

AMENDED NOTICE REGARDING EXTENSION OF WAIVER ACCEPTING VIRTUAL CONTINUING EDUCATION (“CE”)

Effective September 16, 2024

On September 16, 2024, the Board of Dentistry (“Board”) voted to amend the waiver originally extended at its January 22, 2024 meeting.

As amended, the current waiver allows for acceptance of all continuing education (“CE”) courses completed through virtual means due to continued undue hardship from the pandemic, pursuant to Hawaii Administrative Rules (“HAR”) §16-79-147(b)(5). This exemption will only be applied towards the required CE course hours for the biennial renewal period of January 1, 2024 to December 31, 2025.

The blanket waiver does **NOT** include the skills-portion of Basic Life Support (“BLS”), Advanced Cardiac Life Support (“ACLS”), or Pediatric Advanced Life Support (“PALS”) courses. Therefore, the skills-portion of BLS, ACLS, and PALS courses must be taken **in-person** to meet the CE requirement. Licensees are reminded that, pursuant to HAR §16-79-141(a)(2)(B), all BLS, ACLS, and PALS courses must be sponsored by the American Heart Association or American Red Cross to qualify.

All CE hours will still need to be in the approved categories pursuant to HAR §16-79-141 and shall be taken from approved sponsoring organizations pursuant to HAR §16-79-142, or courses previously approved by the Board pursuant to HAR §16-79-143.

A dentist administering general anesthesia or moderate sedation shall be required to complete the Advanced Cardiac Life Support (“ACLS”) course or if treating pediatric patients, the Pediatric Advanced Life Support (“PALS”) course; provided that both courses shall be completed if the dentist is treating pediatric patients and minors thirteen years or older.

For further information, please see:

- HAR § 16-79-141 (continuing education categories);
- HAR § 16-79-142 (approved sponsoring organizations);
- HAR § 16-79-143 (requirements for approval by the board);
- HAR § 16-79-144 (biennial renewal); and
- HAR § 16-79-147 (waiver or modification of requirements).

Amended Waiver FAQs:

1. Can I still complete my CEs online/virtually?

Yes, the amended waiver effective September 16, 2024 will allow for the acceptance of 100% of CEs complete virtually/online for the 2024-2025 licensing biennium only. The CEs do **not** have to be in real-time (i.e. pre-recorded, self-study, home study, etc. courses will be acceptable).

However, the waiver does **not** include the skills-portion of BLS, ACLS, or PALS. The skills-portion of these life support classes must be taken **in-person**.

2. How many CEs are required by the renewal deadline of December 31, 2025?

Dentist CE Requirements		
Licensed anytime <u>before</u> Jan 1, 2024	Licensed anytime from Jan 1, 2024 – Dec 31, 2024	Licensed anytime from Jan 1, 2025 – Dec 31, 2025
38 total	22 total	6 total
At least 20 clinical	At least 12 clinical	
At least 6 ethics	At least 6 ethics	6 ethics
At least 1 BLS*, not more than 4	At least 1 BLS*, not more than 4	

Dental Hygienist CE Requirements		
Licensed anytime <u>before</u> Jan 1, 2024	Licensed anytime from Jan 1, 2024 – Dec 31, 2024	Licensed anytime from Jan 1, 2025 – Dec 31, 2025
20 total	10 total	2 total
At least 11 clinical	At least 6 clinical	
At least 2 ethics	At least 2 ethics	2 ethics
At least 1 BLS*, not more than 4	At least 1 BLS*, not more than 4	

***Please note:**

- 1) Basic Life Support (“BLS”) for Healthcare Providers courses must be sponsored by the American Red Cross or the American Heart Association. Completion of a general CPR course will **not** be sufficient.
- 2) A dentist administering general anesthesia or moderate sedation shall be required to complete the Advanced Cardiac Life Support (“ACLS”) course or if treating pediatric patients, the Pediatric Advanced Life Support (“PALS”) course; provided that both courses shall be completed if the dentist is treating pediatric patients and minors thirteen years or older.