

2008-2009 LICENSE RENEWAL APPLICATIONS WILL BE MAILED TO ALL LICENSEES DURING THE FIRST WEEK OF JANUARY, 2008.

All current licenses will expire on March 31, 2008. If you do not renew your license and you practice on or after April 1, 2008, you will be subject to disciplinary action by the Board. If you have not received your renewal application by February 1, 2008, please contact the Board to receive another application.

YOU WILL NEED TO COMPLETE THE REQUIRED CONTINUING EDUCATION IN ORDER TO RENEW YOUR LICENSE FOR APRIL 1, 2008.

What period of time does this CE certification period cover?

- The first continuing education certification period is January 1, 2006 through March 31, 2008; all qualifying courses completed during this timeframe will count toward the requirement. The second certification period will be from April 1, 2008 through March 31, 2010 and every subsequent two-year-period after that.

How Many CE credits does a PT have to complete?

- All PTs must complete 24 contact hours of continuing education

How many CE credits does a PTA have to complete?

- All PTAs must complete 12 contact hours of continuing education

I just recently licensed with the Board, do I have to complete the CE by March 31st?

- YES. If you were licensed between 4/1/06 – 3/31/07 you have to complete the entire required CE by 3/31/08; if you were licensed between 4/1/07 – 3/31/08 you will have to complete ½ the required CE by 3/31/08.

What if I have completed CE hours for another State prior to my initial licensure date with Oregon?

- Any CE qualified CE you completed from 01/01/06 through 3/31/08 will count towards your Oregon requirement regardless of your initial licensure date with Oregon.

What information is required to be on a course completion certificate?

- Name of Licensee, title of course, instructor or provider's name, date of course and number of contact hours or CEUs.

The rule states contact hours. What is a continuing education contact hour?

- CE measured in contact hours is equal to the actual hours spent in the course (minus breaks and lunch). One CE contact hour is equal to one CE credit, i.e. a program offering 3 hours of classroom work or lecture would be equal to 3 contact hours or 3 CE credits.

My CE course certificate says 1.5 CEUs. I spent two full days in the program.

What's the difference between a CEU and a CE credit?

- CEUs (continuing education units) is another way that some states measure

continuing education credits. Oregon measures continuing education in actual contact hours. Simply, one CE unit is equal to 10 CE contact hours. In the question above, the 1.5 CEUs would count towards 15 CE credits or contact hours (1.5 X 10)

I received a course brochure in the mail and Oregon is not listed as an approved state. How can I check to see if the course counts in Oregon, and how do I go about getting the course approved?

- The Oregon Board does not pre-approve nor certify CE courses, so you will not see Oregon listed as an approved state. If the course is approved by another state, the course will count for CE credit in Oregon. Generally, any course related to the delivery or provision of physical therapy services will qualify for CE under Oregon Administrative Rule.

I am a course provider who wants to offer my course to therapists in Oregon. Do I have to get my course pre-approved before I offer it?

- NO. There is no pre-approval of courses in Oregon. As long as the course relates to the practice of PT and a completion certificate is issued, the course will count for CE. If the course is approved by another state or recognized organization, it will automatically be approved.

I am licensed in Texas and have to have my CE preapproved or certified before I can count it towards my CE for renewal; does Oregon pre-approve or certify CE courses?

- The Oregon Board does not pre-approve nor certify CE courses. The Board definition of what qualifies as CE is intended to be very broad in nature. Generally, any course related to the delivery or provision of physical therapy services will qualify for CE under Oregon Administrative Rule.

I want to take a course that is approved by the Ohio Board of PT. Will it count for CE credit?

- YES. Any course that is approved for CE by other states which require continuing education, will count for CE credit. Texas, Florida and Ohio are some of the states that list approved courses on their professional organizations websites. If the course you wish to attend is listed, then it will qualify for CE in Oregon.

Websites: Texas– www.tpta.org/continuing_education/index.htm
Florida– www.fpta.org/accreditedcoursesearch.cfm
Ohio–www.otptat.ohio.gov/ptce.stm

I want to take a course that is sponsored by the APTA. Will it count for CE credit?

- YES, any course that is sponsored or approved by a medical organization or professional organization, recognized by the Board, will count for CE credit.

I am completing coursework for my transitional DPT. Will that count for CE credit?

- YES, any classes taken after the initial graduation from PT school will count for CE credit. In general, 1 semester credit equals 10 contact hours.

I am completing coursework for my MBA. Will that count for CE credit?

- MAYBE, please contact Sherri Paru, PT, at the Board office, and the Board can review the coursework on an individual basis.

I work for a hospital or company that offers formal educational classes for staff in the evenings. Will these classes count for CE credit?

- YES. If the content of the class relates to the practice of PT and a certificate of completion is issued.

Do I receive CE credit for mandatory in-service programs?

- No, employer sponsored in-service programs (i.e.: hospital protocols, demo of new equipment, how to use the new computerized documentation system in the office) do not count towards CE.

I hold a current license, but I have stayed home for the past few years to raise my children. Do I still have to complete the CE requirements?

- YES. If you want to hold a current license, you must complete all CE requirements, there are no exceptions to this rule.

Do home-study and internet based courses count for CE?

- YES. As long as the course requires an exam, issues a completion certificate, and is recognized by an institution of higher education, health-related organization, or professional organization recognized by the Board.

Do independent journal reviews count towards CE?

- NO. Journal review does not qualify for CE at this time. However, courses in journals such as “Today in PT”, which require you to take an examination before issuing a course completion certificate, do qualify for CE credit.

Do I have to send all my course completion certificates with my license renewal?

- NO. Do not submit any CE documentation with your renewal application. You only need to send in your certificates if you are audited by the Board.

How will the Board know I’ve completed the CE requirement?

- You will be asked a question regarding the completion of your required CE on your renewal form.

What happens if I’m selected for audit?

- If randomly selected for audit, you will receive an Audit Request Letter from the Board asking you to complete a CE certification sheet and supply the Board with evidence that you did complete the listed CE.

What if I do not complete the required CE by the renewal date?

- You will be unable to renew your license and your license status will change to LAPSED. **You can not treat patients with a lapsed license.** The license will remain lapsed until the required CE is completed, documented, and the lapsed license is renewed. All licenses renewed, after the expiration date, will be considered lapsed and subject to the lapse license fee upon renewal.

What if I tell the Board that I completed the required CE, renew my license and am selected for audit. Upon receiving my audit letter I am unable to provide the necessary evidence to substantiate my CE?

- The Board will open an investigation to determine if disciplinary action is warranted.

How long am I required to maintain my CE completion certificates?

- By Board Rule, you must keep all certificates for 3 years following the date of the course.

I heard that there is also a new mandatory requirement for completion of pain management CE?

- During the 2007 legislative session, the Oregon Pain Management Commission sponsored Senate Bill 879 adding physical therapists to the list of health care professionals who must complete a one time pain management CE requirement. This requirement includes 6 CE hours of coursework dealing with pain and a free 1 hour on-line training course offered by the pain commission.

What is the timeframe for completing the pain management CE requirement?

- The 6 hours of CE and 1 hour on-line course must be completed within 2 years of the effective date of the statute (January 2, 2008). That means that the courses can be completed between Jan 2, 2006 and January 1, 2010. Any licensee initially licensed after January 2, 2008 will be required to complete the pain management CE within 2 years following their first renewal date.

The Bill specifically addresses “physical therapists”. Do physical therapist assistants also need to complete the pain management CE?

- No. The Board and its Legal Counsel have determined that physical therapist assistants will not be held accountable to complete the pain management CE. PTAs are still accountable to complete their 12 hours of general CE as noted above. If a PTA chooses to voluntarily complete the free 1 hour on-line pain management course, it will count towards their general CE requirement.

Will the mandatory, one time, 7 hours of CE for pain management count towards the general CE requirement?

- YES. The one time 7 hours of CE will count during the certification period in which you complete the coursework.

What courses will count for the requirement of CE for pain management?

- Any course that deals with the treatment of pain will count. The course does not need to be specifically titled “pain management”. If you are interested in a

specific “pain management” course, there are many listed on the website for the Oregon Pain Commission. <http://www.oregon.gov/DHS/pain/events.shtml>

If I take a pain management course that offers greater than 7 hours of CE, do I still need to take the on-line course offered by the Oregon pain Commission?

- YES. All physical therapists must complete the one-hour on-line course offered by the Oregon Pain Commission, regardless of the amount of time earned from another pain course. The website to directly access the on-line course is: <http://www.oregon.gov/DHS/pain/training.shtml>