

BOARD OF DENTISTRY POLICY STATEMENT ON DISCIPLINING CONTINUING EDUCATION DEFICIENCIES

DENTIST

Should a licensed Tennessee dentist fail to obtain the required amount of continuing education during a biennial CE cycle, the following shall occur:

1. The licensee must pay a Type C civil penalty in the amount of \$50 for each deficient CE hour. The total amount of civil penalties shall not exceed \$500.00; and
2. The licensee must make up the amount of hours he or she is deficient. All deficient hours must be made up within ninety days of notification from the Board. If a licensee is deficient in hours for a particular category of required CE (i.e., chemical dependency hours or CPR hours), the licensee must make up the hours required for that particular category. If a licensee is deficient in CPR hours, such licensee must also provide proof within ninety days that he or she is currently certified in CPR.

CE make-up hours do not count toward the hour requirement for any CE cycle other than the one which was found to be deficient.

In the event a licensed Tennessee dentist fails for a second time to obtain the required amount of continuing education during a biennial CE cycle, such licensee must pay a Type C civil penalty in the amount of \$75 for each deficient CE hour and must also meet the requirements of number 2, above. The total amount of civil penalties shall not exceed \$750.00.

For any subsequent violations, such licensee must pay a Type C civil penalty in the amount of \$100 for each deficient CE hour and must also meet the requirements of number 2, above. The total amount of civil penalties shall not exceed \$1,000.00.

DENTAL HYGIENIST

Should a licensed Tennessee dental hygienist fail to obtain the required amount of continuing education during a biennial CE cycle, the following shall occur:

1. The licensee must pay a Type C civil penalty in the amount of \$50 for each deficient CE hour. The total amount of civil penalties shall not exceed \$300.00; and
2. The licensee must make up the amount of hours he or she is deficient. All deficient hours must be made up within ninety days of notification from the Board. If a licensee is deficient in hours for a particular category of required CE (i.e., chemical dependency hours or CPR hours), the licensee must make up the hours required for that particular category. If a licensee is deficient in CPR hours, such licensee must also provide proof within ninety days that he or she is currently certified in CPR.

CE make-up hours do not count toward the hour requirement for any CE cycle other than the one which was found to be deficient.

In the event a licensed Tennessee dental hygienist fails for a second time to obtain the required amount of continuing education during a biennial CE cycle, such licensee must pay a Type C civil penalty in the amount of \$75.00 for each deficient CE hour and must also meet the requirements of number 2, above. The total amount of civil penalties shall not exceed \$450.00.

For any subsequent violations, such licensee must pay a Type C civil penalty in the amount of \$100 for each deficient CE hour and must also meet the requirements of number 2, above. The total amount of civil penalties shall not exceed \$600.00.

REGISTERED DENTAL ASSISTANT

Should a registered Tennessee dental assistant fail to obtain the required amount of continuing education during a biennial CE cycle, the following shall occur:

1. The licensee must pay a Type C civil penalty in the amount of \$50 for each deficient CE hour. The total amount of civil penalties shall not exceed \$150.00; and
2. The licensee must make up the amount of hours he or she is deficient. All deficient hours must be made up within ninety days of notification from the Board. If a licensee is deficient in hours for a particular category of required CE (i.e., chemical dependency hours or CPR hours), the licensee must make up the hours required for that particular category. If a licensee is deficient in CPR hours, such licensee must also provide proof within ninety days that he or she is currently certified in CPR.

CE make-up hours do not count toward the hour requirement for any CE cycle other than the one which was found to be deficient.

In the event a registered Tennessee dental assistant fails for a second time to obtain the required amount of continuing education during a biennial CE cycle, such licensee must pay a Type C civil penalty in the amount of \$75.00 for each deficient CE hour and must also meet the requirements of number 2, above. The total amount of civil penalties shall not exceed \$225.00.

For any subsequent violations, such licensee must pay a Type C civil penalty in the amount of \$100 for each deficient CE hour and must also meet the requirements of number 2, above. The total amount of civil penalties shall not exceed \$300.00.

EFFECT OF POLICY

This policy applies to all Agreed Citations issued by the Board after the date of ratification. This policy does not apply in the event a licensee is referred to the Office of Investigations and a Consent Order is issued, or a contested case proceeding is initiated against the licensee under Tenn. Code Ann. § 4-5-301, et seq.

Adopted by the Board of Dentistry on the 13th day of September, 2007.

Amended by the Board of Dentistry on the 4th day of February, 2026.