

New CME Licensure Requirement

Beginning October 1, 2007, the act requires a physician applying for license renewal to have completed at least 50 contact hours of continuing education during the previous 24 months. A “contact hour” means a minimum of 50 minutes of continuing education activity. It must (1) be in the physician’s practice area; (2) reflect the physician’s professional needs in order to meet the public’s health care needs; and (3) include at least one contact hour of training or education in infectious diseases (e.g., AIDS, HIV), risk management, sexual harassment, and domestic violence.

There have been several questions from physicians who are retired, working part-time and/or practicing for no fee regarding fulfilling this CME requirement. Listed below are a few examples:

- (1) A fully-retired physician applying for licensure renewal is NOT required to meet the new CME requirement. However, you must contact the Department of Public Health for a waiver (860-509-7580). Unless you meet the criteria specified in #3 below, you must still pay the licensure renewal fee.
- (2) A physician who is working full-time or part-time and being reimbursed MUST meet the new CME requirement and must pay the licensure fee.
- (3) A physician who (1) practices for no fee for at least 100 hours a year at a public health facility and (2) does not otherwise practice medicine, MUST meet the new CME requirement. HOWEVER, effective October 1, 2007, the physician can renew a license without charge.

There may be other circumstances not outlined above. If you have any questions or would like more information, please call Jan Cordero at the State of Connecticut Department of Public Health at (860) 509-7580 – or – <http://www.dph.state.ct.us/Licensure/apps/physician.ceu.regs.pdf>.