| Initial Licensure Exam Requirements | CDCA, or CITa or CRDTS or SRTA or WREB or Delaware Practical Board exam performed on manikins or patients or all OSCE exams all parts of a clinical examination are required to be successfully completed and no part is optional. Periodontal testing for dentists is required. For WREB, Dentists are not required to complete the optional/elective prosthodontic portion of the examination. -or- **PGY-1, or Portfolio Exam** - PGY-1 or portfolio model for consideration are required to be first licensed in the state/jurisdiction where the PGY-1 or portfolio was completed, or in another jurisdiction where a state board has reviewed and accepted it towards licensure before applying for licensure in Colorado. (source: Colorado Dental Board Policies, amended 8/20/20) |
| General Licensure Requirements | **Colorado Revised Statutes 12-220-403. Examination - how conducted - dentist license issued to successful applicants.**
(1) An applicant for dental licensure must submit to the board proof that the applicant successfully passed the following:
(a) The examination administered by the Joint Commission on National Dental Examinations; and (b) An examination or other methodology, as determined by the board, designed to test the applicant's clinical skills and knowledge, which may include residency and portfolio models.
(2) All examination results required by the board must be filed with the board and kept for reference for a period of not less than one year. If the applicant successfully completes the examinations and is otherwise qualified, the board shall grant a license to the applicant and shall issue a license certificate to the applicant.

**3 CCR 709-1 - Rule III. Licensure of Dentists and Dental Hygienists**

**B. Original Licensure for Dentists**

1. Each applicant shall submit a completed Board approved application along with the required fee in order to be considered for licensure approval and must also verify that he/she:
   a. Graduated with a DDS or DMD degree from an accredited dental school or college, which at the time of the applicant's graduation was accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation as evidenced by an official transcript of credits with the date of graduation and degree obtained.
   b. Successfully passed the examination administered by the Joint Commission on National Dental Examinations.
   c. Successfully passed an examination or other methodology, as determined by the Board, designed to test the applicant's clinical skills and knowledge, which may include residency and/or portfolio models.

2. Each applicant must verify that he/she:
   a. Obtained or will obtain prior to practicing as a licensed dentist in this state commercial professional liability insurance coverage with an insurance company authorized to do business in Colorado pursuant to Article 5 of Title 10, C.R.S., in a minimum indemnity amount of $500,000 per incident and $1,500,000 annual aggregate per year, or if covered under a financial responsibility exemption listed in Rule II.
   b. Accurately and completely listed any acts that would be grounds for disciplinary action under the Dental Practice Act and provided a written explanation of the circumstances of such act(s) and what steps have been taken to remediate the act(s), omission(s), or discipline, including supporting documentation.
c. Accurately and completely provided any and all information pertaining to any final or pending disciplinary action by any state or jurisdiction in which the applicant is or has been previously licensed and provided a written explanation of the circumstances of such action(s) and what steps have been taken to remediate the action(s), omission(s), or discipline that led to the final disciplinary action(s), including supporting documentation.

d. Accurately and completely provided any and all information pertaining to any pending or final malpractice actions against the applicant, verified by the applicant’s malpractice insurance carrier(s) and provided a written explanation of the circumstances of such action(s) and what steps have been taken to remediate the action(s) that led to the settlement(s), including supporting documentation. The applicant must request a verification of coverage history for the past 10 years from his/her current and all previous malpractice insurance carriers. Any settlement or final judgment during the applicant’s practice history must be reported.

3. Demonstrates current clinical competency and professional ability through at least 1 of the following:

a. Graduated within the 12 months immediately preceding the date the application is received with a DDS or DMD degree from an accredited dental school or college, which at the time of the applicant’s graduation was accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation.

b. Engaged in the active clinical practice of dentistry for at least 1 year of the 5 years immediately preceding the date the application is received. Experience from postgraduate training, residency programs, internships, or research during this time will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis.

c. Engaged in teaching dentistry in an accredited program for at least 1 year of the 5 years immediately preceding the date the application is received.

d. Engaged in service as a dentist in the military for at least 1 year of the 5 years immediately preceding the date the application is received.

e. Passed a Board approved clinical examination within 1 year of the date the application is received.

f. Successfully completed a Board approved evaluation by a Commission on Dental Accreditation accredited institution or another Board approved entity within 1 year of the date the application is received, which demonstrates the applicant’s proficiency as equivalent to the current school graduate. Before undertaking such evaluation, an applicant must submit a proposed evaluation for pre-approval by the Board. The Board may reject an evaluation whose proposal it has not pre-approved or for other good cause.

g. If a dentist with a revoked license, a license suspended for 2 or more years, or any other disciplined license preventing him/her from actively practicing for 2 or more years in Colorado, another state/jurisdiction, or country is applying for a license, then the Board may require him/her to comply with more than 1 of the above competency requirements.

h. In addition to the requirements above, the Board may, in its discretion, apply 1 or more of the following towards demonstration of current clinical competency, except as to applicants described in section B(3)(g) of this rule.

i. Practice under a probationary or otherwise restricted license for a specified period of time;

ii. Successful completion of courses approved by the Board; or

iii. Any other professional standard or measure of continued competency as determined by the Board.

The ADA attempts to keep this information current based on information from state dental boards, clinical testing agencies and state dental associations. Individuals seeking dental licensure should consult with the state board of dentistry and their professional advisors for the complete and most recent dental licensure information, application requirements, forms and fees.
### License by Credential/Endorsement

**12-220-404. Dentist - licensure by endorsement.**

The board shall issue a license by endorsement to an applicant who satisfies the requirements of the occupational credential portability program.  

**3 CCR 709-1 - Rule III. Licensure of Dentists and Dental Hygienists.**

**C. Endorsement for Dentists**

1. In order to be qualified for licensure by endorsement, an applicant is required to demonstrate that he/she does not currently possess a suspended, restricted, or conditional license to practice dentistry, or is currently pending disciplinary action against such license in another state or territory of the United States or Canada.

2. Each qualified applicant shall submit a completed Board approved application along with the required fee in order to be considered for licensure approval and must also verify through the state in which he/she is seeking endorsement from that he/she meets the requirements listed under section B(1) of this rule.

3. An applicant for endorsement must verify as part of his/her application fulfillment of the requirements listed under section B(2) of this rule.

4. An applicant for endorsement must demonstrate current clinical competency and professional ability through at least 1 of the following:
   a. Engaged in the active practice of clinical dentistry in the U.S. or one of its territories or Canada for a minimum of 300 hours per year, for a minimum of 5 years out of the 7 years immediately preceding the date the application was received. Calculations will be based on the first full month prior to receipt of the application. Experience from postgraduate training, residency programs, internships, or research will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis.
   b. Engaged in teaching dentistry, which involves personally providing care to patients for not less than 300 hours annually in an accredited dental school for a minimum of 5 years out of the 7 years immediately preceding the date the application was received. Calculations will be based on the first full month prior to receipt of the application.
   c. For the dentists practicing in the military, a report from a senior officer with a recommendation and verification of clinical experience comparable to the requirement in section C(4)(a) of this rule.
   d. Passed a Board approved clinical examination within 1 year of the date the application is received.
   e. Successfully completed a Board approved evaluation by a Commission on Dental Accreditation accredited institution or another Board approved entity within 1 year of the date the application is received, which demonstrates the applicant’s proficiency as equivalent to the current school graduate. Before undertaking such evaluation, an applicant must submit a proposed evaluation for pre-approval by the Board. The Board may reject an evaluation whose proposal it has not pre-approved or for other good cause.
   f. The Board may also apply 1 or more of the following towards demonstration of current clinical competency:
      i. Practice under a probationary or otherwise restricted license for a specified period of time;
      ii. Successful completion of courses approved by the Board; or
      iii. Any other professional standard or measure of continued competency as determined by the Board.

### Continuing Education

**3 CCR 709-1 - Rule III. Licensure of Dentists and Dental Hygienists.**

**G. Continuing Education Requirements for Dentists, Dentists Issued an Academic License, and Dental Hygienists**

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The ADA attempts to keep this information current based on information from state dental boards, clinical testing agencies and state dental associations. Individuals seeking dental licensure should consult with the state board of dentistry and their professional advisors for the complete and most recent dental licensure information, application requirements, forms and fees.
1. Effective March 1, 2016, every licensee with an active license in Colorado is required to complete 30 hours of Board approved continuing education during the 2 years preceding the next renewal period to ensure patient safety and professional competency, pursuant to section 12-35-139, C.R.S. Continuing education hours may only be applied to the renewal period in which they were completed.

2. This requirement does not apply to a licensee placing his/her license into inactive or retired status, or renewing such status. It only applies if renewing a license in active status, or reinstating or reactivating a license pursuant to section G(3) of this rule.

3. Effective March 1, 2018, a licensee with an expired license of less than 2 years or who has inactivated his/her license for less than 2 years is required to submit proof of having completed the required 30 hours of continuing education credit for the previous renewal period prior to reinstating/reactivating his/her license and may not apply those hours to the next renewal period.

4. If a license is issued within 1 year of a renewal date, no continuing education will be required for that first renewal period. If a license is issued outside of 1 year of a renewal date, then 15 hours of Board approved continuing education will be required for that first renewal period.

5. For dentists, including those issued an academic license, the Board automatically accepts any course or program recognized by any of the following organizations (or a successor organization):
   a. American Dental Association (ADA) Continuing Education Recognition Program (CERP);
   b. Academy of General Dentistry (AGD) Program Approval for Continuing Education (PACE);
   c. American Medical Association (AMA) Physician Recognition Award (PRA) and credit system as Category 1 Credit; or
   d. Commission on Dental Accreditation (CODA) accredited institutions.

6. For dental hygienists, the Board automatically accepts any course recognized in section G(5) of this rule and sponsored or recognized by (or a successor organization):
   a. The American Dental Hygienists’ Association (ADHA) and its constituents and component societies; or
   b. Local, state, regional, national, or international dental, dental hygiene, dental assisting, medical related professional organization, or study group that has a sound scientific basis, proven efficacy, and ensures public safety.

7. Current Basic Life Support (BLS) for healthcare providers is required of all licensees and all licensees will receive a maximum of 2 hours continuing education credit (not to be applied towards renewal of an anesthesia permit) for successful completion. The Board automatically accepts any BLS course or program recognized by any of the following organizations (or a successor organization) or trainers certified/recognized by the:
   a. American Heart Association;
   b. American Safety and Health Institute; or
   c. American Red Cross.

8. At least 16 of the required 30 hours must be clinical or science based, or 8 of the required 15 if section G(4) of this rule applies.

9. At least 50% of the required hours must be live and interactive.

10. A presenter of courses may submit course hours he/she presented, up to 6 total credits, towards his/her continuing education requirement. The presenter...
may receive credit 1 time for each course presented in a renewal period, up to
6 total credits for that renewal period.
11. A dentist renewing an anesthesia or sedation permit may apply continuing
education credits specific to renewing his/her permit for anesthesia or sedation
administration (17 hours every 5 years) to the 30 hours required to renew a
license every 2 years. Anesthesia related hours may only be applied to the
renewal period in which they were completed.
12. At the conclusion of each renewal period, licensees may be subject to a
Board audit to verify compliance with continuing education requirements.
Licensees shall assist the Board in its audit by providing timely and complete
responses to the Board’s inquiries.
13. A licensee must maintain copies of all completed Board approved
coursework, including any certificates of completion, for at least 2 renewal
periods after the continuing education was completed. The records shall
document the licensee’s course attendance and participation, and shall include
at a minimum course sponsor, title, date(s), hours, and the course verification
of completion certificate or form. Failure to meet this requirement may
result in credit not being accepted for a course or courses, which may result in
violation of the continuing education requirements of section 12-35-139,
C.R.S., and this Rule III.
14. Failure to comply with the requirements of this rule is grounds for
discipline, pursuant to section 12-35-129(1)(i), C.R.S.
15. The Board may excuse a licensee from all or any part of the requirements
of this rule or grant an extension because of an unusual circumstance,
emergency, special hardship, or military service. The licensee may apply for a
waiver or an extension by submitting a written request, including supporting
documentation for Board consideration at least 45 days before the renewal
date.
16. Continuing education required as a condition of a disciplinary action cannot
be applied towards the renewal requirements of a license or
anesthesia/sedation permit.