

**OREGON BOARD OF PHARMACY
2019 PHARMACIST CONTINUING EDUCATION
FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQs)**

It is the responsibility of the licensee to make the professional determination whether continuing education program content and hours meet the criteria set forth for the renewal of the Oregon Pharmacist license. The following FAQs for CE are provided; for additional inquiries, refer to Oregon Administrative Rules, Chapter [021](#).

Every two years, Oregon Pharmacists must complete 30 hours of Continuing Education (CE) to consist of at least 2 hours of pharmacy and drug law, 2 hours of safety/error prevention and 26 'other' (therapeutics, etc.) hours. Eligible hours for the 2019 renewal cycle must be completed in the period of July 1, 2017 - June 30, 2019.

1. **Q. I recently obtained my Pharmacist license in Oregon. Do I have to complete the required CE prior to renewing my license this year?**
A. *It depends on your initial issue date on your license.*
 - *If you were initially licensed from July 1, 2017 - June 30, 2018, **YES**, you **MUST** complete the continuing education requirements prior to renewing your license.*
 - *If you were initially licensed from July 1, 2018 – June 30, 2019, **NO**, you **DO NOT** have to complete the continuing education requirements for this license renewal.*

2. **Q. I completed the required 7 hours of Pain Management CE last year, am I required to complete Pain Management CE again?**
A. *No. All Pharmacists are required to have completed a one-time requirement of Pain Management CE within 24 months of their first license renewal. If 2019 is your first renewal, the pain management CE must be completed in the period of July 1, 2017 – June 30, 2021.*

3. **Q. Where can I obtain Pain CE?**
A. *One of the seven hours of Pain Management CE must be earned from the Oregon Pain Management Commission. This one hour mandatory Pain Management CE module can be found on their website:
<http://www.oregon.gov/oha/ohpr/pmc/pages/index.aspx>*

4. **Q. Where can I find information regarding Pain Management CE and how will I know it is classified as 'pain management'?**
A. *Based on the title and content of the program, please use your professional determination whether a CE is focused on pain management. The Oregon Pain Management Commission (OPMC) offers the required Pain module. It can be found at: <http://www.oregon.gov/oha/ohpr/pmc/pages/index.aspx>.*

The OPMC strongly recommends that a component of the additional 6 hours of continuing education include the new understanding of the neuroscience and the complex biopsychosocial nature of pain in addition to the International Association for the Study of Pain (IASP) Guidelines and Center for Disease Control (CDC) Opioid Prescribing Guidelines.

5. Q. How long should I retain the proof of my CE?
A. You should retain the proof of CE for three years.
6. Q. Does the Board require "Live" CE?
A. At this time, there is no requirement to have attended a "Live" CE session.
7. Q. I have until June 30, 2019 to complete my CE but the fee is higher if I renew my license after May 31, 2019. What can I do to avoid paying the additional fee?
A. The only way to avoid paying the higher fee is to renew your license by May 31, 2019. This means that you must complete the required CE and renew your license by May 31, 2019.
8. Q. During the renewal cycle, do I have to submit copies of my completed CE to the Oregon Board of Pharmacy?
A. No. Please do not forward copies of your CE certificates to the Board **unless** you receive notification that you have been selected for a CE Audit.
9. Q. How do I know if I have been selected for a CE Audit?
A. If you are selected for a CE Audit, you will receive a notification in August 2019, which will require you to provide your CE certificates to the Board pursuant to OAR 855-021-0050(2). You will have approximately one month to provide the Board with copies of your CE certificates. Please email the documentation of your CE to: pharmacy.audit@oregon.gov
10. Q. I plan to renew my license after the expiration date of June 30, 2019. Will my CE be audited?
A. Yes, all Pharmacists who submit a renewal after the license expiration date will be automatically required to complete a CE Audit. Please email the documentation of your CE to: pharmacy.audit@oregon.gov.
11. Q. I don't have my CE certificates because I track my CE another way. What do I do for my audit?
A. If you obtain your Continuing Education through Pharmacists Letter or use the NABP CE Monitoring program to track your CE, you can submit the **PDF transcript** of completed CE to pharmacy.audit@oregon.gov. Downloaded excel spreadsheets will not be accepted.
* You do not have to submit each individual certificate if you track your CE this way.
12. Q. I have been selected for audit but cannot find copies of my completed CE. What should I do?
A. Please contact the CE provider for proof of completion, as they are required to keep completed CE on file for at least three years.
13. Q. I renewed my license and attested to the fact that my CE was completed, but I did not have all of my CE completed prior to renewing my license, or I cannot provide proof of completion. What happens next?
A. Your audit materials will be presented to the Compliance Department for further review and may need to be presented to the Board for disciplinary consideration at an upcoming Board Meeting.