

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to continuing education for dentists;
3 amending s. 466.0135, F.S.; requiring a minimum of 2
4 hours of continuing education on the prescribing of
5 controlled substances; providing an effective date.
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7 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:
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9 Section 1. Subsection (1) of section 466.0135, Florida
10 Statutes, is amended to read:

11 466.0135 Continuing education; dentists.—

12 (1) In addition to the other requirements for renewal set
13 out in this chapter, each licensed dentist shall be required to
14 complete biennially not less than 30 hours of continuing
15 professional education in dental subjects, with a minimum of 2
16 hours of continuing education on the safe and effective
17 prescribing of controlled substances. Programs of continuing
18 education shall be programs of learning that contribute directly
19 to the dental education of the dentist and may include, but
20 shall not be limited to, attendance at lectures, study clubs,
21 college postgraduate courses, or scientific sessions of
22 conventions; and research, graduate study, teaching, or service
23 as a clinician. Programs of continuing education shall be
24 acceptable when adhering to the following general guidelines:

25 (a) The aim of continuing education for dentists is to

26 | improve all phases of dental health care delivery to the public.

27 | (b) Continuing education courses shall address one or more
28 | of the following areas of professional development, including,
29 | but not limited to:

30 | 1. Basic medical and scientific subjects, including, but
31 | not limited to, biology, physiology, pathology, biochemistry,
32 | and pharmacology;

33 | 2. Clinical and technological subjects, including, but not
34 | limited to, clinical techniques and procedures, materials, and
35 | equipment; and

36 | 3. Subjects pertinent to oral health and safety.

37 | (c) The board may also authorize up to three hours of
38 | credit biennially for a practice management course that includes
39 | principles of ethical practice management, provides substance
40 | abuse, effective communication with patients, time management,
41 | and burnout prevention instruction.

42 | (d) Continuing education credits shall be earned at the
43 | rate of one-half credit hour per 25-30 contact minutes of
44 | instruction and one credit hour per 50-60 contact minutes of
45 | instruction.

46 | Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2019.