

By Senator Mayfield

17-01055-19

2019648__

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to continuing education for dentists;
3 amending s. 466.0135, F.S.; requiring a licensed
4 dentist to complete a minimum of 2 hours of continuing
5 education on the prescribing of controlled substances
6 biennially; providing an effective date.

7
8 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

9
10 Section 1. Subsection (1) of section 466.0135, Florida
11 Statutes, is amended to read:

12 466.0135 Continuing education; dentists.—

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

26 (a) The aim of continuing education for dentists is to
27 improve all phases of dental health care delivery to the public.

28 (b) Continuing education courses shall address one or more
29 of the following areas of professional development, including,

17-01055-19

2019648__

30 but not limited to:

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

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

37 3. Subjects pertinent to oral health and safety.

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

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

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