Initial Licensure Examination Requirements	**American Board of Dental Examiners (ADEX, CDCA-WREB-CITA)** The only acceptable clinical exam is the ADEX exam taken after 9/25/13. The optional perio scaling portion of ADEX is required in NC. Source: North Carolina Dental License Application and Information on Web Site
General Licensure Requirements	**North Carolina General Statutes, Article 2, Chapter 90 Dental Practice Act** **§ 90-30. Examination and licensing of applicants; qualifications; causes for refusal to grant license; void licenses.** (a) The North Carolina State Board of Dental Examiners shall grant licenses to practice dentistry to such applicants who are graduates of a reputable dental institution, who, in the opinion of a majority of the Board, shall undergo a satisfactory examination of proficiency in the knowledge and practice of dentistry, subject, however, to the further provisions of this section and of the provisions of this Article. The applicant for a license to practice dentistry shall be of good moral character, at least 18 years of age at the time the application is filed. The application for a dental license shall be made to the Board in writing and shall be accompanied by evidence satisfactory to the Board that the applicant is a person of good moral character, has an academic education, the standard of which shall be determined by the Board; that the applicant is a graduate of and has a diploma from a reputable dental college or the dental department of a reputable university or college recognized, accredited and approved as such by the Board; and that the applicant has passed a clinical licensing examination, the standard of which shall be determined by the Board. The North Carolina State Board of Dental Examiners is authorized to conduct both written or oral and clinical examinations or to accept the results of other Board-approved regional or national independent third-party clinical examinations that shall include procedures performed on human subjects as part of the assessment of restorative clinical competencies and that are determined by the Board to be of such character as to thoroughly test the qualifications of the applicant, and may refuse to grant a license to any person who, in its discretion, is found deficient in the examination. The Board may refuse to grant a license to any person guilty of cheating, deception or fraud during the examination, or whose examination discloses to the satisfaction of the Board, a deficiency in academic or clinical education. The Board may employ such dentists found qualified therefor by the Board, in examining applicants for licenses as it deems appropriate. The North Carolina State Board of Dental Examiners may refuse to grant a license to any person guilty of a crime involving moral turpitude, or gross immorality, or to any person addicted to the use of alcoholic liquors or narcotic drugs to such an extent as, in the opinion of the Board, renders the applicant unfit to practice dentistry. Any license obtained through fraud or by any false representation shall be void ab initio and of no effect. (b) The Department of Public Safety may provide a criminal record check to the North Carolina State Board of Dental Examiners for a person who has applied for a license through the Board. The Board shall provide to the Department of Public Safety, along with the request, the fingerprints of the applicant, any additional information required by the Department of Public Safety, and a form signed by the applicant consenting to the check of the criminal record and to the use of the fingerprints and other identifying information required by the State or national repositories. The applicant's fingerprints shall be forwarded to the State Bureau of Investigation for a search

	of the State's criminal history record file, and the State Bureau of Investigation shall forward a set of the fingerprints to the Federal Bureau of Investigation for a national criminal history check. The Board shall keep all information pursuant to this subsection privileged, in accordance with applicable State law and federal guidelines, and the information shall be confidential and shall not be a public record under Chapter 132 of the General Statutes. The Department of Public Safety may charge each applicant a fee for conducting the checks of criminal history records authorized by this subsection **North Carolina Administrative Code, Title 21, Chapter 16 Dental Examiners** **21 NCAC 16B .0101 EXAMINATION REQUIRED; EXEMPTIONS** (a) All persons desiring to practice dentistry in North Carolina shall pass Board approved written and clinical examinations, as set forth in Rule .0303 of this Subchapter before receiving a license. (b) The examination requirement shall not apply to persons who do not hold a North Carolina dental license and who are seeking volunteer licenses pursuant to G.S. 90-21.107, licensure by endorsement pursuant to Rules .1001 and .1002 of this Subchapter, or licensure by credentials pursuant to Rule .0501 of this Subchapter. (c) All persons practicing dentistry in North Carolina shall maintain unexpired CPR certification at all times. **21 NCAC 16B .0201 IN GENERAL** (a) An applicant for licensure as a dentist shall be a graduate of and have a DMD or DDS degree from a university or college accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation of the American Dental Association. (b) Graduates of foreign colleges may apply for licensure after completing at least two years in a dental school accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of the American Dental Association, graduating with a DMD or DDS degree from that dental school, and passing Board approved written and clinical examinations, as set out in these Rules. **21 NCAC 16B .0202 STUDENT MAY APPLY** Applications for a dental license shall be accepted from students currently enrolled in schools of dentistry accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation of the American Dental Association. Applications shall be automatically denied if the applicant fails to complete the required course of study or fails a Board approved licensure examination. **21 NCAC 16B .0301 APPLICATION FOR LICENSURE** (a) All applications shall be made on the forms furnished by the Board at www.ncdentalboard.org and no application shall be deemed complete that does not set forth all the required information. Incomplete applications will be returned to the applicant. Any applicant who changes his or her address shall notify the Board office within 10 business days. Applicants shall ensure that official transcripts of undergraduate college and dental school are sent in a sealed envelope to the Board office. (b) The nonrefundable application fee shall accompany the application. (c) Applicants who are licensed in other states shall ensure that the Board receives verification of licensure from the board of each state in which they are licensed. (d) A photograph of the applicant, taken within six months prior to the date of the application, shall be affixed to the application. (e) All applicants shall submit to the Board a signed release form, completed Fingerprint Record Card, and such other form(s) required to perform a criminal history check at the time of the application. The form and card are available from the Board office.

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.

	(f) All applicants shall arrange for and ensure the submission to the Board office the examination scores as required by Rule .0303(b) of this Subchapter, if applicable. The examination requirement does not apply to individuals who do not hold a North Carolina dental license and who are seeking volunteer licenses pursuant to G.S. 90-21.107 or licensure by endorsement pursuant to Rules .1001 or .1002 of this Subchapter. (g) All applicants shall include a statement disclosing and explaining periods within the last 10 years, of any voluntary or involuntary commitment to any hospital or treatment facility, observation, assessment, or treatment for substance abuse, with verification demonstrating that the applicant has complied with all provisions and terms of any drug treatment program, or impaired dentists or other impaired professionals program. **21 NCAC 16B .0303 BOARD APPROVED EXAMINATIONS** (a) All applicants for dental licensure shall achieve a passing score of at least 80 percent on the Board's sterilization and jurisprudence examinations. Applicants may take reexamination in accordance with Rule .0317 of this Section. (b) All applicants for dental licensure shall achieve passing scores on the examination administered by the Joint Commission on National Dental Examinations and clinical examinations administered by Board approved testing agencies. The Board shall determine which testing agencies are approved based on the requirements set forth in Paragraphs (c) and (d) of this Rule. (c) To qualify as an approved testing agency, the test-development agency shall allow a representative of the Dental Board to serve on the agency's Board of Directors and the Examination Review Committee for the limited purpose of allowing Dental Board input in the development and administration of the examination. (d) To qualify as an approved testing agency, the clinical examination administered by a testing agency shall: (1) include procedures performed on human subjects or an alternative method that simulates human subjects, including manikins, as part of the assessment of restorative clinical competencies; (2) include evaluations in clinical periodontics and at least three of the following subject matter areas: (A) endodontics, clinical abilities testing; (B) amalgam preparation and restoration; (C) anterior composite preparation and restoration; (D) posterior ceramic or composite preparation and restoration; (E) prosthetics, written or clinical abilities testing; (F) oral diagnosis, written or clinical abilities testing; or (G) oral surgery, written or clinical abilities testing; and (3) provide the following: (A) anonymity between applicants and examination graders; (B) standardization and calibration of graders; (C) a mechanism for post exam analysis; (D) conjunctive scoring, which is scoring that requires applicants to earn a passing grade on all sections or areas tested and that does not allow weighted, averaged, or overall scoring to compensate for failures in individual subject areas; (E) a minimum passing score set by the testing agency for each subject area tested;

	(F) an annual review of the examination conducted by the testing agency; (G) a task analysis performed by the testing agency at least once every seven years that surveys dentists nationwide to determine the content of the examination; (H) a system of quality assurance to ensure uniform, consistent administration of the examination at each testing site; and (I) a system of quality assurance that does not permit a dental instructor to grade candidates at any institution at which the instructor is employed. (e) The Board shall accept examination scores for five years following the date of the examinations. Each applicant shall request the applicable entity to send the applicant's scores to the Board office. Individuals who apply for licensure more than five years after the examination date shall re-take the examination. (f) The applicant shall comply with all requirements of the testing agency in applying for and taking the examination. **21 NCAC 16b .0317 REEXAMINATION** (a) Any applicant who has passed the written examination but has failed the clinical examination must also re-take the written examination unless the applicant successfully passes the clinical examination within one year after passing the written examination. The Board will not accept scores from the written portion of the examination that are more than one year old. (b) Any applicant who has failed the written portion of the examination may retake the written portion of the examination two additional times during the 12 month period from the date of the initial examination. The applicant must wait a minimum of 72 hours before attempting to retake a written examination. (c) Any applicant who has failed the written portion of the examination three times shall successfully complete an additional Board approved course of study in the area(s) of deficiency exhibited on the examination. Such applicant must send evidence of the additional study, along with the application, before being admitted for reexamination.
License by Credential/ Endorsement Requirements	North Carolina General Statutes, Article 2, Chapter 90 Dental Practice Act **§ 90-36. Licensing practitioners of other states.** (a) The North Carolina State Board of Dental Examiners may issue a license by credentials to an applicant who has been licensed to practice dentistry in any state or territory of the United States if the applicant produces satisfactory evidence to the Board that the applicant has the required education, training, and qualifications, is in good standing with the licensing jurisdiction, has passed satisfactory examinations of proficiency in the knowledge and practice of dentistry as determined by the Board, and meets all other requirements of this section and rules adopted by the Board. The Board may conduct examinations and interviews to test the qualifications of the applicant and may require additional information that would affect the applicant's ability to render competent dental care. The Board may, in its discretion, refuse to issue a license by credentials to an applicant who the Board determines is unfit to practice dentistry. (a1) The North Carolina State Board of Dental Examiners shall issue a license by credentials to any dentist who applies for a license by credentials and who holds a current license and is in good standing with the licensing jurisdiction in one of the four states that border North Carolina provided that the dental board of the border state will also issue a license by credentials to a dentist having a license to practice in North Carolina. The requirements of subsections (b), (c) and (d) of this section shall apply to any dentist who

	applies for a license by credentials from a border state in accordance with this subsection. (b) The applicant for licensure by credentials shall be of good moral character and shall have graduated from and have a DDS or DMD degree from a program of dentistry in a school or college accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation of the American Dental Association and approved by the Board. (c) The applicant must meet all of the following conditions: (1) Has been actively practicing dentistry, as defined in G.S. 90-29(b)(1) through (b)(9), for a minimum of five years immediately preceding the date of application. (2) Has not been the subject of final or pending disciplinary action in the Armed Forces of the United States, in any state or territory in which the applicant is or has ever been licensed to practice dentistry, or in any state or territory in which the applicant has held any other professional license. (3) Presents evidence that the applicant has no felony convictions and that the applicant has no other criminal convictions that would affect the applicant's ability to render competent dental care. (4) Has not failed an examination conducted by the North Carolina State Board of Dental Examiners. (d) The applicant for licensure by credentials shall submit an application to the North Carolina State Board of Dental Examiners, the form of which shall be determined by the Board, pay the fee required by G.S. 90-39, successfully complete examinations in Jurisprudence and Sterilization and Infection Control, and meet the criteria or requirements established by the Board. (e) Repealed by Session Laws 2018-88, s. 6(b), effective October 1, 2018. **§ 90-37. Certificate issued to dentist moving out of State.** Any dentist duly licensed by the North Carolina State Board of Dental Examiners, desiring to move from North Carolina to another state, territory or foreign country, if a holder of a certificate of renewal of license from said Board, upon application to said Board and the payment to it of the fee in this Article provided, shall be issued a certificate showing his full name and address, the date of license originally issued to him, the date and number of his renewal of license, and whether any charges have been filed with the Board against him. The Board may provide forms for such certificate, requiring such additional information as it may determine proper. (1935, c. 66, s. 10.) **§ 90-38. Licensing former dentists who have moved back into State or resumed practice.** Any person who shall have been licensed by the North Carolina State Board of Dental Examiners to practice dentistry in this State who shall have retired from practice or who shall have moved from the State and shall have returned to the State, may, upon a satisfactory showing to said Board of his proficiency in the profession of dentistry and his good moral character during the period of his retirement, be granted by said Board a license to resume the practice of dentistry upon making application to the said Board in such form as it may require. The license to resume practice, after issuance thereof, shall be subject to all the provisions of this Article.

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	North Carolina Administrative Code, Title 21, Chapter 16 Dental Examiners **21 NCAC 16B .0501 DENTAL LICENSURE BY CREDENTIALS** (a) An applicant for a dental license by credentials shall submit to the Board: (1) a notarized application form provided by the Board at www.ncdentalboard.org that includes the information and materials required by Rule .0301(a) of this Subchapter; (2) the non-refundable licensure by credentials fee set forth in 21 NCAC 16M .0101; (3) an affidavit from the applicant stating for the five year period set out in G.S. 90-36(c)(1): (A) the dates that and locations where the applicant has practiced dentistry; (B) that the applicant has provided at least 5,000 hours of clinical care to patients, not including post graduate training, residency programs or an internship; and (C) that the applicant has held an active, unrestricted dental license issued by another U.S. state or U.S. territory, without any period of interruption; and (4) a statement disclosing and explaining any investigations, malpractice claims, or state or federal agency complaints, judgments, or settlements that are related to licensure and are not disclosed elsewhere in the application. (b) In addition to the requirements of Paragraph (a) of this Rule, an applicant for a dental license by credentials shall request the applicable entity to send the following required information or documents to the Board office, with each document in an unopened envelope sealed by the entity involved: (1) the applicant's official transcripts from a dental school accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation of the American Dental Association; (2) a certificate of the applicant's licensure status from the dental regulatory authority or other occupational or professional regulatory authority and a disclosure of any disciplinary action taken or investigation pending, from all licensing jurisdictions where the applicant holds or has ever held a dental license or other occupational or professional license; (3) examination scores required by Rule .0303(b) of this Subchapter; (4) a report of any pending or final malpractice actions against the applicant verified by the malpractice insurance carrier covering the applicant; and (5) a letter of coverage history from all current and all previous malpractice insurance carriers covering the applicant. (c) The Board shall receive all information and documentation set forth in Paragraphs (a) and (b) of this Rule and the applicant's passing scores on all examinations required by Rule .0303 of this Subchapter for the application to be complete. Applications that are not completed within one year of being submitted to the Board shall be disregarded as expired without a refund of the application fee. (d) An applicant for dental licensure by credentials shall pass written examinations as set out in Rule .0303(a) of this Subchapter. Individuals who do not pass the written examination after three attempts within one year may not reapply for licensure by credentials. (e) Any applicant who changes his or her address shall notify the Board office in writing within 10 business days. (f) Any license obtained through fraud or by any false representation shall be revoked.

Specialty Practice	North Carolina Administrative Code, Title 21, Chapter 16 Dental Examiners **21 NCAC 16P .0105 ADVERTISING AS A SPECIALIST** (a) A dentist shall not advertise or otherwise hold himself or herself out to the public as a specialist, or use any variation of the term, in an area of practice if the communication is false or misleading under Rule .0101 of this Section. (b) It shall be false or misleading for a dentist to hold himself or herself out to the public as a specialist, or any variation of that term, in a practice area unless the dentist: (1) has completed a qualifying postdoctoral educational program in that area as set forth in Paragraph (c) of this Rule; or (2) holds a current certification by a qualifying specialty board or organization as set forth in Paragraph (d) of this Rule. (c) For purposes of this Rule, a "qualifying postdoctoral educational program" is a postdoctoral advanced dental educational program accredited by an agency recognized by the U.S. Department of Education (U.S. DOE). (d) In determining whether an organization is a qualifying specialty board or organization, the Board shall consider the following criteria: (1) whether the organization requires completion of an educational program with didactic, clinical, and experiential requirements appropriate for the specialty or subspecialty field of dentistry in which the dentist seeks certification, and the collective didactic, clinical and experiential requirements are similar in scope and complexity to a qualifying postdoctoral educational program. Programs that require solely experiential training, continuing education classes, on-thejob training, or payment to the specialty board shall not constitute a qualifying specialty board or organization; (2) whether the organization requires all dentists seeking certification to pass a written or oral examination, or both, that tests the applicant's knowledge and skill in the specialty or subspecialty area of dentistry and includes a psychometric evaluation for validation; (3) whether the organization has written rules on maintenance of certification and requires periodic recertification; (4) whether the organization has written by-laws and a code of ethics to guide the practice of its members; (5) whether the organization has staff to respond to consumer and regulatory inquiries; and (6) whether the organization is recognized by another entity whose primary purpose is to evaluate and assess dental specialty boards and organizations. (e) A dentist qualifying under Paragraph (d) of this Rule and advertising or otherwise holding himself or herself out to the public as a specialist, or any variation of that term, shall disclose in the advertisement or communication the specialty board by which the dentist was certified and provide information about the certification criteria or where the certification criteria may be located. (f) A dentist shall maintain documentation of either completion of a qualifying postdoctoral educational program or of his or her current specialty certification and provide the documentation to the Board upon request. Dentists shall maintain documentation demonstrating that the certifying board qualifies under the criteria in Subparagraphs (d)(1) through (6) of this Rule and provide the documentation to the Board upon request. (g) Nothing in this Section shall be construed to prohibit a dentist who does not qualify to hold himself or herself out to the public as a specialist under Paragraph (b) of this Rule from restricting his or her practice to one or more

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	specific areas of dentistry or from advertising the availability of his or her services, provided that such advertisements do not include the term “specialist," or any variation of that term, and must state that the services advertised are to be provided by a general dentist.
Continuing Education	North Carolina General Statutes, Article 2, Chapter 90 Dental Practice Act **§ 90-31. Annual renewal of licenses** The laws of North Carolina now in force, having provided for the annual renewal of any license issued by the North Carolina State Board of Dental Examiners, it is hereby declared to be the policy of this State, that all licenses heretofore issued by the North Carolina State Board of Dental Examiners or hereafter issued by said Board are subject to annual renewal and the exercise of any privilege granted by any license heretofore issued or hereafter issued by the North Carolina State Board of Dental Examiners is subject to the issuance on or before the first day of January of each year of a certificate of renewal of license. On or before the first day of January of each year, each dentist engaged in the practice of dentistry in North Carolina shall make application to the North Carolina State Board of Dental Examiners and receive from said Board, subject to the further provisions of this section and of this Article, a certificate of renewal of said license. The application shall show the serial number of the applicant's license, his full name, address and the county in which he has practiced during the preceding year, the date of the original issuance of license to said applicant and such other information as the said Board from time to time may prescribe, at least six months prior to January 1 of any year. If the application for such renewal certificate, accompanied by the fee required by this Article, is not received by the Board before January 31 of each year, an additional fee shall be charged for renewal certificate. The maximum penalty fee for late renewal is set forth in G.S. 90-39. If such application, accompanied by the renewal fee, plus the additional fee, is not received by the Board before March 31 of each year, every person thereafter continuing to practice dentistry without having applied for a certificate of renewal shall be guilty of the unauthorized practice of dentistry and shall be subject to the penalties prescribed by G.S. 90-40. **§ 90-31.1. Continuing education courses required.** All dentists licensed under G.S. 90-30 shall be required to attend Board-approved courses of study in subjects relating to dentistry. The Board shall have authority to consider and approve courses, or providers of courses, to the end that those attending will gain (i) information on existing and new methods and procedures used by dentists, (ii) information leading to increased safety and competence in their dealings with patients and staff, and (iii) information on other matters, as they develop, that are of continuing importance to the practice of dentistry. The Board shall determine the number of hours of study within a particular period and the nature of course work required. The Board may provide exemptions or waivers from continuing education requirements where dentists are receiving alternate learning experiences or where they have limited practices. The Board shall by regulation define circumstances for exemptions or waivers for dentists who are involved in dental education or training pursuits where they gain experiences equivalent to formal continuing education courses, for those who have reached an advanced age and are semiretired or have otherwise voluntarily restricted their practices in volume and scope, and for such other situations as the Board in its discretion may determine meet the purposes of this section. (1993, c. 307, s. 1.)

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	North Carolina Administrative Code, Title 21, Chapter 16 Dental Examiners **SUBCHAPTER 16R, SECTION .0100 - RENEWAL OF LICENSE** **21 NCAC 16R .0101 APPLICATIONS** (a) A renewal application for a dental license shall be submitted electronically before midnight on January 31 of each year through the Board's website: www.ncdentalboard.org. The renewal application shall include: (1) dental license number; (2) full name; (3) mailing address; (4) telephone number; (5) fax number; (6) email address; (7) citizenship or immigration status, with verifying documentation; (8) whether, during the calendar year preceding the application, the licensee has: (A) been summoned to court or before a magistrate for the violation of any law or ordinance or for the commission of any felony or misdemeanor; (B) been arrested for the violation of any law or ordinance or for the commission of any felony or misdemeanor; (C) been taken into custody for the violation of any law or ordinance or for the commission of any felony or misdemeanor; (D) been indicted for the violation of any law or ordinance or for the commission of any felony or misdemeanor; (E) been convicted or tried for the violation of any law or ordinance or for the commission of any felony or misdemeanor; (F) been charged with the violation of any law or ordinance or for the commission of any felony or misdemeanor; (G) pleaded guilty to the violation of any law or ordinance or for the commission of any felony or misdemeanor; (H) been disciplined by any professional licensing board; or (I) had a malpractice suit settled or pending against the licensee; (9) whether the licensee has been investigated for employee misclassification as an independent contractor within the five years preceding the application; (10) employment status as a dentist as of the date of the application, including: (A) whether the licensee is currently working as a dentist; (B) primary practice area; (C) name of the practice in which the licensee provides services; (D) primary setting in which the licensee provides services; (E) number of hours the licensee works in an average week; (F) whether the licensee is self-employed; (G) if not self-employed, the type of employer for which the licensee works; and (H) if self-employed, the number of dentists, hygienists, and dental assistants working in the licensee's practice; (11) a report of the licensee's completion of continuing education hours related to clinical patient care during the calendar year preceding the application, or the licensee's exemption from reporting; (12) whether the licensee is enrolled in or completed a residency program during the calendar year preceding the application; (13) whether the licensee holds an unexpired CPR certification;

	(14) whether the licensee employed dental hygienists as limited supervision hygienists as set forth in 21 NCAC 16Z during the calendar year preceding the application; (15) whether the licensee is registered with and using the N.C. Controlled Substances Reporting System as of the date of the application; (16) whether the licensee has an active U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration license as of the date of the application to prescribe schedule II-IV controlled medications; (17) whether the licensee has completed at least one (1) hour of continuing education in controlled substance prescribing practices and controlled substance prescribing for chronic pain management during the calendar year preceding the application; and (18) a written statement certifying that the information submitted is accurate to the best of the licensee's knowledge. (b) In addition to the requirements of Paragraph (a) of this Rule, the licensee shall mail to the Board the following materials for review by the Board before the license will be renewed: (1) for each matter existing under Subparagraph (a)(8) of this Rule, a statement describing the nature, facts, and disposition of the matter, and include a copy, certified by the clerk of court or the applicable licensing board, of the disposition or judgment in the matter; and (2) for each matter under Subparagraph (a)(9) of this Rule, documentation of the results of the investigation. (c) The Board shall receive all information and documentation set forth in Paragraphs (a) and (b) of this Rule, accompanied by the renewal fees set forth in 21 NCAC 16M .0101, for the renewal application to be complete. If a renewal application is not complete, the license will not be renewed. (d) Eligible licensees shall be granted an extension period as set out in 21 NCAC 16B .0900 in which to pay renewal fees, obtain CPR certification, and comply with the Board's continuing education rules. (e) Any license obtained through fraud or by any false representation shall be revoked. **21 NCAC 16R .0102 FEE FOR LATE FILING AND DUPLICATE LICENSE** (a) If the application for a renewal certificate, including all information and documentation set out in Rule .0101 of this Subchapter and accompanied by the renewal fees required by 21 NCAC 16M .0101, is not received in the Board's office before midnight on January 31 of each year, an additional fee for late renewal shall be charged as set out in 21 NCAC 16M .0101. (b) A fee shall be charged for each duplicate of any license or certificate issued by the Board as set out in 21 NCAC 16M .0101. **21 NCAC 16R .0108 LICENSE VOID UPON FAILURE TO TIMELY RENEW** If an application for a renewal certificate, including all information and documentation set out in Rule .0101 of this Subchapter and accompanied by the renewal and late filing fees required by 21 NCAC 16M .0101, is not received in the Board's office before midnight on March 31 of each year, the license shall become void and the applicant shall apply for reinstatement in accordance with 21 NCAC 16B .1101. **21 NCAC 16R .0110 RENEWAL CERTIFICATE MUST BE DISPLAYED** The current certificate of renewal of license for a dentist shall be posted where it is visible to patients receiving treatment in the office where the dentist is employed, and shall be exhibited or produced to the North Carolina State Board of Dental Examiners or its investigators during every visit to the office.

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	21 NCAC 16R .0201 CONTINUING EDUCATION REQUIRED (a) Except as permitted in Rule .0204 of this Section as a condition of license renewal, every dentist shall complete a minimum of 15 clock-hours of continuing education each calendar year. (b) For licensees who prescribe controlled substances, one (1) hour of the total required continuing education hours shall consist of a course designed to address prescribing practices, including instruction on controlled substance prescribing practices and controlled substance prescribing for chronic pain management. (c) Each applicant who receives an Instructor's license or a license to practice general dentistry after January 1, 2019, and who is actively engaged in the practice or teaching of dentistry in North Carolina shall take a six-hour course in professionalism and ethics in the first year that the applicant is required to meet the continuing education requirements of Paragraph (a) of this Rule. (1) The six (6) hour professionalism and ethics course shall be included in the 15 clock-hour requirement of Paragraph (a) of this Rule. (2) The professionalism and ethics Course shall include segments addressing coding and billing, record keeping, informed consent, patient and staff boundaries, office management, duties delegable to dental auxiliaries, the American Dental Association's Code of Ethics, and professionalism. (3) A dentist who receives a variance or exemption from continuing education requirements under 21 NCAC 16R .0204(a)(1),(3), or (4) shall be exempt from taking the professionalism and ethics course until such time as he or she resumes full practice. A dentist classified as a semi-retired Class II dentist shall complete the professionalism and ethics course. (d) Any or all of the hours may be acquired through self-study courses, provided that the self-study courses are related to clinical patient care and offered by a Board-approved sponsor listed in Rule .0202 of this Section. The dentist shall pass a test following every self-study course and obtain a certificate of completion. (e) Courses taken to maintain CPR certification shall not count toward the mandatory continuing education hours set forth in this Rule. **21 NCAC 16R .0202 APPROVED COURSES AND SPONSORS** (a) Courses allowed to satisfy the continuing education requirement shall be related to clinical patient care. Hours devoted to financial issues or practice development topics shall not be counted toward the continuing education requirement. Hours spent reviewing dental journals, publications, or videos shall not count toward fulfilling the continuing education requirement, with the exception of self-study courses as described in Rule .0201 of this Section offered by Board approved sponsors. (b) Approved continuing education course sponsors include: (1) those recognized by the Continuing Education Recognition Program of the American Dental Association; (2) the Academy of General Dentistry; (3) North Carolina Area Health Education Centers; (4) educational institutions with dental, dental hygiene or dental assisting schools or departments; (5) national, state, or local societies or associations; (6) local, state, or federal governmental entities; and (7) Federally Qualified Health Centers. **21 NCAC 16R.0203 REPORTING CONTINUING EDUCATION** (a) All licensed dentists shall report the number of continuing education hours completed annually on the license renewal application form submitted to the

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	Board. The organization offering or sponsoring each course shall provide to each attendee a report containing the following information: (1) course title; (2) number of hours of instruction; (3) date of the course attended; (4) name(s) of the course instructor(s); and (5) name of the organization offering or sponsoring the course. (b) Evidence of employment by or affiliation with an agency or institution as specified in Rule .0204(c) of this Section shall be verified by a director or official acting in a supervisory position. (c) All licensed dentists shall maintain the report referred to in Paragraph (a) of this Rule for at least two years following completion of the course and shall produce a copy of the report to the Board or its investigator during every Board audit of the licensee's continuing education hours. **21 NCAC 16R .0204 VARIANCES AND EXEMPTION FROM AND CREDIT FOR CONTINUING EDUCATION** (a) Upon receipt of written evidence, the Board may grant exemptions from the mandatory continuing education requirements set out in Rule .0201 of this Section as follows: (1) A dentist who practices not more than 250 clock hours in a calendar year shall be exempt from all continuing education requirements. Such dentists, who shall be known as semi-retired Class I dentists, shall maintain current CPR certification. (2) A dentist who practices not more than 1,000 clock hours in a calendar year shall be exempt from one half of the continuing education courses required of dentists who practice full time. Such dentists, who shall be known as semi-retired Class II dentists, shall maintain current CPR certification. (3) A retired dentist who does not practice any dentistry shall be exempt from all continuing education and CPR certification requirements. (4) A dentist who is unable to practice dentistry because of a physical or mental illness may request a variance in continuing education hours during the period of the disability. The Board may grant or deny requests for variance in continuing education hours based on a disabling condition on a case by case basis, taking into consideration the particular disabling condition involved and its effect on the dentist's ability to complete the required hours. In considering the request, the Board may require additional documentation substantiating any specified disability. (b) In those instances where continuing education is waived and the exempt individual wishes to resume practice, the Board shall require continuing education courses in accordance with Paragraph (a) of this Rule when reclassifying the licensee. The Board may require those licensees who have not practiced dentistry for a year or more to undergo a bench test before allowing the licensee to resume practice if there is evidence that the licensee is unable to practice dentistry competently, such as a failing score on a dental licensing examination, a written report of a licensed physician, evaluation conducted by a substance abuse treatment facility, appointment of a guardian for the dentist or adjudication of incompetence by a court. (c) Dentists shall receive 10 hours credit per year for continuing education when engaged in any of the following: (1) service on a full-time basis on the faculty of an educational institution with involvement in education, training, or research in dental or dental auxiliary programs; or

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	(2) service on a full-time basis with a federal, state, or county government agency whose operation is related to dentistry or dental auxiliaries. Verification of credit hours shall be maintained in the manner specified in Rule .0203 of this Section. (d) Dentists who work at least 20 hours per week in an institution or entity described in Subparagraph (c)(1) or (2) of this Rule shall receive five hours credit per year for continuing education. (e) Dentists shall receive up to two hours of continuing education credits per year for providing dental services on a volunteer basis at any state, city, or county operated site. Credit will be given at ratio of 1:5, with one hour credit given for every five hours of volunteer work. (f) Eligible licensees as defined by 21 NCAC 16B .0901 shall be granted a waiver of their mandatory continuing education requirements. **21 NCAC 16R .0205 PENALTY/NON-COMPLIANCE/CONTINUING EDUCATION** If an applicant for a renewal of license fails to provide proof of completion of reported continuing education hours for the current year as required by Rule .0203 of this Section, the Board shall refuse to issue a renewal certificate until the licensee completes the required hours of education for the current year and complies with the requirements of Rules 21 NCAC 16R .0101 and .0102. If an applicant applies for credit for or exemption from continuing education hours and fails to provide the required documentation upon request, the Board shall refuse to issue a certificate of renewal until the applicant meets the qualifications for exemption or credit. If an applicant fails to meet the qualifications for renewal, including completing the required hours of continuing education and delivering the required documentation to the Board's office before midnight on March 31 of each year, the license shall become void and the licensee must seek reinstatement. **21 NCAC 16R .0206 CONTINUING EDUCATION ON SUBSTANCE ABUSE AND MENTAL HEALTH** (a) Every two calendar years, each dentist shall complete one clock hour of continuing education on substance abuse and mental health. To count toward this requirement, the course shall be: (1) designed to address relevant issues for dental professionals, including substance abuse, chemical dependency, impairment, and mental health disorders; and (2) offered by a Board-approved sponsor as set out in Rule .0202(b) of this Section. (b) The continuing education requirement set out in Paragraph (a) of this Rule may be completed through a self-study course that satisfies Subparagraphs (a)(1) and (2) of this Rule. The dentist shall pass a test administered by the self-study course sponsor and obtain a certificate of completion from the sponsor. (c) Every two calendar years, a dentist may apply one clock hour of a course meeting the requirements of this Rule toward the total number of continuing education hours required pursuant to Rule .0201(a) of this Section. (d) The substance abuse and mental health continuing education requirement shall not replace or substitute for the controlled substance continuing education requirement set out in Rule .0201(b) of this Section.

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