### Initial Licensure Examination Requirements

- CDCA or CITA, or
- CRDTS + diagnostics component of clinical test of CDCA or CITA, or
- SRTA + diagnostics component of clinical test of CDCA or CITA, or
- WREB + diagnostics component of clinical test of CDCA or CITA or PGY-1

(Source: [Connecticut Dentist Licensure Requirements Web Site](https://www.cdcga.org/)

### General Licensure Requirements

Connecticut General Statutes, Chapter 379 Dentistry

Sec. 20-107. Application for license. Graduates of foreign dental schools

(a) Each application for a license to practice dentistry shall be in writing and signed by the applicant and no license shall be issued to any person unless he or she presents a diploma or other certificate of graduation from some reputable dental college or from a department of dentistry of a medical college conferring a dental degree, or unless he or she is practicing as a legally qualified dentist in another state having requirements for admission determined by the department to be similar to or higher than the requirements of this state.

(b) The Dental Commission may, with the consent of the Commissioner of Public Health, determine the colleges which shall be considered reputable dental or medical colleges for the purposes of this chapter. The commission shall consult when possible with nationally recognized accrediting agencies when making such determinations.

(c) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsections (a) and (b) of this section, the department may issue a license to practice dentistry to any applicant holding a diploma from a foreign dental school, provided the applicant (1) is a graduate of a dental school located outside the United States and has received the degree of doctor of dental medicine or surgery, or its equivalent; (2) has passed the written and practical examinations required in section 20-108; (3) has successfully completed not less than two years of graduate dental training as a resident dentist in a program accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation; and (4) has successfully completed, at a level greater than the second postgraduate year, not less than three years of a residency or fellowship training program accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation in a school of dentistry in this state, or has served as a full-time faculty member of a school of dentistry in this state pursuant to the provisions of section 20-120 for not less than three years.

Sec. 20-108. Examination of applicants. Alternative to practical examination.

(a) Except as provided in section 20-110 and subsection (b) of this section, each applicant for a license to practice dental medicine or dental surgery shall be examined by the Department of Public Health, under the supervision of the Dental Commission as to his or her professional knowledge and skill before such license is granted. Such examination shall be conducted in the English language. The Dental Commission may, with the consent of the Commissioner of Public Health, accept and approve, in lieu of the written examination required by this section, the results of an examination given by the Joint Commission on National Dental Examinations, subject to such conditions as the commission may prescribe, and the Dental Commission with the consent of the Commissioner of Public Health, may accept and approve, in lieu of the written and practical examination required by this section, the results of regional testing agencies as to written and practical examinations, subject to such conditions as the commission, with the consent of the Commissioner of Public Health, may prescribe. Passing scores shall be established by the department with the consent of the commission.
(b) In lieu of the practical examination required by subsection (a) of this section, an applicant for licensure may submit evidence of having successfully completed not less than one year of graduate dental training as a resident dentist in a program accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation, provided the director of the dental residency program at the facility in which the applicant completed the residency training provides documentation satisfactory to the Department of Public Health attesting to the resident dentist's competency in all areas tested on the practical examination required by subsection (a) of this section. Not later than December 1, 2005, the Dental Commission, in consultation with the Department of Public Health, shall develop a form upon which such documentation shall be provided.

| License by Credential/Endorsement Requirements | Connecticut General Statutes, Chapter 379 Dentistry Sec. 20-110. Licenses to out-of-state applicants.  
The Department of Public Health may, upon receipt of an application and a fee of five hundred sixty-five dollars, issue a license without examination to a practicing dentist in another state or territory who (1) holds a current valid license in good professional standing issued after examination by another state or territory that maintains licensing standards which, except for the practical examination, are commensurate with the state's standards, and (2) has worked continuously as a licensed dentist in an academic or clinical setting in another state or territory for a period of not less than five years immediately preceding the application for licensure without examination. No license shall be issued under this section to any applicant against whom professional disciplinary action is pending or who is the subject of an unresolved complaint. The department shall inform the Dental Commission annually of the number of applications it receives for licensure under this section. |
| Specialty Practice | Connecticut General Statutes Sec. 20-106a. Designation of limited practice. No licensed and registered dentist shall designate in any manner that he has limited his practice to one of the specialty areas of dentistry expressly approved by the American Dental Association unless such dentist has completed two years of advanced or postgraduate education in the area of such specialty and has notified the Dental Commission of such limitation of practice. Nothing contained herein shall prohibit any licensed and registered dentist who has limited his practice prior to May 8, 1975, from continuing to designate such limitation. |
| Continuing Education | Connecticut General Statutes, Chapter 379 Dentistry Sec. 20-126c. Continuing education: Definitions; contact hours; attestation; record-keeping; exemptions; waivers; reinstatement of void licenses. (a) As used in this section: (1) “Commissioner” means the Commissioner of Public Health; (2) “Contact hour” means a minimum of fifty minutes of continuing education activity; (3) “Department” means the Department of Public Health; (4) “Licensee” means any person who receives a license from the department pursuant to this chapter; and (5) “Registration period” means the one-year period for which a license renewed in accordance with section 19a-88 is current and valid. (b) Except as otherwise provided in this section, a licensee applying for license renewal shall earn a minimum of twenty-five contact hours of continuing education within the preceding twenty-four-month period. Such continuing education shall (1) be in an area of the licensee's practice; (2) reflect the professional needs of the licensee in order to meet the health care needs of...|
the public; and (3) include not less than one contact hour of training or education in (A) any three of the ten mandatory topics for continuing education activities prescribed by the commissioner pursuant to this subdivision, (B) for registration periods beginning on and after October 1, 2016, infection control in a dental setting, and (C) prescribing controlled substances and pain management. For registration periods beginning on and after October 1, 2011, the Commissioner of Public Health, in consultation with the Dental Commission, shall on or before October 1, 2010, and biennially thereafter, issue a list that includes ten mandatory topics for continuing education activities that will be required for the following two-year registration period. Qualifying continuing education activities include, but are not limited to, courses, including on-line courses, offered or approved by the American Dental Association or state, district or local dental associations and societies affiliated with the American Dental Association; national, state, district or local dental specialty organizations or the American Academy of General Dentistry; a hospital or other health care institution; dental schools and other schools of higher education accredited or recognized by the Council on Dental Accreditation or a regional accrediting organization; agencies or businesses whose programs are accredited or recognized by the Council on Dental Accreditation; local, state or national medical associations; a state or local health department; or the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education. Eight hours of volunteer dental practice at a public health facility, as defined in section 20-126l, may be substituted for one contact hour of continuing education, up to a maximum of ten contact hours in one twenty-four-month period.

(c) Each licensee applying for license renewal pursuant to section 19a-88 shall sign a statement attesting that he or she has satisfied the continuing education requirements of subsection (b) of this section on a form prescribed by the department. Each licensee shall retain records of attendance or certificates of completion that demonstrate compliance with the continuing education requirements of said subsection (b) for a minimum of three years following the year in which the continuing education activities were completed and shall submit such records to the department for inspection not later than forty-five days after a request by the department for such records.

(d) A licensee applying for the first time for license renewal pursuant to section 19a-88 is exempt from the continuing education requirements of this section.

(e) A licensee who is not engaged in active professional practice in any form during a registration period shall be exempt from the continuing education requirements of this section, provided the licensee submits to the department, prior to the expiration of the registration period, a notarized application for exemption on a form prescribed by the department and such other documentation as may be required by the department. The application for exemption pursuant to this subsection shall contain a statement that the licensee may not engage in professional practice until the licensee has met the continuing education requirements of this section.

(f) In individual cases involving medical disability or illness, the commissioner may, in the commissioner's discretion, grant a waiver of the continuing education requirements or an extension of time within which to fulfill the continuing education requirements of this section to any licensee, provided the licensee submits to the department an application for waiver or extension of time on a form prescribed by the department, along with a certification by a licensed physician or a licensed advanced practice registered nurse of the disability or illness and such other documentation as may be required by the
The commissioner may grant a waiver or extension for a period not to exceed one registration period, except that the commissioner may grant additional waivers or extensions if the medical disability or illness upon which a waiver or extension is granted continues beyond the period of the waiver or extension and the licensee applies for an additional waiver or extension.

(g) Any licensee whose license has become void pursuant to section 19a-88 and who applies to the department for reinstatement of such license pursuant to section 19a-14 shall submit evidence documenting successful completion of twelve contact hours of continuing education within the one-year period immediately preceding application for reinstatement.

**Dentist Continuing Education Information**

Connecticut licensed dentists are required to participate in continuing education (CE) activities. Please note the following:

**Number of Hours**

Licensed dentists shall earn a minimum of twenty-five contact hours of qualifying continuing education every two years. One contact hour is a minimum of fifty minutes of continuing education activity.

**Qualifying CE**

The continuing education shall (1) be in an area of the licensee's practice; (2) reflect the professional needs of the licensee in order to meet the health care needs of the public; and (3) include not less than one contact hour of training or education in (A) any three of the ten mandatory topics for continuing education activities prescribed by the Commissioner, (B) for registration periods beginning on and after October 1, 2016, infection control in a dental setting, and (C) prescribing controlled substances and pain management.

The ten (10) mandatory topics for continuing education activities prescribed by the Commissioner are: Prescribing controlled substances and pain management; Record keeping/risk management; Infection control; Access to care; HIPAA compliance; Medical emergencies in the dental office (including current training in CPR); Sexual assault and domestic abuse; Cultural competence; Mental health conditions common to veterans; and Diagnostic technology.

Eight hours of volunteer dental practice at a public health facility, as defined in section 20-126I may be substituted for one contact hour of continuing education, up to a maximum of ten contact hours in one twenty-four-month period.

Qualifying continuing education activities include, but are not limited to, courses offered or approved by: the American Dental Association (ADA) or state, district or local dental associations and societies affiliated with the American Dental Association; national, state, district or local dental specialty organizations or the Academy of General Dentistry (AGD); a hospital or other health care institution; dental schools or other schools of higher education accredited or recognized by the Council on Dental Accreditation (CODA) or a regional accrediting organization; agencies or businesses whose programs are accredited or recognized by the Council on Dental Accreditation (CODA); local, state or national medical associations; a state or local health
department; or the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME).

Approval of Courses
The Department does not approve continuing education courses or pre-
approve specific coursework for individual licensees, nor does the Department
maintain a list of continuing education courses. It is incumbent on the licensee
and the provider to ensure that the CE activity meets the requirements as
outlined on this page and in the Connecticut General Statutes (CGS).
Internet-based, on-line and other distance learning opportunities are
acceptable.

Documentation Requirements
Each licensee must obtain a certificate of completion from the provider of the
continuing education or retain records of attendance for all continuing
education hours that demonstrate compliance with the continuing education
requirements and shall retain such documentation for a minimum of three
years from the date of completion. Upon request by the Department, the
licensee shall submit such certificates to the Department within forty-five days.
A licensee, who fails to comply with the continuing education requirements,
including failure to maintain proof of course completion, is subject to
disciplinary action.

Each licensee applying for license renewal will be asked to attest that the
licensee satisfies the continuing education requirements. Certificates of
completion should not be mailed to the Department at the time of license
renewal unless a licensee is specifically asked to do so.

Exemptions/Waivers
A licensee whose license is due to expire on or before September 30, 2007, is
exempt from documenting completion of continuing education requirements
until such licensee’s next registration period.

A licensee who is applying for license renewal for the first time is exempt from
continuing education requirements until such licensee’s next registration
period. The Department may, for a licensee who is not engaged in active
practice or who has a medical disability or illness, grant a waiver of the
continuing education requirements for a specified period of time or may grant
the licensee an extension of time in which to fulfill the requirements. Waivers
must be requested at the time of license renewal by submitting an affidavit.

Individuals who have received an exemption or waiver may not return to
active practice until the licensee has met the continuing education
requirements as outlined above.

Reinstatement of a Lapsed License
A licensee whose license has lapsed and who applies for reinstatement shall
submit evidence of having completed twelve contact hours of continuing
education within the one year period immediately preceding application for
reinstatement.

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.