

Frequently Asked Questions on Rule 150-5-.07 for Administration of Local Anesthetic by Georgia Dental Hygienists

Q: I have local anesthetic certification from another state, but it is less than the sixty (60) hours required by GA, how do I get the additional hours to meet the Georgia certification status?

A: Attend a continuing education course to supplement the educational and or practical experience your certification is deficient in to meet the (30) didactic hours, fifteen (15) laboratory hours, and fifteen (15) clinical hours required by the Board.

Q: Do I need to submit an application for administration of local anesthesia to the Board?

A: The Board does not require submission of certification. Delegation of local anesthetic administered by the dental hygienist is up to the supervising dentist to ensure the educational and practical experience requirements are met.

Q: Am I required to have malpractice insurance to administer local anesthetic?

A: The Board does not require malpractice insurance for the administration of local anesthetic by dental hygienists but recommends all Georgia licensed dental professionals carry malpractice insurance, which is required in Georgia if working under general supervision.

Q: Do I need to display a copy of my local anesthetic certification at the facility where I will be administering anesthesia?

A: Although certification indicates certain requirements and professional standards have been met, the Board does not require local anesthetic certification to be displayed.

Q: Since authorization for local anesthetic only became effective June 1, 2023, and this is a licensure renewal year, do I have to complete the two (2) hours of local anesthetic continuing education required by the Board for this biennium?

A: If local anesthetic coursework was taken during the current biennium, an additional two (2) hour continuing education course in the review of local anesthetic techniques, contraindications, systemic complications, medical emergencies related to local anesthesia, and a general overview of dental office emergencies is not required this biennium.

Q: What do I need to do to provide a continuing education course if it is not a dental education program accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation (CODA) of the American Dental Association (ADA) or its successor agency, a similar organization approved by the United States Department of Education?

A: Submit a Course Syllabus to the Board for review.

Q: Does the Board need to be notified by the hygienist or dentist that the hygienist is certified to administer local anesthetic?

A: It is up to the supervising dentist to ensure the educational and practical experience requirements are met.

Q: If I'm audited by the Board will I have to show evidence of my anesthetic certification?

A: Yes, at any point the board can request your certification. It is up to the supervising dentist to ensure educational and practical experience requirements for administration of local anesthetic have been met.

Q: Does my local anesthetic certification have to be renewed? If so, how often?

A: The Board does not require renewal of local anesthetic certification, but requires two (2) hours of Board approved continuing education per biennium, which shall include a review of local anesthetic techniques, contraindications, systemic complications, medical emergencies related to local anesthesia, and a general overview of dental office emergencies.

Q: What are the requirements for dental hygienists in GA to administer local anesthetic in GA?

A: <https://rules.sos.ga.gov/GAC/150-5-.07?urlRedirected=yes&data=admin&lookingfor=150-5-.07>