



THE FOLLOWING ARE THE POLICIES OF THE

**SASKATCHEWAN DENTAL
THERAPISTS ASSOCIATION'S**

CONTINUING EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS

Effective: January 2, 1998

Reviewed and Updated: October 2019

INTRODUCTION

According to the Saskatchewan Dental Therapy Bylaws, Part I Bylaw II Section 6, all practicing and non-practicing members must obtain a minimum number of 40 continuing education credits over a three-year period to maintain registration and/or license with the association.

It is the personal, professional and ethical responsibility of all members to obtain the required continuing education credits to maintain and advance their skills and knowledge.

CONTINUING EDUCATION CREDITS

Requirements

All practicing and non-practicing members must obtain a minimum number of 40 continuing education credits over a three-year period to maintain registration and/or license with the association.

The accumulation period for continuing education credits will begin upon registration and/or licensure and end on December 31 of the third licensing period from which the member initially registered and/or licensed.

For members who were registered before January 1, 1998, the accumulation period shall begin January 1, 1998 and end December 31, 2000.

Credits must be acquired during the three-year period. Credits obtained prior to the beginning of a three-year period cannot be applied toward the necessary credits for that period. Credits acquired over and above the 40 required cannot be carried forward to the next three-year period.

Guidelines

Continuing education credits will be granted for continuing education courses or professional development activities according to policies set by the Credentials Committee and approved by Council.

Courses or activities will generally be accepted at hour-for-hour credit, unless otherwise stated. Only actual hours of lecture, instructor and/or practicum time are eligible for credit. Members must provide proof of attendance at each course or activity.

Reporting of Credits

Members are responsible to provide evidence to the satisfaction of Council that they have obtained the required educational credits. This evidence must be filed with the Registrar.

Continuing education courses or professional development activities sponsored by Council will be pre-approved.

For conventions or conferences with a variety of sessions, registrants must clearly indicate which session(s) were attended and provide proof of attendance. Receipt for payment of course registration fees are not considered evidence of attendance. Submissions must include the subject and content of each session attended.

Members may be granted credits for courses or activities not sponsored by Council. In such cases members are responsible for providing detailed information. Information must include the date, hours of attendance, course outline and proof of attendance. Members may be asked to provide further information to the Credentials Committee and/or Council.

Submissions for credits may also be made on group forms. Group submissions must include all necessary information as well as the member's name and signature.

Delegation and Appeal - Section 21(4-7) of the Dental Disciplines Act:

- (4) A registrant who is aggrieved by a decision of the registrar made pursuant to delegated power may apply to the Council to review that decision.
- (5) On a review pursuant to subsection (4), the Council shall hear the review and may:
 - (a) direct the registrar to exercise the power in a manner that the council considers +appropriate; or
 - (b) confirm the registrar's decision.
- (6) On a review pursuant to subsection (4), the person aggrieved by the decision of the registrar has the right to appear in person before the council in support of the application.
- (7) A council shall cause the applicant to be informed in writing of its decision regarding the review.

Records

It is the member's personal and professional responsibility to ensure that continuing education credits are reported on a regular basis. Members are urged to submit their applications for Continuing Education Credits in a timely manner. Council therefore reserves the right to refuse Continuing Education Credits if submitted post one year course completion.

The Registrar will provide all members with a yearly report of their continuing education credits with their annual license or non-practicing membership renewal forms.

It is each member's responsibility to maintain a continuing education file containing detailed information on each course activity attended. Members may be asked to provide such details to the Credentials Committee and/or Council.

In the event of a discrepancy between the records of the member and the records of the Registrar, the member will be required to produce evidence to the satisfaction of the Credentials Committee and/or Council that he/she has obtained the required continuing education credits.

Miscellaneous

Members are responsible for any costs incurred with acquiring continuing education credits. (i.e., registration fees, tuition fees, meals, travel, etc.)

CONTINUING EDUCATION CATEGORIES

Continuing education courses or professional development activities must be of an intellectual or professional nature relating to the practice of Dental Therapy.

Various types of courses or activities are eligible for credit under the categories described below.

A) Dental Therapy Practice

Continuing education courses or activities that relate to the practice of dental therapy in the areas of clinical therapy, health promotion and research are eligible for credit with a minimum requirement of 20 credits per three-year period.

B) Practice Management

Continuing education courses or activities that relate to the administration or management of the member's practice of dental therapy are eligible for credit.

C) *Personal Enhancement*

Personal enhancement programs that enhance personal health and well being and contribute to a healthy dental therapy work environment are eligible for credit.

CONTINUING EDUCATION ACTIVITIES

All continuing education courses or professional development activities are available for credit under the classifications described below.

1. Courses/Workshops/Conventions/Conferences/Meetings

Continuing education courses/workshops/conventions/conferences sponsored by a variety of providers, in a variety of formats, are eligible for hour-for-hour credits for actual lecture and/or practicum time. Members registering in full for any multi-day dental conference will be eligible for 5 additional credits in category B. Continuing education credits will be assessed and granted on basis of course/workshop/convention/conference/meeting content.

2. Lecturers/Presenters/Facilitators

Lecturers, presenters or facilitators who provide dental therapy presentations or instruction to study groups, health groups or educational programs, outside their regular duties, qualify for hour-for-hour credits to a maximum of 5 credits per year. Such programs include special sessions, table clinics, guest lectures, workshops, courses and/or presentations to dental professionals or to the general public.

3. Preparation and Instruction

Not applicable.

4. Full-Time Advanced Study

Members engaged in full-time programs applicable to dental therapy practice will fulfill their continuing education requirements for the period of their full-time studies, and a new three year period will commence on January 1 of the year preceding completion of these studies. A copy of the member's transcript or proof of registration must be submitted annually to confirm the member's status. Such programs include Dental Hygiene.

5. Formal Programs of Study for Dental Therapists

Members successfully completing formal programs of study for dental therapists will qualify for credits to be determined by the Credentials Committee and approved by Council. Such areas include the orthodontic module, permanent extraction module, space maintenance module and study models and impressions module.

6. Individual Initiatives

Individuals that subscribe to educational tapes, journals/newsletters, Internet continuing education, self-study courses, etc. are eligible for up to a maximum of 15 credits per three-year period to be determined by the Credential Committee. Submissions must include certification of completion, as well as all other necessary information.

7. Publications

Articles **submitted** to and published in the official newsletter of the SDTA, at the discretion of the Editor and the Credentials Committee, are eligible for 1 credit per newsletter to a maximum of 6 credits per three-year period.

Articles **written** and published in the official newsletter of the SDTA, at the discretion of the Editor and Credentials Committee, are eligible for up to 3 credits per newsletter, to be determined by the Credentials Committee, to a maximum of 9 credits per three-year period.

Articles pertinent to the Dental Therapy profession, written and published in other publications, evaluated by the Credentials Committee, are eligible for up to 3 credits per article to a maximum of 9 credits per three-year period.

8. Meetings

Members attending SDTA Council meetings, as an elected member at large, are eligible for 2 credits per meeting to a maximum of 4 credits per year.

Members attending SDTA Council meetings, as an elected officer, are eligible for 3 credits per meeting to a maximum of 6 credits per year.

Members serving as an official representative of the SDTA at meetings other than those sponsored by the SDTA, are eligible for 1 credit per meeting to a maximum of 2 credits per year.

Members attending a General or Annual meeting are eligible for 2 credits per meeting to a maximum of 4 credits per year. Members that have attended other dental associations' General or Annual meetings are able to apply for 2 credits per meeting.

Members attending a Regional meeting are eligible for 1 credit per meeting to a maximum of 2 credits per year.

9. Volunteer Activities

Volunteer activities related to dental therapy will be granted continuing education credits to a maximum of 5 credits per activity per year, to a total of 15 credits per three-year reporting period. Each activity will be reviewed on a case by case basis by Credentials Committee and/or Council.

10. Mentoring

Members who have acted as a mentor to a student interested in the profession of Dental Therapy are eligible to receive up to 5 credits hour-for-hour per three-year reporting period. The student must provide short summary (on Request Form) on mentoring that was provided by the member.

Mandatory Requirement to Maintain Licensure

CPR - Credit distribution

CPR "C" Category A

Members are required to complete a CPR course once every three-year reporting period to maintain registration and/or license with the association. A maximum of 6 continuing education credits in category A will be given per three-year period.

Online CPR courses are accepted based on proof that course was taken through an online Canadian CPR course.

FIRST AID - Credit distribution

Standard First Aid Category B *hour for hour credits

Members are encouraged but not required to complete First Aid training. A maximum of 10 continuing education credits in category B credits will be given per three-year period.