

Root of The Matter: Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR)

CDHBC Dental Hygiene Advisors

CDHBC registrants are expected to remain current with CPR certification to provide safe care as per the CDHBC Practice Standards and Code of Ethics, and to be able to respond to a medical emergency during the provision of care.

On March 2, 2020, the updated CDHBC Bylaws came into effect. One of the implemented changes was the requirement for CDHBC registrants in a practicing category (i.e., RDH & DHP) to hold current CPR certification. Proof of current CPR certification is required during upcoming renewal periods and must be uploaded to your registrant profile. **The required level of CPR certification is the CPR-Basic Life Support (BLS)**, formerly known as CPR-Health Care Provider (HCP).

The CDHBC recognizes that the Covid-19 pandemic has impacted availability of CPR courses in some areas of the province. During the September 2021 Registration Committee meeting, the decision was made to extend the current temporary suspension of CPR requirements for the 2022 renewal period. You are however strongly encouraged to renew and maintain your CPR-BLS certification in 2021/22, particularly if you are providing direct client care. **You will be required to show evidence of current CPR-BLS certification during the 2023 renewal period and are encouraged to plan ahead for scheduling a CPR-BLS course well in advance of the 2023 renewal date.**

For information see [CDHBC approved CPR providers and courses](#).

Currency of a CPR certificate is defined by the expiration date listed on the card, for up to a maximum of 2 years from date of course completion. It is important to note that an approved CPR certificate will be valid for 1 or 2 years, as determined by the course provider. Therefore, registrants will be required to recertify at minimum every 2 years, or as indicated by the expiry date of the course completed. **Three-year expiration dates will no longer be accepted by CDHBC. If the course provider does not indicate an expiry date on the CPR-BLS certificate, a 2-year expiry date from the date of course completion will apply.**

In light of the 2020 Bylaw change and CPR-BLS requirement, the Quality Assurance Committee has determined that CPR-BLS courses will no longer be eligible for continuing competency (CC) credits. Currency in specific areas that is required for registration or renewal is not viewed as expanding one's competency beyond the minimum required for registration. If registrants opt to complete additional first aid and CPR courses beyond the required BLS level, these may be claimed for continuing education credits. For example, some may take an additional CPR course that is specific to children or an Occupational First Aid course which also includes CPR; however, these would not fulfill the registration or renewal requirement and would therefore be viewed as professional development.