

STATE BOARD OF MEDICINE

CE REQUIREMENTS FOR PROSTHETISTS, ORTHOTISTS, PEDORTHISTS, AND ORTHOTIC FITTERS

Effective January 1, 2015, Per Act 31 of 2014, two (2) hours of Board-approved continuing education in child abuse recognition and reporting requirements must be completed for renewal or reactivation of a license. Details and a list of Board-approved providers can be found at www.dos.pa.gov. Verification of completion must be sent electronically and directly from the course provider. It may take up to 7 days for the provider to submit the records to the Board's office.

Biennial renewal periods for all licenses listed run from January 1 of the odd year through December 31 of the next even year.

PROSTHETIST: A minimum of 24 hours of ABC-approved or BOC-approved continuing education applicable to the practice of prosthetics must be completed within the biennial renewal period.

ORTHOTIST: A minimum of 24 hours of ABC-approved or BOC-approved continuing education continuing education applicable to the practice of orthotics must be completed within the biennial renewal period.

PEDORTHIST: A minimum of 13 hours of ABC-approved or BOC-approved continuing education applicable to the practice of pedorthics must be completed within the biennial renewal period.

ORTHOTIC FITTER: A minimum of 13 hours of ABC-approved or BOC-approved continuing education applicable to the practice of orthotic fitting must be completed within the biennial renewal period.

- All continuing education should be documented with a certificate of attendance or completion issued by the activity provider. The certificate must include the name of the course provider, the name and date of the course, the name of the licensee, the number of credit hours based on a 50-minute hour, and the category of continuing education, if applicable.
- Credit will not be granted for courses in office management or practice building.

The following exemptions of the continuing education requirement may apply:

- A prosthetist, orthotist, pedorthist, or orthotic fitter applying for licensure in this Commonwealth for the first time shall be exempt from the continuing medical education requirement for the biennial renewal period in which initial licensure is acquired.
- Licensees on inactive status shall be exempt from the continuing education requirement.
- Licensees seeking to reinstate an inactive or lapsed license shall show proof of compliance with the continuing education requirement for the preceding renewal period.

Waiver of the CE requirements may be permitted as follows:

- The board may grant a waiver of all or part of the continuing education requirement in cases of serious illness, emergency, military service, or other demonstrated hardship.
- A request for waiver must be made in writing, with appropriate documentation, and include a description of circumstances sufficient to show why compliance is impossible.
- Waiver requests will be evaluated by the board on a case-by-case basis. The Board will send written notification of its approval or denial of a waiver request. The Board may grant the waiver request in whole or in part and may extend the deadline by which the credit hour requirements shall be met.
- **The waiver request should be submitted to the Board at least 90 days prior to the end of the biennial registration period for which the waiver is sought.**

For additional information regarding continuing education course providers, the following websites may be helpful:

ABC - American Board for Certification in Orthotics, Prosthetics, and Pedorthics www.abcop.org

BOC - Board of Certification/Accreditation www.bocusa.org/

Additional information about continuing education, and a copy of the Board's law and regulations, can be found on our website at www.dos.pa.gov/med.

PLEASE NOTE:

THE BOARD DOES NOT RECOMMEND OR ENDORSE CE COURSES.

IT IS THE LICENSEE'S RESPONSIBILITY TO MAINTAIN/TRACK HIS/HER PERSONAL CE CREDIT HOURS.

LICENSEE SHALL RETAIN PROOF OF COMPLETION OF CE FOR AT LEAST 5 YEARS AFTER COMPLETION OF THE CE OR AFTER THE COMPLETION OF THE BIENNIAL REGISTRATION FOR WHICH THE CE WAS REQUIRED, WHICHEVER IS LATER.