

# FAQs

## Oregon Driver Education Instructor Continuing Education

### The requirement:

*OAR 737-015-0070(6) An instructor must be re-certified every two years. To qualify, the instructor must, during the previous two years:*

*(a) Participate in 15 hours of continuing education to improve driver education teaching competency. This professional development training may be obtained through a state agency, college or university or professional education organization. Professional development hours will be accepted for the purpose of enhancing instructional knowledge and skills in support of teaching driver education best practices. Every instructor must maintain a professional development file that includes the agenda, objectives, time schedule and completion certificates for the continuing education;*

Much of the following guidance was provided by the Driver Education Advisory Committee (DEAC). Be sure to refer to the full language in Oregon Administrative Rule, OAR 737-015-0070.

### **1. I found some online DE courses offered through another state. Do online courses count toward CE?**

No out-of-state on-line courses have been approved. The Division has approved one in-state on-line continuing education courses provided by Chemeketa Community College. There may be other opportunities. Every state agency, college or university, or professional education organization that is interested in developing training is invited to submit a proposal to the Division.

### **2. I'm a behind-the-wheel instructor, but have the opportunity to take a workshop on classroom activities. Will this qualify for CE hours?**

The Division realizes the benefit in behind the wheel and classroom instructors obtaining a more rounded DE education. Yes, the hours would qualify for CE.

### **3. My PowerPoint skills are weak. If I take a PowerPoint course through my local community college, will it qualify?**

The Division recognizes that PowerPoint skills can improve an instructor's ability to teach. But the Division cannot approve that course hour for hour. The DEAC has approved up to three hours for each technology course taken. (Also, see question #4).

### **4. Is there a maximum number of courses I can take that are not directly related to driver education?**

Yes, there is a limit. DEAC guidance states that at least 10 of your 15 hours of continuing education must be directly related to driver education.

Even if any of the five remaining hours of continuing education are not specific to driver education, they must clearly enhance instructional knowledge and skills in support of teaching driver education best practices. Be prepared to defend your course selection.

First Aid and CPR courses are not permitted for any part of the fifteen hours.

**5. Besides the two annual conferences, where can I find courses that qualify?**

- Refer to WOU's webpage for instructor courses and workshops.  
See ODOT-TSD's web site: <http://www.oregon.gov/ODOT/TS/de.shtml/>  
Click on *Instructor Provider Resources*  
Or call (503) 838-8483
- Take an on-line course through Chemeketa Community College. In addition to listed courses, a class can be created to meet your program's needs (with a minimum number of participants). See ODOT-TSD's webpage: <http://www.oregon.gov/ODOT/TS/de.shtml/>  
Click on *Instructor Provider Resources*  
Or call 503.584.7541
- Attend a workshop the Friday evening prior to the annual conferences (March and October each year). See conference registration information on the Division's website prior to each conference: <http://www.oregon.gov/ODOT/TS/de.shtml/>
- The Oregon Driver Traffic Safety Education Association (ODTSEA) posts workshops on their site: <http://www.odtsea.org/>
- If your program needs training in a specific area, ask Western Oregon University whether they can develop a training session for you. Contact WOU, Division of Extended Programs (DEP) <http://www.wou.edu/provost/extprogram/trafficsafetyeducation.php#top>  
1.800.451.5767 or 503.838.8483 V/TTY | or e-mail: [extend@wou.edu](mailto:extend@wou.edu)

**Plan ahead! It is one of your responsibilities as an instructor to assure you participate in sufficient continuing education hours! You will need 15 hours CE in the past two years to obtain or renew your Approved Instructor certification card.**