Recertification process for Traditional Health Workers: How to Renew your Certification

1. How long is traditional health worker certification good for?
   a. Traditional Health Worker certification is good for three years (36 months).
   b. If you submit a renewal application with a different email address than your original application, please contact us at thw.program@state.or.us, as soon as possible, otherwise you will be issued a new THW number. Please, always provide us with a permanent email address.

2. Traditional Health Worker Continuing Education Requirements
   a. To maintain certification status, all THWs shall complete at least 20 hours Plus one and half hour of Oral health Authority approved continuing education during every three-year renewal period.
   b. Family support specialists and youth support specialists shall complete at least 40 hours of Authority approved continuing education during every three-year renewal period. Two topics must be included within the 40 hours:
      c. The application of “means counseling” and “safety planning;”
      d. The use of lived experience and ethical practice.
      e. Continuing education hours taken in excess of the total number required may not be carried over to the next renewal period.
      f. Requests for approval of continuing education courses may come from the hosting organization or from a certified THW attending the training or event.

3. When and how does someone need to renew their certification?
   a. Your certification is good for three years from the date of certification.
   b. Individuals will need to submit renewal application 60 days before their current certification expires (THW application; check “renewal” box at the top of the application).
   c. They will be required to earn and document 20 continuing education hours during their renewal process. In addition, they will need to finish one and half hour to three hours 1.5 – 3 hours of Oral Health Training All that information related to oral health Training can be found on our OHA/OEI Website at
      i. Peer Support Specialist (PSS) and Peer Wellness Specialist (PWS) are required to complete. Link: THW Oral Health for Peer Support and Peer Wellness Training Program,
ii. Effective May 13, 2019: **Community Health Worker (CHW), Personal Health Navigator (PHN) and Birth Doula** are also required to complete Link: THW Oral Health for CHW, PHN and Doula.

d. Another background check will be running again during the renewal process

e. All Oregon State Certified and approved Traditional Health Workers are valid for 3 years (36 Months) from the date of issue (OAR **410-180-0320**).

f. **The Authority awards continuing education hours for:**

   i. Additional THW training offered by a training program; and
   
   ii. Any other Authority approved training or event.
   
   iii. Any Non OHA Approved trainings pending a review by OHA Authority
   
   iv. 10 hours of the CEUs can be from Online course (50%)
   
   v. 10 hours of the CEUs can be in class in person interaction (50%)

**Step 1: Complete your required continuing education hours**

- Current training programs can be found here at our website and can be reached directly through their Link at https://www.oregon.gov/OHA/OEI/Pages/THW-OHA-Approved-Training-CEU.aspx

**Step 2: Complete your Traditional health Worker Renewal Application**

- https://www.oregon.gov/oha/OEI/Pages/THW-Become-Certified.aspx

**Step 3: Background Check Process for Traditional health worker**

- https://secure.sos.state.or.us/oard/viewSingleRule.action?ruleVrsnRsn=248081

- Notes on Completing background Check weighing Test:  https://www.oregon.gov/oha/OEI/Documents/THW-Background-Check.pdf

**Step 4: Submit your application renewal form**

- Send your fully completed application and documents to:  
  Traditional Health Worker Program  
  Office of Equity and Inclusion  
  421 SW Oak St. Suite 750  
  Portland, Oregon 97204

  Fax: 971-673-1128  
  Email: thw.program@state.or.us