

This is an amendment to 16.5.8 NMAC, Sections 8, 9 & 10, effective 4/21/2026.

**16.5.10.8 HOURS REQUIRED:** ~~[60 hours of continuing education, a maximum of 30 hours can be on-line, webinars or self study, are required during each triennial renewal cycle as defined in 16.5.1 NMAC. Continuing education received after submission of renewal materials but prior to actual expiration date may be used for the requirements of the next renewal cycle. Continuing education requirements are pro-rated at 20 hours per full year of the initial licensing period. Initial licenses issued for less than a full year do not require continuing education for the first renewal.]~~ Sixty hours of continuing education are required during each triennial renewal cycle as defined in 16.5.1 NMAC. Continuing education received after submission of renewal materials but prior to actual expiration date may be used for the requirements of the next renewal cycle. Continuing education requirements are pro-rated at 20 hours per year for individuals licensed for less than three years. Initial licenses issued for less than a full year require 20 hours of continuing education for the first renewal.  
[16.5.10.8 NMAC - Rp , 16.5.10.8 NMAC, 12/14/2019; A, 4/21/2026]

**16.5.10.9 COURSES REQUIRED:** Continuing education coursework must contribute directly to the practice of dentistry and must comply with the requirements of 16.5.1.15 NMAC of these rules. The following courses are required for license renewal.

**A.** ~~[Proof of current certification in basic life support (BLS) or cardiac pulmonary resuscitation (CPR) accepted by the American heart association, the American red cross, or the American safety and health institute (ASHI); cannot be self study course.]~~ Proof of current basic life support (BLS) or cardiac pulmonary resuscitation (CPR) certification accepted by the American heart association, the American heart association (AHA), the American red cross (ARC), or the American safety and health institute/health and safety institute (ASHI/HSI); cannot be a self-study course.

**B.** Infection control. As further defined in 16.5.1.16 NMAC, a course in infection control techniques and sterilization procedures per renewal period.

**C.** Anesthesia/Sedation: Any dentist holding a minimal, moderate or deep sedation/general anesthesia permit is required to follow continuing education requirements as set forth in 16.5.15.20 NMAC.

**D.** Management of pain with controlled substances. Any dentists who holds a Federal drug enforcement administration registration to prescribe controlled substances shall successfully complete three continuing dental or medical education hours, as defined in Part 16.5.57 NMAC, in appropriate courses that shall include:

- (1) an understanding of the pharmacology and risks of controlled substances,
  - (2) a basic awareness of the problems of abuse, addiction and diversion,
  - (3) awareness of state and federal regulations for the prescription of controlled substances,
- and
- (4) management of the treatment of pain.

**E.** Ethics and jurisprudence. Proof of completion of a course in ethics or jurisprudence that includes topics related to the New Mexico dental health care act and board rules.

[16.5.10.9 NMAC - Rp, 16.5.10.9 NMAC, 12/14/2019; A, 4/21/2026]

**16.5.10.10 VERIFICATION OF CONTINUING EDUCATION:** The board will select renewal applications for verification of continuing education. Audit requests will be included with the renewal notice and those selected individuals will be asked to submit proof of compliance with the continuing education requirements. Continuing education records may be audited by the board at any time. The records identified Subsection F of 16.5.1.15 NMAC are considered acceptable forms of documentation. Continuing education records must be maintained for ~~[one year following the renewal cycle in which they are earned.]~~ four years.  
[16.5.10.10 NMAC - Rp, 16.5.10.10 NMAC, 12/14/2019; A, 4/21/2026]