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Board Action regarding Registered Nurse Continuing Education (CE) regulations

At its meeting on February 17, 2011, the Board voted to waive Sections 21.131 (g)(2) and (3) of the RN Regulations.

What this means is that starting with the October 2011 renewal:

- To obtain a renewed license, an RN will be required to verify on the renewal that they have the 30 hours of CE at the time that they complete and submit the renewal application.

-If a licensee indicates on the renewal application that they do not have the 30 hours of CE, the license will not be renewed.

The Board noted that as a regulatory body, charged with public protection, it is in the best interest of the public to only renew the license when the licensee has completed the entire CE requirement.

In addition, all the other health licensing boards within the Bureau operate under this process and only renew the license if the licensee completes the CE requirement.

The Board will be amending the continuing education regulations in the near future to reflect this change and interested parties will have an opportunity for comment.

The Board encourages all licensees to complete the required CE in a timely manner and in the 2 year period prior to renewal to avoid a delay in their renewal. For additional information related to the CE requirement refer to the document *FAQs on Continuing Education for Registered Nurses*.