

## LICENSE RENEWAL INFORMATION

2019 is a Licensure Renewal Year. Following is information to make your licensure run smoothly:

- Effective for the 2019 renewal year, **dentists are required to take a minimum of a one (1) hour course on the impact of opioid abuse and/or proper prescription writing and use of opioids in dental practice.**
- Both dentists and dental hygienists may earn up to four (4) credit hours for completion of the **CPR course required by Georgia law**. The following Associations offering CPR courses are acceptable by the Board:
  - American Heart Association (AHA),
  - American Red Cross,
  - American Safety and Health Institute
  - National Safety Council, or EMS Safety Services
- The Board is authorized to conduct audits to verify compliance with the continuing education requirements. If you are selected to undergo an audit, you will need to produce official documentation of course attendance. ***To avoid a problem GDHA recommends you maintain official documentation of course attendance for at least three years after the biennium during which the courses were taken.***
- Dental hygienists licensed to practice in the state of Georgia shall maintain and furnish to the Board, **upon request**, official documentation of having completed a minimum of twenty-two (22) hours of continuing education during each biennium. **Fifteen (15) hours must be scientific courses in the actual delivery of dental services to the patient or to the community;**
- Continuing education requirements apply within the first biennium that a dental hygienist is licensed in Georgia. To meet the continuing education requirements during the first biennium, a newly licensed dental hygienist may submit as their continuing education hours **proof of dental hygiene coursework taken within the previous two (2) years of the date of the renewal application from a university or other institution accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation of the American Dental Association.**
- **Licenses expire after December 31, 2019.** If a licensee fails to renew by that date, the renewal fee increases. **Failure to renew by July 1, 2020, will result in administrative revocation of a license.** If a license has been revoked, a reinstatement application would need to be submitted to the Board, along with the application fee.
- If a licensee has submitted a complete renewal application by December 31, 2019, the licensee's license status online will change from "active" to "active-renewal pending." This does not mean that the license has lapsed, is inactive, is deficient, or invalid in any

way. Instead, it reflects that the licensee has submitted a timely renewal application. *Please save the receipt generated after submission of a timely and complete application as additional proof of renewal during the period in which the application is reviewed.*

- **All dentists and dental hygienists seeking renewal are required to submit census data with their renewal application. The completed** census form and questionnaire must be submitted to the Board's email address at: [dentistry@dch.ga.gov](mailto:dentistry@dch.ga.gov)
- The census form is available in the "Forms" section of the Board of Dentistry website. **Completion of an Affidavit of Citizenship is not required this year unless a dentist or dental hygienist did not submit this affidavit in 2013.**
- More information on dental hygiene Continuing Education requirements may be found at: <http://rules.sos.ga.gov/gac/150-5>  
Should you have questions about licensure renewal, please contact the Board of Dentistry at (404) 651-8000.