Continuing Education

(1) Continuing education (CE) is required as part of the naturopathic physician's license renewal per OAR 850-030-0195 and ORS 685.102.

(2) A total of 32 CE credit hours are required annually to maintain an active license including at least:
   (a) Ten (10) hours in pharmacology.
   (b) Two (2) hours of any of the following: medical ethics, cultural competency or suicide intervention and prevention.
   (c) Twenty (20) hours of education that promotes competency and skills necessary to assure the citizens of Oregon the highest standard of naturopathic medical care.

(3) A natural childbirth certificate requires 14 hours in obstetrics each year per OAR 850-035-0230, seven (7) hours of which may be included as part of the annual CE education requirement.

(4) Each Licensee must obtain the one-time mandatory pain management education as required by ORS 409.500 through 409.570, within 24 months of initial license.

(5) A total of 10 CE credit hours are required annually to maintain an inactive license.

(6) CE credit will be rounded to the nearest quarter hour.

(7) A verification of attendance for all CE courses or activities showing hours claimed or proof of completion must be signed by the program provider.

(8) Licensees must maintain full and accurate CE records, including verification of attendance, for a period of at least five years.

(9) Any Licensee using intramuscular (IM) or subcutaneous (SC) or intravenous (IV) therapeutic injection of vitamins or minerals, or preventive injections (IM, SC, or IV) must have qualifying education per OAR 850-060-0212.

(10) To be approved, continuing education programs shall meet the following criteria:
   (a) Be presented by naturopathic physicians, other physicians or other professionally acknowledged health care educators with expertise in the subject matter;
   (b) Foster the competency and skills of the naturopathic physician;
   (c) Consist of education covering review, new, experimental, research or specialty subjects relevant to the practice of naturopathic medicine;
   (d) Exclude the selling or promotion of proprietary products or practice building;
   (e) Not misrepresent or mislead the end result/skill to be gained by the education or training offered.

(11) Continuing education programs sponsored or provided by the following meet the listed criteria:
   (a) Recognized professional health care licensing agencies, hospitals, or institutions;
   (b) Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME)
   (c) American Council on Pharmaceutical Education (ACPE);
   (d) The Federation of Naturopathic Medicine Regulatory Authority (FNMRA)

(12) For all other programs or for education credit for other activities, licensees must submit an application for approval of continuing education, and include the required materials, prior to or within 30 days of completion for the following:
   (a) Video, audio, live or web based education by an entity not listed in subsection (11): Licensees must submit sponsor information, name of the program, agenda/outline of the presentation and verification of completion;
   (b) Literature Review: Credit is determined by the length of the article(s) and the complexity of the topic(s). Articles must be from peer-reviewed publications. Verification must include concise information, including an original outline of the literature reviewed;
(c) Authoring: Articles must be published in a professional publication or book. Credit is determined by whether the article is related to naturopathic medicine, by the length of the article and the complexity of its content. Credit given in the year the project is completed. Verification must include a copy of the article or book;
(d) CPR: Credit only given in the year course work was completed. Verification must include current certification;
(e) Preceptorship: Only preceptorships offered by person(s) from qualifying entities listed in subsection (11) of this rule shall receive credit. Verification of preceptor hours must include the date and place, an outline of the information studied, and a signed acknowledgement from the preceptor;
(f) Protocol Writing: Formal protocol writing must be associated with an accredited health care institution or government health care agency. Credit is determined by a written record of hours of development and research. Verification must include the names and addresses of the institutions involved, the name of supervisors and their signatures verifying qualified hours;
(g) Research: Credit may be given for research related to the advancement of naturopathic medicine for a recognized educational or medical institution or organization, or self-directed. Verification must include the type of research conducted, purpose and summary of research, dates of participation and disclosure of any fiduciary relationships;
(h) Presentation: Credit is determined by actual presentation hours for an initial course or initial seminar offering, and up to three hours for preparation for each hour of the presentation;
(i) Teaching: Credit may be given for teaching if the subject is specific to professional level health education;
(j) Graduate Level Education: Credit may be given for participation in an accredited graduate level health related program relevant to the practice of naturopathic medicine;
(k) Participation in the Naturopathic Physicians Licensing Examinations (NPLEX) committee for the development and writing of the NPLEX examinations;
(l) Activities specific to patient charting and record keeping;
(m) Courses and activities related to professional conduct;
(n) Other courses or activities specifically authorized by the Board;
(o) A full-time residency, which is CNME or Board approved, requiring at least 6 months of participation in the calendar year;
(p) A fellowship with a Board recognized professional organization, requiring at least six months of active participation in the calendar year.
(13) Credit will not be given for hours received for:
(a) Teaching, except as permitted in OAR 850-040-0210(12)(i);
(b) Community service seminars and activities;
(c) Self-growth/self-help activities;
(d) Practice building activities;
(e) Medical/insurance billing presentations;
(f) Nonprofessional level health related programs presented by a lay person;
(g) Nonprofessional level health related programs presented to the lay public;
(h) Proprietary programs, which promote exclusive services and/or products;
(i) Information not within or directly related to the scope of practice of naturopathic medicine.

Stat. Auth.: ORS 685.125
Stats. Implemented: ORS 685.102