited to, W-2 forms, 1099 forms, tax returns, and/or written verification of hours from the dental practice administrator. The Board reserves the right to request supplemental verification and to reject incomplete documentation.
- 4.6 An applicant for licensure as a dental hygienist by reciprocity must demonstrate active practice during 3 of the 5 years immediately preceding the application in the state in which the applicant currently is or has been licensed.
- 4.6.1 Active practice shall be defined as an average of at least 350 hours of direct patient care per year. Satisfactory evidence of active practice may include, but is not limited to, W-2 forms, 1099 forms, tax returns, and/or written verification of hours from the dental practice administrator. The Board reserves the right to request supplemental verification and to reject incomplete documentation.

License by Credential/ Endorsement Requirements

Delaware Code, Title 24, Chapter 11 CHAPTER 11. Dentistry and Dental Hygiene Subchapter II. Dentistry and Dental Hygiene § 1124 Dentists and dental hygienists licensed in other jurisdictions.

- (a) On payment of the appropriate fee and submission and acceptance of a written application on forms provided by the Board, the Board shall grant a license to practice dentistry or dental hygiene to each applicant who presents proof of current licensure in "good standing" in another state, the District of Columbia, or territory of the United States and who meets all of the following criteria:
- (1) Has maintained the applicant's license in "good standing" and has satisfied all requirements of § 1122(c)(2) through (c)(7) of this title.
- (2) For licensure as a dental hygienist, meet all of the following:

- a. Has practiced for a minimum of 3 of the last 5 years in the state in which the applicant currently is or has been licensed.
- b. Has passed the examinations required under § 1123(b)(2)b. and (b)(2)c. of this title.
- (3) For licensure as a dentist, meet all of the following:
- a. Has received a degree in dentistry from an accredited dental college or university accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation of the American Dental Association.
- b. Has submitted proof that the applicant has had 3 years of active dental practice in another state, the District of Columbia, or a territory of the United States.
- c. The requirements under $\S 1122(a)(1)$, (a)(2), (a)(4), and (a)(5) of this title.
- (4) [Repealed.]
- (5) Has submitted proof of a valid certification in cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) technique in accordance with regulations adopted by the Board.
- (b) [Repealed.]
- (c) An applicant for licensure under this section shall have remained academically current, through continuing education or otherwise, as determined by the Board. 73 Del. Laws, c. 332, § 1; 70 Del. Laws, c. 186, § 1; 75 Del. Laws, c. 436, §
- 10; 77 Del. Laws, c. 463, §§ 19-21; 83 Del. Laws, c. 420, § 4;
- <u>Delaware Administrative Code, 1100 Board of Dentistry and Dental Hygiene</u>
 <u>4.0 Qualifications of Applicant; Education and Residency Requirements [24 Del.C. §1122(a)(3)]</u>
- 4.5 An applicant for licensure as a dentist by reciprocity who has had at least 3 years of active dental practice in another state or territory of the United States is not required to provide evidence of a general practice or specialty residency.
- 4.5.1 Active practice shall be defined as an average of at least 1000 hours of direct patient care per year. Satisfactory evidence of active practice may include, but is not limited to, W-2 forms, 1099 forms, tax returns, and/or written verification of hours from the dental practice administrator. The Board reserves the right to request supplemental verification and to reject incomplete documentation.

Specialty Practice

- Delaware Administrative Code, 1100 Board of Dentistry and Dental Hygiene 4.0 Qualifications of Applicant; Education and Residency Requirements [24 Del.C. §1122(a)(3)]
- 4.1 An applicant for licensure as a dentist shall have received one of the following: a doctoral degree from a US dental college accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation; or a doctoral degree from a dental college or university, plus a post-doctoral degree or certificate from a US CODA approved specialty program in Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery, Periodontics, Pediatric Dentistry, Endodontics, Orthodontics, or Prosthodontics.
- 4.2 An applicant for licensure as a dentist must have completed 1 year as a dental intern within a general practice residency accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation (CODA).
- 4.3 An applicant who has completed a CODA approved specialty residency of 4 years or more will be deemed to have satisfied the general practice residency requirement.
- 4.4 An applicant who has completed a CODA approved specialty residency of less than 4 years must demonstrate that the specialty residency program meets the following criteria:
- 4.4.1 The program must meet the goals, objectives, proficiencies and competencies set forth in Standard 2.4 of the CODA Accreditation Standards for Advanced Education Programs in General Practice Residency, ©2007.
- 4.4.2 The program must include a rotation of at least 70 hours in anesthesia and a rotation of at least 70 hours in medicine.

Delaware Laws & Rules

Updated: 30 January 2025

Continuing Education

<u>Delaware Code, Title 24, Chapter 11 CHAPTER 11. Dentistry and Dental Hygiene Subchapter II. Dentistry and Dental Hygiene</u>

§ 1126 Issuance and renewal of licenses; replacement of licenses.

- (a) The Board shall issue a license to each applicant who meets the requirements of this chapter for licensure as a dentist or dental hygienist and who pays the fee established in § 1125 of this title.
- Click here for online renewal web site for dentists
- (b) Each license shall be renewed biennially, in such manner as is determined by the Division, upon payment of the appropriate fee and submission of a renewal form provided by the Division, and proof that the licensee has met the continuing education requirements established by the Board and proof that the licensee has not been convicted of a crime substantially related to the practice of dentistry or dental hygiene unless a waiver is granted pursuant to § 1122(c)(4) of this title.
- (c) The Board, in its rules and regulations, shall determine the period of time within which a licensed dentist or dental hygienist may still renew his or her license, notwithstanding the fact that such licensee has failed to renew on or before the renewal date, provided however that such period shall not exceed 1 year. Any licensee who fails to renew on or before the renewal date, and any allowable extensions, not to exceed 1 year, will be considered a new applicant.
- (d) Any person whose license or certificate has expired for failure to make biennial registration over a period of more than 5 years and who has not been in the active full-time practice or dentistry or dental hygiene in another state or territory of the United States during the previous 5 years is required, in addition to applying as a new applicant, to submit to reexamination or other formal assessment of competency as approved by the Board.
- (e) All individuals licensed under this chapter, upon written request, may be placed in an inactive status in accordance with the Board's rules and regulations. Such individual may reenter practice upon written notification to the Board of the intent to do so and completion of continuing education as required in the Board's rules and regulations. The Board may establish by regulation provisions for resuming active status.
- (f), (g) [Repealed.]
- 73 Del. Laws, c. 332, § 1; 77 Del. Laws, c. 199, § 8; 77 Del. Laws, c. 463, §§ 22-26; 80 Del. Laws, c. 314, § 2; 82 Del. Laws, c. 8, § 3;
- <u>Delaware Administrative Code, 1100 Board of Dentistry and Dental Hygiene</u> 6.0 Continuing Professional Education (CPE) and Renewal
- 6.1 Renewal. Each license shall be renewed biennially. The failure of the Board to notify a licensee of his/her license expiration date and subsequent renewal does not, in any way, relieve the licensee of the requirement to renew his/her license pursuant to the Board's regulations and 24 **Del.C.** Ch. 11.
- 6.1.1 License renewal is accomplished online at the Division of Professional Regulation's website. Licensees must submit an online application along with payment of the renewal fee prescribed by the Division of Professional Regulation and an attestation of completion of the continuing education requirements.
- 6.1.1.1 Attestation must be completed electronically at the time of renewal. Licensees selected for random audit will be required to supplement the attestation with attendance verification pursuant to Section 6.8.
- 6.2 Any licensee who fails to renew his/her license by the renewal date may reactivate his/her license during the one year period immediately following the license expiration date provided the licensee pays a late fee in addition to the prescribed renewal fee, and provides proof that he/she completed the required continuing education.
- 6.3 Continuing Education. All persons licensed to practice dentistry in the State of Delaware shall be required to acquire fifty (50) hours of continuing professional

education (CPE) credit every two (2) years. Two (2) of the 50 credit hours shall be obtained in courses covering infection control. In addition to the CPE, licensees must provide evidence that they have successfully completed a current course in cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) every two (2) years. The CPR course must encompass hands on clinical participation. On-line courses will not be accepted to satisfy the CPR requirement. Examples of acceptable courses include, but are not limited to, courses offered by the American Red Cross and the American Heart Association and courses offered or approved by any of the organizations listed in 6.4.1 through 6.4.4 of these regulations. All dentists, upon initial licensure in Delaware and prior to registration renewal, shall be given a written notice of these CPE requirements.

- 6.4 CPE credits may be granted upon proof of successful completion of scientific CPE programs or courses, including live webinars, sponsored or approved by:
- 6.4.1 American Dental Association (ADA), its constituents and components including CERP (Continuing Education Recognition Program)
- 6.4.2 American Dental Hygienists' Association (ADHA), its constituents and components
- 6.4.3 American Dental Assisting Association (ADAA), its constituents and components
- 6.4.4 Academy of General Dentistry (AGD) its constituents and components including PACE (Program Approval for Continuing Education)
- 6.4.5 Recognized national, regional, state and local dental and dental hygiene specialty organizations
- 6.4.6 Recognized dental and dental hygiene study clubs
- 6.4.7 Accredited dental and dental hygiene CPE programs offered by dental and dental hygiene schools.
- 6.4.8 Approved hospital programs.
- 6.4.9 Such other organizations and associations as may be approved by the Board. 6.5 A maximum of 30 hours of the total CPE requirement may be satisfied by self-study.
- 6.5.1 Not more than ten hours of the fifty hour biennial CPE requirement may be satisfied by self-study without testing from sources approved by the Board which shall include but not be limited to:
- 6.5.1.1 Reading dental textbooks
- 6.5.1.2 Reading dental tape journals
- 6.5.1.3 Viewing and listening to dental audio-visual materials.
- 6.5.2 In addition to the maximum of ten (10) hours of the CPE requirement which may be satisfied by self-study without testing and certification, a maximum of twenty (20) hours of the total CPE requirements may be fulfilled by self-study with test and certificate of completion from bona fide dental educational sources including but not limited to:
- 6.5.2.1 Dental journals
- 6.5.2.2 Dental textbooks
- 6.5.2.3 Dental video and audio tape presentations
- 6.5.2.4 Dental mail-in courses
- 6.5.2.5 Dental courses presented on the Internet, which are not live
- 6.6 Special Provisions
- 6.6.1 A dentist, employed as a faculty member in a recognized school of dentistry, dental hygiene, dental assisting or any dentally-related field will be allowed not more than ten (10) hours credit for teaching per year.
- 6.6.2 A dentist presenting a CPE course shall be allowed the hours involved in preparation and presentation on a one-time-per-course basis for a maximum of ten (10) hours for the two-year period.

- 6.6.3 Table Clinics will be allowed, one (1) hour of credit per hour of presentation for a maximum of two (2) hours.
- 6.6.4 Twelve (12) hours of credit shall be allowed for a scientific article published in a component or state society journal. 25 hours of credit shall be allowed for a scientific article published in a national journal or for a published scientific textbook or a chapter therein.
- 6.6.5 Any public health dentally-related presentation will be allowed one (1) hour of credit per hour of participation for a maximum of two (2) hours for the two year period.
- 6.6.6 Practice management or personal self-improvement courses shall be limited to a total of ten (10) hours for the two (2) year period.
- 6.6.7 A dentist providing volunteer pro bono dental services acceptable to the Board will be allowed one hour of credit for each hour of patient service up to a maximum of 10 hours.
- 6.6.7.1 Volunteer pro bono care is care provided in conjunction with a non-profit entity or event without receiving compensation.
- 6.6.8 The Board reserves the right to approve any and all activities deemed appropriate for CPE credit. The Board also reserves the right and is the final word to disapprove any activities submitted for credit which it deems inappropriate. 6.6.9 All dentists licensed to practice in Delaware shall be given written notice of
- 6.6.9 All dentists licensed to practice in Delaware shall be given written notice o these CPE requirements when receiving their initial license.
- 6.6.10 For existing holders of an Unrestricted Permit for anesthesia, at least twelve (12) hours of the required CPE credits must be taken on an Anesthesia topic by the end of the six (6) year re-evaluation period (i.e. by the end of the third biennial licensure renewal period).
- 6.6.11 For existing holders of a Restricted I Permit, at least six (6) hours of the required CPE credits must be taken on an Anesthesia topic by the end of the six (6) year re-evaluation period (i.e. by the end of the third biennial license renewal period).

6.7 Exceptions

- 6.7.1 An exception will be granted to any dentist who can demonstrate to the Board an acceptable cause as to why he/she should be relieved of this obligation. Exemptions will be granted only in unusual or extraordinary circumstances. Licensees must petition the Board for exemptions. Should the Board deny the request, the licensee must complete the requirements. Examples of circumstances for which the Board might grant exemptions include prolonged illness, extended absence from the country, or the like.
- 6.7.2 An individual initially licensed by the Board within the last 2 years shall meet the following schedule of reporting CPE credits for license renewal:
- 6.7.2.1 If, as of May 31st of the year for license renewal, the licensee has been licensed for less than 1 year, zero hours of CPE is required for license renewal; for licensees who are 1 or more but less than 2 years from their initial licensure, one-half of the required CPE must be presented; for individuals 2 years or more from their initial licensure, the full CPE requirement must be presented for renewal.
- 6.8 Audit of Continuing Education Contact Hours
- 6.8.1 Audit. Each biennium, the Division of Professional Regulation shall randomly select from the list of renewed licensees a percentage of licensees, determined by the Board, to be audited. The Board may also audit based on complaints or charges against an individual license, relative to compliance with continuing education requirements or based on a finding of past non-compliance during prior audits.
 6.8.2 Documentation. When a licensee is selected for audit, the licensee shall be required to submit documentation showing detailed accounting of the various CPEs claimed by the licensee. Licensees selected for random audit are required to

supplement the attestation with supporting materials which may include a syllabus, agenda, itinerary or brochure published by the sponsor of the activity and a document showing proof of attendance (i.e., certificate, a signed letter from the sponsor attesting to attendance, report of passing test score). The Board shall attempt to verify the CPEs shown on the documentation provided by the licensee. Upon completion of the review, the Board will decide whether the licensee's CPEs meet the requirements of these regulations.

- 6.8.2.1 Any continuing education not meeting all provisions of these regulations shall be rejected in part or in whole by the Board
- 6.8.2.2 Any incomplete or inaccurate documentation of continuing education may be rejected in part or in whole by the Board.
- 6.8.2.3 Any continuing education that is rejected must be replaced by acceptable continuing education within a reasonable period of time established by the Board. This continuing education will not be counted towards the next renewal period.
- 6.8.3 Board Review and Hearing Process. The Board shall review all documentation requested of any licensee shown on the audit list. If the Board determines the licensee has met the requirements, the licensee's license shall remain in effect. If the Board initially determines the licensee has not met the requirements, the licensee shall be notified and a hearing may be held pursuant to the Administrative Procedures Act. This hearing will be conducted to determine if there are any extenuating circumstances justifying the apparent noncompliance with these regulations. Unjustified noncompliance with these regulations shall be considered unprofessional conduct and grounds for discipline pursuant to 24 **Del.C.** §1128(6).
- 6.8.4 Sanctions for Unjustified Noncompliance. If the Board finds unjustified non-compliance, the Board will impose discipline in accordance
- with 29 **Del.C.** §1129 which may include, but is not limited to monetary penalties up to \$1,000, suspension and/or revocation of a practitioner's license.
- 6.9 Continuing Professional Education (CPE) Dental Hygienists [24 **Del.C.** §1106(a)(1) and (7)]

All persons licensed to practice dental hygiene in the State of Delaware shall be required to acquire twenty-four (24) hours of CPE credit every two (2) years. Two (2) of the 24 credit hours shall be obtained in courses covering infection control. In addition to the CPE, licensees must provide evidence that they have and successfully completed a current course in cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) every two (2) years. The CPR course must encompass hands on clinical participation. On-line courses will not be accepted to satisfy the CPR requirement. Examples of acceptable courses include, but are not limited to, courses offered by the American Red Cross and the American Heart Association. All Dental hygienists, upon initial licensure and prior to registration renewal, shall be given written notice of these CPE requirements.

- 6.9.1 Proof of continuing education is satisfied with an attestation by the licensee that he or she has satisfied the Requirements of subsection 6.9.
- 6.9.2 Attestation must be completed electronically at the time of renewal.
- 6.9.3 Licensees selected for random audit will be required to supplement the attestation with attendance verification pursuant to subsection 6.12.
- 6.9.4 CPE credits may be granted upon proof of successful completion of programs including, but not limited to, the following categories:
- 6.9.4.1 Scientific CPE programs or courses, including live webinars, sponsored or approved by:
- 6.9.4.1.1 American Dental Hygienists Association, its constituents and components
- 6.9.4.1.2 American Dental Association, its constituents and components
- 6.9.4.1.3 American Dental Assisting Association, its constituents, and components

- 6.9.4.1.4 American Academy of Dental Hygiene
- 6.9.4.1.5 Recognized national, regional, state, and local dental and dental hygiene specialty societies
- 6.9.4.1.6 Recognized dental and dental hygiene study clubs
- 6.9.4.1.7 Accredited dental and dental hygiene schools
- 6.9.4.1.8 Approved hospital programs
- 6.9.4.1.9 Such other organizations and associations as may be approved by the Board
- 6.9.4.2 A maximum of five (5) hours of the total twenty-four (24) hour requirement may be satisfied by self-study without testing from sources approved by the Board which shall include but not be limited to:
- 6.9.4.2.1 Reading of dental or dental hygiene journals
- 6.9.4.2.2 Reading dental or dental hygiene textbooks
- 6.9.4.2.3 Viewing and listening to dental or dental hygiene audio-visual materials
- 6.9.4.3 In addition to the maximum of five (5) hours which may be satisfied by self-study without testing, a maximum of ten (10) hours of the total twenty-four (24) hour requirement may be fulfilled by self-study with test and certificate of completion from bona fide dental hygiene educational sources including but not limited to:
- 6.9.4.3.1 Dental or dental hygiene journals
- 6.9.4.3.2 Dental or dental hygiene textbooks
- 6.9.4.3.3 Dental or dental hygiene video and audio tape presentations
- 6.9.4.3.4 Dental or dental hygiene mail-in courses
- 6.9.4.3.5 Dental or dental hygiene courses presented on the Internet, which are not live

Where CPE credits are not specified, one (1) hour of CPE credit will be given for each hour of scientific session attended.

The final approval of acceptable dental hygiene CPE credits shall be made by the Board of Dental Examiners in consultation with the Dental Hygiene Advisory Committee.