

# **Denturist Society of Saskatchewan**

# **Continuing Education Program**

Continuing Education Year Cycle 2024 – 2026

Approved by DSS Council - October 30, 2025

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### **Introduction and Program Objectives**

Under the Denturist Society of Saskatchewan (DSS) Regulatory Bylaws, the Quality Assurance Committee endorses continuing education or professional development designed to promote continuing competence and practice improvement.

The objectives of the Continuing Education (CE) Program are to ensure competence and professionalism at all stages of a denturist's career. To be eligible for credit, activities must have significant intellectual and/or practical content related to the practice of denturism and/or the management of the denturist practice. Activities can also be related to the professional responsibilities or ethical obligations of the participant. The following guidelines apply for the 3- year period starting January 1<sup>st</sup> 2024 until December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2026.

#### **Quality Assurance Committee**

#### What is the Quality Assurance Committee?

A committee formed by DSS council to perform the following functions:

#### **Administrative Bylaw 13**

#### Quality assurance committee

- 13(1) The quality assurance committee is established consisting of a member of council who is appointed by council as chair, the registrar and at least three other practising registrants appointed by council.
- (2) Members of the professional conduct committee and discipline committee are not eligible to serve on the quality assurance committee.
- (3) To promote and maintain the competence and proficiency of the registrants of the society, the quality assurance committee shall make recommendations to council with respect to the following matters:
  - (a) in relation to continuing education:
    - (i) approving and assigning credits for all forms of continuing education;
    - (ii) prescribing the minimum number of continuing education credits a registrant must obtain;
    - (iii) establishing any fees to be paid by registrants for continuing education programs offered by the society;
    - (iv) establishing protocols for registrants to report continuing education credits to the society;
  - (b) establishing standards for proper and adequate patient record-keeping;
  - (c) establishing guidelines for the inspection of the premises of all registrants with respect to:
    - (i) infection control;
    - (ii) advertising standards;
    - (iii) patient record keeping;
  - (d) establishing protocols to be followed in the event of an emergency such as a pandemic.

#### **Continuing Education Start Dates:**

- a. January 1, 2024 start date, continuing until December 31, 2026, and
- b. The continuing education start date commences upon membership application with the first year to be pro-rated for requirements i.e. if you become a member in June 2024 then 36 hours is divided by 3 years = 12 by 2.5 years = 30 hours.

#### **Continuing Education Requirements**

Registrants are required to obtain continuing education credits within the three-year period (2024 – 2026). Registrants need to submit all of their hours prior to the licence renewal deadline, for the registration year ending December 31, 2026. These guidelines apply to all categories of membership in the Denturist Society of Saskatchewan, as provided for in the Regulatory Bylaws:

- a. Practising Resident Member
- b. Practising Non-Resident Member
- c. Intern Member [12 hours on an annual basis (prorated as to when internship commences) in the Denturist Skills and Professional Involvement category]
- d. Non-Practising Member on an annual basis 12 hours/year \*

\*In the situation of retirement, the DSS recommends that a Non-Practising membership be taken for a period of two years and continuing education credits be maintained in the event that you wish to resume practicing.

#### REPORTING CREDITS

Credits are to be reported annually as part of your annual practising declaration directly in the "Member Portal":

https://members.saskdenturists.dadavan.com/

Alternatively, and only in circumstance where you were unable to complete in the Member Portal directly, you may report these hours using the form attached. The registrar will only track and record reported hours.

#### RECORDS OF CONTINUING EDUCATION ACTIVITY

It is the members registrant's responsibility to maintain evidence of CE completion (i.e. course descriptions, certificates, receipts, course syllabi, etc.), as this information may be requested by the registrar.

#### **CREDIT HOURS**

One hour = 1 credit

Only active hours of lecture, instruction or participation are eligible.

#### **CREDITS REQUIRED**

Denturists must obtain a minimum of 36 CE hours over the three-year registration period. A minimum of 18 hours must be from the *Denturist Skills and Professional Involvement* category. The remaining 18 hours may be obtained from the *Other Dental* category.

Surplus credits accumulated in any cycle **cannot** be carried forward to the subsequent three-year registration period.

# **Categories for Continuing Education**

Category 1 - Denturist Skills and Professional Involvement		2 - Other Dental		
	CLINICAL DENTAL  ■ Relates directly to the provision of patient care and treatment (clinical or laboratory), and includes lectures, hands-on courses and online courses.	<ul> <li>DENTAL PRACTICE MANAGEMENT</li> <li>Relates directly to the operation and management of a dental practice.</li> <li>Does not include courses related to personal financial or retirement planning, marketing products or marketing services to patients.</li> </ul>		
	<ul> <li>Attendance at DSS general meetings.</li> </ul>	JURISPRUDENCE  Relates to the study of ethics, denturism law and regulation.		
		Other Dental Includes faculty/teaching positions, self-study courses, participation in professional organizations (DSS, SOHCP, CDSS, DAC, etc.), or study clubs.		
Minimum Required Hours (Per 3 Years)	18	<ul> <li>Credits from this category can make up the balance of credits required.</li> <li>Further information on following page.</li> </ul>		

#### Learning Modalities for "Other Dental"

The following are examples of CE learning modalities and the credit limits for each one within the three-year cycle. These learning modalities are for allocation in the "Other Dental" category.

Please note that repetition of courses or other submissions (from either category) during a 3-year cycle will not be eligible for credits.

Professional Organizations	Participation in professional organizations is encouraged. Professional organizations include the DSS, DAC, etc.		
	Participation includes being an examiner, focus group and or committee member as well as other volunteer positions.		
	Credit limit: Maximum 6 credit hours per year (combined, not for each organization, committee or council position).		
Dental/Medical	First aid/CPR and other emergency management courses.		
Emergencies	Credit limit: Maximum 8 credit hours per course		
Study Clubs	Study clubs and other forms of peer-to-peer learning are encouraged. Evidence of an agenda and/or speaker notes must be maintained.		
	Credit Limit: 6 credit hours per year		
Publication Authorship	Dental articles written and published in a peer reviewed journal of dental or medical literature qualify for credits on 3 credits per 1000 words, to a <b>maximum of 6 credits per year.</b>		
Trade Shows	Hour-for-hour credit is given for educational activities at trade shows.		
I a company	Credit limit: 6 credit hours per year		
Journals	Internet and print-based journal material. Credits apply only to those journals that include:		
	<ul> <li>a clearly defined learning objective;</li> </ul>		
	<ul> <li>post-course knowledge assessment must be available</li> </ul>		
	and kept in records.		
	Credit limit: 6 credit hours per year		
Dental Teaching Programs	Faculty (full and part-time) lecturers, presenters, study club		
	mentors or instructors who occasionally provide educational		
	and or clinical instruction. Hour per hour for presenting plus a		
	maximum of 2 hours preparation time for the first time a lecture is presented.		
	Credit limit: 6 credit hours per year		

#### **Education Sources**

The following list includes (but is not limited to) sources where denturists may obtain courses, lectures or equivalents that are recognized for CE credit:

- a. A recognized educational institution
- b. Denturist Society of Saskatchewan Courses
- c. An international, national or provincial dental association (examples: The Denturist Association of Ontario or any other province, The Denturist Association of Canada etc.)
- d. Dental manufacturers or suppliers

#### FOR MORE INFORMATION

If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact the DSS Regulatory Executive Secretary by email at <a href="mailto:regulatoryadmin@saskdenturist.com">regulatoryadmin@saskdenturist.com</a> or by telephone at 1-855-633-6875 ext. 5.

#### Reporting

Credit hours for courses or activities are assigned pursuant to these Continuing Education Guidelines.

If a registrant is uncertain about the eligibility of specific continuing education (CE) activities, they are encouraged to contact the registrar for clarification and guidance. This ensures that all CE pursuits align with the Denturist Society of Saskatchewan's standards and contribute meaningfully to professional development.

It is the responsibility of each registrant to ensure that their hours of continuing education are reported at the time of their Annual Practice Declaration and by no later than December 15<sup>th</sup> of each year.

#### **FAQs – Continuing Education (CE)**

#### How do I determine if a course or event will qualify for CE credits?

The information in this package should clarify the types of courses and events that are approved. When in doubt, contact the registrar for further clarification.

#### What am I required to obtain and keep as proof of my CE credits?

Registrants are responsible for maintaining records of their continuing education (CE) activities. These records should be readily available in the event that the Denturist Society of Saskatchewan requests evidence of participation for verification or audit purposes.

#### What CE information do I have to send in at the end of each year?

Every year, each registrant must complete a practice declaration at which time you report your CE hours for that year. The process opens up each year on October 1<sup>st</sup> with the practice declaration to be completed by the end of October, CE credits to be reported by no later than December 15<sup>th</sup>.

#### What happens if I fail to meet the CE requirements in any given term?

Registrants who do not fulfill the continuing education (CE) requirements are ineligible for license issuance or renewal. In such cases, the registrar is not authorized to issue or renew an annual license until compliance is achieved.

The following page can be used for recording and tracking of CE credits if the registrant is unable to use the "Member Portal" at <a href="https://members.saskdenturists.dadavan.com/">https://members.saskdenturists.dadavan.com/</a>.

## **Reporting Page**

Name	Unique ID#	Year

Date	Description	Clinical Dental CE Hours	Other CE Hours
Date:	Signature:	Total Clinical:	Total Other:

Return form by email to <a href="mailto:admin@saskdenturists.com">admin@saskdenturists.com</a> or by fax to 855-633-6875.