

**TITLE 16
CHAPTER 5
PART 62** **OCCUPATIONAL AND PROFESSIONAL LICENSING
DENTISTRY (DENTISTS, DENTAL HYGIENISTS, ETC.)
DENTAL THERAPISTS, CONTINUING EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS**

16.5.62.1 ISSUING AGENCY: New Mexico Board of Dental Health Care.
[16.5.62.1 NMAC - N, 5/30/2021]

16.5.62.2 SCOPE: The provisions of Part 62 of Chapter 5 apply to all licensed dental therapists who are applying to renew their license.
[16.5.62.2 NMAC - N, 5/30/2021]

16.5.62.3 STATUTORY AUTHORITY: Part 62 of Chapter 5 is promulgated pursuant to the Dental Health Care Act, Section 61-5A-10 NMSA 1978.
[16.5.62.3 NMAC - N, 5/30/2021]

16.5.62.4 DURATION: Permanent. [16.5.62.4 NMAC - N, 5/30/2021]

16.5.62.5 EFFECTIVE DATE: May 30, 2021, unless a later date is cited at the end of a section.
[16.5.62.5 NMAC - N, 5/30/2021]

16.5.62.6 OBJECTIVE: To establish criteria for continuing education for dental therapists licensed in New Mexico.
[16.5.62.6 NMAC - N, 5/30/2021]

16.5.62.7 DEFINITIONS: [RESERVED]
[16.5.62.7 NMAC - N, 5/30/2021]

16.5.62.8 HOURS REQUIRED: [15 hours of continuing education in addition to the 45 hours required for the dental hygiene license, a maximum of fifty percent of the required 15 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.] 15 hours of continuing education in addition to the 45 hours required for the dental hygiene license 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. [16.5.62.8 NMAC - N, 5/30/2021; A, XX/XX/2026]

16.5.62.9 COURSES REQUIRED: a minimum of 15 hours per triennial renewal cycle in any of the following subjects are required for dental therapist license renewal:

- A. dental materials and restorative technique.
 - B. palliative care.
 - C. pediatric dentistry.
 - D. geriatric dentistry.

[16.5.62.9 NMAC - N, 5/30/2021]

16.5.62.10 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 in 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.

16.5.62.11 EMERGENCY DEFERRAL:

A. A licensee unable to fulfill the continuing education requirements may apply to the board for an emergency deferral of the requirements due to extenuating circumstances as defined in 16.5.1.7 NMAC. Deferrals of up to four months may be granted by a designee of the board.

B. A licensee practicing or residing outside the United States shall not be required to fulfill the continuing education requirements for the period of the absence.

(1) The board must be notified prior to license expiration that the licensee will be outside the US, including the period of the absence.

(2) Upon return to the US, the licensee shall complete the continuing education required for the years of practice within the US during the renewal cycle, or apply for an emergency deferral.

[16.5.62.11 NMAC - N, 5/30/2021]

HISTORY OF 16.5.62 NMAC: [RESERVED]