

**21 NCAC 16I .0206 CONTINUING EDUCATION ON MENTAL HEALTH**

(a) Every two calendar years, each dental hygienist shall complete one clock hour of continuing education on mental health. To count toward this requirement, the course shall be:

- (1) designed to address relevant mental health issues for dental professionals, including substance use disorders, chemical dependency, impairment, or mental health disorders; and
- (2) offered by a Board-approved sponsor as set out in Rule .0202(b) of this Section.

(b) The continuing education requirement set out in Paragraph (a) of this Rule may be completed through a self-study course that satisfies Subparagraphs (a)(1) and (2) of this Rule. The dental hygienist shall pass a test administered by the self-study course sponsor and obtain a certificate of completion from the sponsor.

(c) Every two calendar years, a dental hygienist may apply one clock hour of a course meeting the requirements of this Rule toward the total number of continuing education hours required pursuant to Rule .0201(a) of this Section.

*History Note: Authority G.S. 90-223; 90-225.1;*

*Eff. October 1, 2022;*

*Amended Eff. June 1, 2025.*