

COMPLYING WITH 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. Licensees have this two-year period prior to renewal to earn the following minimum number of credit hours:

- 30 hours for dentists
- 15 hours (as part of the 30-hour requirement) in anesthesia for unrestricted or restricted I permit holders
- 20 hours for dental hygienists including 5 hours for public health dental hygienists in public health related courses and 3 hours in local anesthesia related courses for 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).

Note: Other government agencies, (e.g., 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 an in-person lecture or a live webinar.*

OTHER STATUTES OR REGULATIONS:

SUBJECT	REQUIREMENT	PURPOSE/OPTIONS
Radiology	<p>Requirement separate from license renewal but CE hours count toward license renewal.</p> <p>Offices that conduct "high-risk" procedures are required to complete CE every two years. All other offices are considered "low-risk" and are required to complete CE every four years. CE must address radiation safety, biological effects, quality assurance and quality control. CE verification of attendance forms must be retained for five years and available for inspection by the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP).</p>	<p>Fulfills DEP regulations for qualified dental personnel. Radiology requirements apply to any individual who operates an X-ray machine.</p> <p>Check the Self-Study listing at www.padental.org/availableCE for PDA's online CE course, "Radiation Protection Update," awarding two CE credits.</p>
DEA Medication Access and Training Expansion (MATE) Act	<p>Requirement separate from license renewal but CE hours count toward license renewal.</p> <p>As of June 27, 2023, all dentists applying for or renewing a DEA registration must have a one-time minimum of eight hours training on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the treatment and management of patients with opioid or other substance use disorders, or • safe pharmacological management of dental pain. <p>Dentists are required to affirm on their initial or renewal DEA application whether they have completed the one-time training.</p>	<p>Fulfills federal MATE Act of 2022 for dentists applying for or renewing a DEA registration after June 27, 2023. The date of the one-time training depends on your renewal deadline or the date you initially apply for a DEA registration.</p> <p>Check the Self-Study listing at www.padental.org/availableCE for PDA's online CE courses to fulfill the eight hours of training.</p>
Clearances	<p>Requirement separate from license renewal and in addition to the Act 31 mandatory CE requirement.</p> <p>Dentists and dental office staff who have contact with children must obtain the following three clearances every five years:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PA Criminal History clearance from PA State Police (PSP) • Child Abuse History clearance from PA Department of Human Services (PADHS) • FBI Criminal History clearance <p>Employers are required to maintain copies of the clearances and must require prospective employees to produce the documents prior to employment.</p>	<p>Part of the Child Protective Services Law. Go to www.keepkidssafe.gov and click on Clearances for instructions and links to apply for the clearances.</p>

PA STATE BOARD OF DENTISTRY REQUIREMENTS:

SUBJECT	REQUIREMENT	PURPOSE/OPTIONS
Anesthesia	<p>Dentists with an unrestricted or restricted I permit 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 a permit.</p> <p>Dentists who are non-permit holders, but use the services of an anesthesia provider with an unrestricted or restricted I permit must have 5 hours of anesthesia CE as part of their 30 hours.</p>	
CPR	<p>CPR is a requirement for license renewal. CE credits earned for CPR renewal do not count toward hours needed for license renewal.</p> <p>Licensees and certificate holders (dentists, hygienists and EFDAs) MUST obtain current certification in infant, child, and adult cardiopulmonary resuscitation.</p>	<p>PDA suggests the American Heart Association's "Healthcare Provider" course or a course offering a certification card that states "Infant, Child and Adult CPR." Skills portion of the certification must be completed in-person.</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> <p>CE credits earned for ACLS/PALS/BLS renewal do not count toward hours needed for license renewal. Skills portion of the certification must be completed in-person.</p>	
Child Abuse	<p>New applicants for licensure must obtain three hours of training. Current licensees must obtain two hours of child abuse recognition and reporting CE biennially. Course must be taken with a PA State Board of Dentistry approved provider.</p>	<p>Fulfills Department of Human Services' Act 31 mandatory CE requirement for dentists, hygienists and EFDAs.</p> <p>Check the Self-Study listing at www.padental.org/availableCE for PDA's online CE course to fulfill the Act 31 CE requirement. PDA is an approved provider.</p>
Opioids	<p>Current licensees who have or use a DEA registration must obtain two hours of training in pain management, identification of addiction or the practices of prescribing opioids. New licensees have 12 months from the date of initial licensure to obtain two hours of training in pain management or identification of addiction AND two hours in the practices of prescribing opioids.</p>	<p>Fulfills Act 124 mandatory CE requirement for dentists who have a DEA registration or use a DEA registration (as allowed by law).</p> <p>Check the Self-Study listing at www.padental.org/availableCE for PDA's online CE course to fulfill the Act 124 CE requirement for license renewal.</p>
Infection Control	<p>All licensees and certificate holders (dentists, hygienists and EFDAs) must adhere to current federal Center for Disease Control guidelines.</p> <p>CDC guidelines address basic hygiene, educating staff, bloodborne pathogens, sterilization, and environmental and infection control.</p>	<p>Access the CDC guidelines at: www.cdc.gov/oralhealth/infectioncontrol/index.htm.</p>