

CLARIFICATION OF OPIOID CONTINUING EDUCATION REQUIREMENT UNDER ABC-MAP*

Section 9.1(a)(2) of ABC-MAP generally requires that all prescribers and dispensers complete at least two (2) hours of continuing education in pain management, the identification of addiction or the practices of prescribing or dispensing of opioids (the Opioid CE). However, the ABC-MAP contains an exception from the Opioid CE requirement for certain individuals. To ensure that the relevant health licensing boards within the Bureau of Professional and Occupational Affairs uniformly review and apply the Opioid CE exceptions, on October 29, 2018, the Commissioner of Professional and Occupational Affairs, in consultation with the legal counsel and health licensing divisions, established the following uniform policy to determine if an individual is required to demonstrate compliance with the Opioid CE requirement:

PERSONS WHO MUST COMPLETE THE OPIOID CE

- Individuals who have a current DEA registration, and
- Individuals who do not have a current DEA registration but who utilize the DEA registration number of another person or entity, as permitted by law, to prescribe controlled substances in any manner

If you do not have a DEA registration and do not use another person or entity's DEA registration to prescribe any controlled substances, you do not need to complete the Opioid CE.

*The Achieving Better Care by Monitoring All Prescriptions Program Act (ABC-MAP)(also known as Act 124 of 2016), 35 P.S. § 872.3, is available on the Legislature's website at:

<http://www.legis.state.pa.us/cfdocs/legis/li/uconsCheck.cfm?yr=2016&sessInd=0&act=124>