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CONTENTS · INHOUD

<i>No.</i>		<i>Page No.</i>	<i>Gazette No.</i>
GOVERNMENT NOTICE			
Health, Department of			
<i>Government Notice</i>			
R. 263	Dental Technicians Act (19/1979): Regulations relating to Continuing Professional Development of Dental Technologists and Dental Technicians.....	3	35197

GOVERNMENT NOTICE

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

No. R. 263

30 March 2012

DENTAL TECHNICIANS ACT, 1979 (ACT NO 19 OF 1979)

REGULATIONS RELATING TO CONTINUING PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT OF DENTAL TECHNOLOGISTS AND DENTAL TECHNICIANS

The Minister of Health intends, in terms of Section 50 (1) of the Dental Technicians Act, 1979 (Act 19 of 1979), on the recommendation of the South African Dental Technicians Council (SADTC), to make the regulations in the schedule.

Interested persons are invited to submit any substantiated comments or representations on the proposed regulations to the Department of Health (For attention of Director: Public Entities and Management: Ms. Mushwana, Private Bag X828, Pretoria, 0001, within a period of three months from the date of publication of this notice.

SCHEDULE

Definitions

- 1 In these regulations, any word or expression to which a meaning has been assigned in the Act shall bear such meaning and, unless the context indicates otherwise-

“**accreditor**” means an institution that is appointed by the Council, once it has met the criteria set out by the SADTC CPD Committee;

“**compliance checks or audit**” means the random selection of professionals from the register by the CPD Committee for compliance purposes;

“**continuing education units (CEU)**” means the value attached to a learning activity for Continuing Professional Development;

“continuing professional development” means the continuous education and (CPD) development presented in terms of these rules;

“Council” means the South African Dental Technicians Council/or SADTC established in terms of Section 2 of the Act;

“ethics activities” means a set of principles and/or moral choices with regard to what is considered to be right or appropriate with due regard for one’s profession and professional conduct as well as its impact on others;

“formal structured learning activities” means those developmental activities that have an outcome but do not constitute full year of earned CEUs. These include education, training, research and Publications in professional journals, articles, authorship and co-authorship including chapters, posters, completion of a formal qualification, course, module and learning portfolio. These do not include teaching, examining or activities that constitute a person’s job description;

“individual CPD activity record” means the document in the possession of an individual registered practitioner as a record of every learning activity attended or completed;

“learning activity” means the CPD activities for which CEU's are obtained;

“measurable activities” means those activities that have a measurable Outcome and include structured learning or a formal programme that is planned, recorded and presented by an accredited training institution, evaluated by an accredited assessor;

“non compliance” means the failure of an individual to annually obtain the 15 CEU's required for his/her register as determined by the Council;

“non measurable activities” means those activities that do not have clearly measurable outcome and may include amongst others breakfast meetings, presentations, case study discussions and formally organized interdepartmental meetings or updates;

“penalties” means the outcome of the actions/decisions taken by the Council or the committee delegated against a registered practitioner who fails to comply with the CPD requirements of his/her registration;

“registered practitioner” means any dental technician or dental technologist or dental technician assistant duly registered in terms of the Act and shall also include a dental laboratory contractor, as well as a dental trader;

“SADTC CPD Committee” means the committee constituted by Council and entrusted to on its behalf to oversee the regulation of CPD matters;

“service provider” means the profession’s specific entities or professionals accredited as per the set requirements to present the learning activities for CPD purposes; and

“shelf life” means the time or period during which the CEU’s will be valid.

Requirements

- 2(1) Any dental technician or dental technologist whose name on the date to be determined by the Council, appears on the register of SADTC kept in terms of Section 20 of the Act, shall be required to comply with the conditions of CPD.
- (2) Any registered practitioner who, at the date to be determined by the Council registers for the first time in terms of the Act as a dental technician or dental technologist in any category, shall be required to comply with the conditions of CPD laid down in these rules from the following year, which shall be a prerequisite for such dental technician or dental technologist to retain his or her registration in terms of the Act.
- (3) Any dental technician or dental technologist whose name had been erased from the register of the SADTC at the date determined by the Council shall be subject to compliance with any condition (s) which the Council may specify prior to the restoration of the name of such registered practitioner to the relevant register.
- (4) For the purpose of CPD, every dental technician or dental technologist, shall at the date determined by the Council, be required to accumulate at least forty five

- (45) points within a three-year cycle starting from the date determined by the Council on the following basis:
- (a) a minimum of fifteen (15) points shall be accumulated every year,
 - (b) if the dental technician or dental technologist does not accumulate the prescribed minimum of fifteen (15) points in any of the three years, he or she shall be required to appeal to the SADTC CPD Committee in order to obtain the required points in the subsequent year,
 - (c) any dental technician or technologist shall be required to accumulate 50% of CEU's within the year they reach 70 years of age.
- (5) The forty five (45) points prescribed in subregulation 2(4) above shall be accumulated by way of different educational or developmental activities accredited by the Council in any of the following categories of activities:
- (a) Category A: non-measurable
 - (b) Category B: measurable
 - (c) Category C: ethics
 - (d) Category D: formal structured learning
- (6) In complying with the requirements no more than 50% of 45 points may be obtained in a single category or sub-category.
- (7) In complying with the requirements, at least 9 points per 3 year cycle shall have to be obtained by every registered practitioner in professional ethics, human rights and law.

Exemption on the basis of age

- 3 Any registered practitioner may upon reaching the age of 70 apply to the Council for exemption from compliance with the requirements of CPD.

Deferment

- 4 Deferment of compliance with the requirements of CPD may only be granted by the Council on application by an individual on submission of adequate reasons and subject to such requirements as the Council may determine.

Non compliance

- 5 In the event of a dental technician or dental technologist not complying with the requirements specified in regulations 2 above within the prescribe period of time, the council may impose any one or more of the following conditions, namely-
- (a) grant the dental technician or dental technologist deferment; and/or
 - (b) require the dental technician or dental technologist to follow a remedial programme of continuing education and training as specified by the Council; and/or
 - (c) require the dental technician or dental technologist to write an examination as determined by the Council; and/or
 - (d) order the registrar to;
 - (i) register the dental technician or dental technologist in a category of registration which will provide for supervision regarded as appropriate by the Council;
 - (ii) register the dental technician or dental technologist in a temporary category of registration for a period of time to allow compliance; or
 - (iii) remove the name of the registered practitioner from the relevant register;

Re-registration

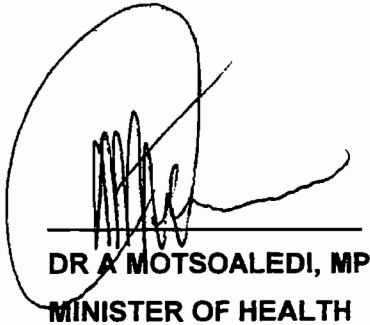
- 6 A deregistered practitioner may apply for re -registration on the following grounds:
- (a) If deregistered due to non-compliance with CPD; this registration shall be considered in accordance with the regulations pertaining to restoration as contained in the Act.
 - (b) If deregistered either on own request or in terms of section 24 of the Act, the applicant shall have to comply with the requirements as listed above.

Fees payable in relation to CPD

7 The SADTC CPD Committee may subject to the approval of the Council require some fees to be paid to the Council by the service providers for approved CPD activities as provided for in clause 4(f) and section 50(1)(c) of the Act.

Commencement

8 These Regulations are called Regulations Relating to the Continuing Professional Development of Dental Technicians and Dental Technologists, made in terms of the Dental Technicians Act, 1979 (Act no 19 of 1979).



DR A MOTSOLEDI, MP
MINISTER OF HEALTH

8/3/2012
Date
