| Initial Licensure Examination Requirements | CDCA, CITA, CRDTS, SRTA, WREB or OSCE, or PGY-1, or Portfolio Exam  
(Source: Colorado Dental Board Application – Dentist Original License by Exam) |
|------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| General Licensure Requirements           | 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 conti-
      nued competency as
determined by the Board.

License by
Credential/
Endorsement
Requirements

C.R.S. 12-35-120. Licensure by endorsement.
(1) The board shall provide for licensure upon application of any person licensed
in good standing to practice dentistry in another state or territory of the United
States who provides the credentials and meets the qualifications set forth in this
section in the manner prescribed by the board.
(2) The board shall issue a license to an applicant licensed as a dentist in another
state or territory of the United States if the applicant has submitted credentials
and qualifications for licensure that include:
(a) Proof of graduation from an accredited dental school;
(b) Proof the applicant is currently licensed in another state or United States
territory;
(c) Proof the applicant has been in practice or teaching dentistry, which involves
personally providing care to patients for not less than three hundred hours
annually in an accredited dental school for a minimum of five years out of the
seven years immediately preceding the date of the receipt of the application, or
evidence that the applicant has demonstrated competency as a dentist as
determined by the board;
(d) Proof the applicant has not been subject to final or pending disciplinary action
by any state in which the applicant is or has been previously licensed; except that,
if the applicant has been subject to disciplinary action, the board may review such
disciplinary action to determine whether the underlying conduct warrants refusal
to issue a license;
(e) Repealed (HB 14-1227), ch. 363, p. 1728, § 26, effective July 1.
(f) Proof the applicant has passed an entry level examination acceptable to the
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.

### Specialty Licensure

**3 CCR 709-1 - Rule XVII. Advertising C. Specialty Practice and Advertising.**

1. A licensed dentist has the legal authority to practice in any and all areas of dentistry as defined in section 12-35-103(5), C.R.S., and pursuant to section 12-35-113, C.R.S., and also the authority to confine the areas in which he or she chooses to practice, so long as he/she is practicing within the scope of his/her board; and  

(g) Proof the applicant has met any more stringent criteria established by the board  

**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.
education, training, and experience and in accordance with applicable law and rules of the Colorado Dental Board.

2. Pursuant to section 12-35-129(1)(ii), C.R.S., the Board may discipline a dentist for advertising or otherwise holding himself/herself out to the public as practicing a dental specialty in which he or she has not successfully completed the education specified for the dental specialty as defined by the American Dental Association (ADA). Pursuant to section 12-35-107(2), C.R.S., the Board may recognize those dental specialties defined by the American Dental Association (ADA).

a. Dental specialties currently defined by the ADA and recognized by the Board include the following:
   i. Dental public health;
   ii. Endodontics;
   iii. Oral and maxillofacial pathology;
   iv. Oral and maxillofacial radiology;
   v. Oral and maxillofacial surgery;
   vi. Orthodontics and dentofacial orthopedics;
   vii. Pediatric dentistry;
   viii. Periodontics; and
   ix. Prosthodontics.

b. Dentists advertising a specialty that is defined by the ADA must clearly state in all such advertising and/or public promotions that their specialty has been defined by the American Dental Association, provide the full name of the accredited school where their residency was completed, and upon request, promptly provide additional information to the public.

3. The Board may also recognize dental specialties not defined by the ADA. Dentists advertising a specialty that is not defined by the ADA must clearly state in all such advertising and/or public promotions that their specialty has not been defined by the American Dental Association. Advertising dentists must also provide the full name of the entity that has defined their specialty and upon request, promptly provide additional information to the public.

4. ADA defined dental specialists are those dentists who have successfully completed a Commission on Dental Accreditation (CODA) specialty program. The Board recognizes that dentists advertising a non-ADA defined specialty may or may not have successfully completed a CODA specialty program. Therefore:

a. Dentists who have successfully completed a CODA accredited specialty program, whether defined or not defined by the ADA, may advertise the practice of that specialty subject to the provisions of paragraphs (2) or (3) of this rule, including providing the full name of the accredited school where their residency was completed.

b. In addition to the requirements of paragraphs (2) and (3) of this rule, dentists who have not completed a CODA accredited specialty program and are advertising a non-ADA defined specialty, must clearly state in all advertising and/or public promotions that their specialty program is not accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation. Such dentists must also identify their specific training completed (credential awarded) in order to receive their specialty designation and upon request, promptly provide additional information to the public.

5. A dentist who practices general dentistry and advertises performance of a specialty procedure but has not successfully completed a CODA specialty program in that area of practice, must clearly state in all advertising and/or public promotions, that he or she is a general dentist by disclosing “General Dentistry” in
print larger and/or bolder and noticeably more prominent than any other area of practice or service advertised.

6. A dentist who advertises in any medium under a specialty heading or section and is not in compliance with this rule may be in violation of section 12-35-129 (1), C.R.S., for engaging in misleading, deceptive, or false advertising.

7. Those group practices which include general dentists and specialists must list the phrase "General Dentistry and Specialty Practice" larger and/or bolder and noticeably more prominent than any service offered in an advertisement. Names and qualifications shall be made available to the public upon request.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Continuing Education</th>
<th>C.R.S. 12-35-139. Continuing education requirements - rules</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(1) As a condition of renewing, reactivating, or reinstating a license issued under this article, every dentist and dental hygienist shall obtain at least thirty hours of continuing education every two years to ensure patient safety and professional competency.</td>
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<td>(2) The board may adopt rules establishing the basic requirements for continuing education, including the types of programs that quality, exemptions for persons holding an inactive or retired license, requirements for courses designed to enhance clinical skills for certain licenses, and the manner by which dentists and dental hygienists are to report compliance with the continuing education requirements.</td>
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<tr>
<td>3 CCR 709-1 - Rule III. Licensure of Dentists and Dental Hygienists</td>
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<tr>
<td>G. Continuing Education Requirements for Dentists, Dentists Issued an Academic License, and Dental Hygienists</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>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.</td>
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<td>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.</td>
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<td>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.</td>
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<td>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.</td>
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<td>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.</td>
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</table>
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 an anesthesia/sedation permit.