

Continuing Medical Education for Licensure Reregistration

Sixty boards (including Wyoming, as of January 1, 2007) require an average of anywhere from 12 hours (Alabama) to 50 hours (several states) of continuing medical education (CME) per year for license reregistration. Some states also mandate CME content, such as HIV/AIDS, risk management, or end of life palliative care. In addition, many states also require that a certain percentage of CME be category 1, as measured, for example, through the American Medical Association Physician's Recognition Award. Forty-seven states accept the AMA PRA certificate as equivalent for purposes of licensure reregistration.

Additional Notes for Specific Licensing Jurisdictions

California—All general internists and family physicians who have a patient population of which more than 25% are 65 years of age or older shall complete at least 20% of all mandatory continuing education hours in geriatric medicine or the care of older patients.

All physicians and surgeons shall complete mandatory continuing education in the subjects of pain management and the treatment of terminally ill and dying patients (one-time requirement of 12 credit hours, to be completed by December 31, 2006). Physicians practicing in pathology or radiology specialty areas are exempt from this requirement.

Florida—Physicians may complete a 1-hour CME course on end-of-life and palliative health care in lieu of the required 1-hour CME course on HIV/AIDS, provided the physician completed the HIV/AIDS course in the immediately preceding biennium (2-year licensure term).

Physicians may complete a 1-hour CME course on end-of-life and palliative health care in lieu of the required 1-hour CME course on domestic violence, provided the physician completed the domestic violence course in the immediately preceding biennium (2-year licensure term).

Maryland—Partial CME credit is offered for American Board of Medical Specialties (ABMS) certification, select peer review, serving as an intervenor or monitor on a physician rehabilitation committee or professional committee, and serving as a preceptor for resident physicians or medical students in LCME-accredited schools. For first license renewal, the CME requirement is waived, but the licensee must have completed an approved orientation program.

Washington Osteopathic—Other certificates accepted as equivalent include current certification of CME from medical practice academies and original certification or recertification within 6 years by a specialty board.

Table 16
Continuing Medical Education for Licensure Reregistration

	Required Number of CME Hours per Year(s)	Average Hours per Year	AMA/ AOA/ AAFP/ ACOG Category 1 Hours Required	Certificates Accepted as Equivalent	State-Mandated CME Content/ Additional Notes
Alabama	24 hrs 2 yrs	12	24	ACOG, AAFP	
Alaska	50 hrs 2 yrs	25	25	AMA PRA, ABMS, AOA, APA	
Arizona	40 hrs 2 yrs	20		AMA PRA application, ABMS, GME	40 hrs within 2-yr timeframe
Arizona DO	40 hrs 2 yrs	20	20	AMA PRA	Category 1-A only
Arkansas	20 hrs 1 yr	20	20	AMA PRA	
California*	100 hrs 4 yrs	25	100	AMA PRA, AAFP, CMA, CAFP	Pain management/geriatric medicine (see note)
California DO	150 hrs 3 yrs	50	90	AAFP, CMA, CAFP, AOA	60 hrs Category 1-A or 1-B pain management/geriatric med
Colorado	none				
Connecticut	50 hrs 2 yrs	25			1 hr in infectious disease
Delaware	40 hrs 2 yrs	20	40	AMA PRA, AOA	
DC	50 hrs 2 yrs	25	50	AMA PRA	
Florida*	40 hrs 2 yrs	20	40	AMA PRA	HIV/AIDS, domestic violence, TB, end of life palliative care, med error
Florida DO	40 hrs 2 yrs	20	20 (AOA Category 1-A)		HIV/AIDS, domestic violence, risk management, FL rules/laws, use/abuse of controlled substances, 2 hrs prevention of medical errors
Georgia	40 hrs 2 yrs	20	40	AMA PRA, AOA, AAFP, ACOG, ACEP	
Guam	100 hrs 2 yrs	50	50	AMA PRA, AOA, AAFP, ACOG, ACEP	
Hawaii	40 hrs 2 yrs	20	40	AMA PRA	
Hawaii DO	none				
Idaho	40 hrs 2 yrs	20	40	AMA PRA, ABMS, AOA	
Illinois	150 hrs 3 yrs	50	60	AMA PRA, AOA	
Indiana	none				
Iowa	40 hrs 2 yrs	20	40		Child/dependent adult abuse required every 5 yrs for emergency med, family med, internal med, gen med, ob/gyn, and psych
Kansas	50 hrs 1 yr	50	20	AMA PRA, AAFP, ABMS, GME, AOA	
Kentucky	60 hrs 3 yrs	20	30	AMA PRA, ABMS	One-time domestic violence course for primary care physicians; 2 hrs HIV/AIDS every 10 yrs; course must be approved by Kentucky Cabinet for Hlth Svcs
Louisiana	20 hrs 1 yr	20	20	AMA PRA	One-time board orientation course
Maine	100 hrs 2 yrs	50	40	AMA PRA, ABMS, AAFP	
Maine DO	100 hrs 2 yrs	50	20	AOA	
Maryland*	50 hrs 2 yrs	25	50	AMA PRA application	(see note)
Massachusetts	100 hrs 2 yrs	50	40	AMA PRA, GME	Study board reqs; risk mgmt
Michigan	150 hrs 3 yrs	50	75		
Michigan DO	150 hrs 3 yrs	50	60		60 hrs Category 1-A or 1-B
Minnesota	75 hrs 3 yrs	25	75	AMA PRA, AOA, MOCOMP	

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Table 16 (continued)**Continuing Medical Education for Licensure Reregistration**

	Required Number of CME Hours per Year(s)	Average Hours per Year	AMA/AOA/AAFP/ACOG Category 1 Hours Required	Certificates Accepted as Equivalent	State-Mandated CME Content/ Additional Notes
Mississippi	40 hrs 2 yrs	20	40	AMA PRA app, ABMS, AOA, AAFP, ACOG	
Missouri	50 hrs 2 yrs	25	50	AAFP	
Montana	none				
Nebraska	50 hrs 2 yrs	25	50	AMA PRA	
Nevada	40 hrs 2 yrs	20	40	AMA PRA	Ethics (2 hrs), 20 hrs in specialty; 18 hrs Category 1
Nevada DO	35 hrs 1 yr	35	10	AMA PRA	
New Hampshire	150 hrs 3 yrs	50	60	AMA PRA, ABMS	Credits reported to NH Med Soc
New Jersey	100 hrs 2 yrs	50	40	AMA PRA, AOA	Cultural competence
New Mexico	75 hrs 3 yrs	25	75	AMA PRA, ABMS, AAFP, ACOG	
New Mexico DO	75 hrs 3 yrs	25	75	AMA PRA, ABMS, AAFP, ACOG, USMLE	Active membership in AOA may replace 75 hours of CME
New York	none				Infection control, child abuse
North Carolina	150 hrs 3 yrs	50	60		
North Dakota	60 hrs 3 yrs	20	60	AMA PRA, AOA, AAFP, MOCOMP	
Ohio	100 hrs 2 yrs	50	40	AMA PRA	CME must be OSMA/OOA-certified
Oklahoma	60 hrs 3 yrs	20	60	AMA PRA, ABMS	
Oklahoma DO	16 hrs 1 yr	16	16		16 hrs of Category 1, 1 hr of which must be CME on prescribing controlled substances (every 2 yrs)
Oregon	none				
Pennsylvania	100 hrs 2 yrs	50	20	AMA PRA application	12 hrs patient safety/risk mgmt
Pennsylvania DO	100 hrs 2 yrs	50	20	AOA	20 hrs Category 1-A AOA; 12 hrs risk management/patient safety
Puerto Rico	60 hrs 3 yrs	20	40	AMA PRA	
Rhode Island	40 hrs 2 yrs	20	40	AMA PRA, AOA	HIV universal precautions/ blood-borne pathogens; end of life education/palliative care
South Carolina	40 hrs 2 yrs	20	40	AMA PRA, ABMS, AOA, ACOG equivalent	
South Dakota	none				
Tennessee	40 hrs 2 yrs	20	40	AMA PRA, AAFP	
Tennessee DO	40 hrs 2 yrs	20	40	AMA PRA, AOA, AAFP	
Texas	24 hrs 1 yr	24	12	AMA PRA, AAFP, AOA	Of 12 hrs Category 1, at least 1 hr in ethics/prof. responsibility
Utah	40 hrs 2 yrs	20	20	AMA PRA	
Vermont	none				
Vermont DO	30 hrs 2 yrs	15		AMA PRA	At least 12 of 30 hrs must be osteopathic med education
Virgin Islands	25 hrs 1 yr	25	25		
Virginia	60 hrs 2 yrs	30	30		Of Category 1, 15 hrs must be interactive

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	Required Number of CME Hours per Year(s)		Average Hours per Year	AMA/AOA/AAFP/ACOG Category 1 Hours Required	Certificates Accepted as Equivalent	State-Mandated CME Content/ Additional Notes
Washington	200 hrs	4 yrs	50	80	AMA PRA, ABMS, AAFP, ACOG	
Washington DO*	150 hrs	3 yrs	50	60	AMA PRA, AOA, others (see note)	
West Virginia	50 hrs	2 yrs	25	50	AMA PRA, ABMS (partial)	2 hrs end-of-life pain management (one-time requirement)
West Virginia DO	32 hrs	2 yrs	16	16	Board-recognized equivalent	2 hrs end-of-life pain management prior to first license reregistration
Wisconsin	30 hrs	2 yrs	15	30	AMA PRA	
Wyoming	60 hrs	3 yrs	20	60	AMA PRA	Effective Jan 1, 2007

Abbreviations

ABMS—certification or recertification by a member board of the American Board of Medical Specialties

AMA PRA—American Medical Association Physician's Recognition Award

AOA—American Osteopathic Association

AAFP—American Academy of Family Practice

ACOG—American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists

APA—American Pediatric Association

CMA—California Medical Association

CAFP—California Academy of Family Physicians

CME—continuing medical education

FLEX—Federation Licensing Examination

GME—graduate medical education

MOCOMP—Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada

OSMA—Ohio State Medical Association

USMLE—United States Medical Licensing Association

* Refer to introductory text to this table for more information on this state's regulations.

Note: All information should be verified with licensing board; medical licenses are granted to those physicians meeting all state requirements—at the discretion of the board.