Continuing Education Requirements

**Texas Medical Board**

As a prerequisite for physician registration, practitioners are required to complete continuing medical education. Current requirements for physicians are summarized below. If you would like to review the current rule, these requirements are currently listed Board rule 166.2 available on the TMB website at: http://www.tmb.state.tx.us/page/board-rules

Physicians need to complete at **least 48 credits of continuing medical education every 24 months** (24 month timeline is in relation to the biennial registration period, not the calendar year). **At least half of these hours must be in formal, category I or 1A courses**. A physician must report during registration if she or he has completed the required CME. However, newly licensed physicians are exempt from the CME requirement the first time they register.

Documentation of CE courses shall be made available to the Board upon request, but should not be submitted with the registration. Random audits will be made to assure compliance.

For questions regarding continuing education requirements, please email the TMB at [registrations@tmb.state.tx.us](mailto:registrations@tmb.state.tx.us)

**Physician CME Requirements (per biennium)**

**24 Formal Category 1 or 1A hours:**

• courses designated for AMA/PRA Category 1 credit by a CME sponsor accredited by ACCME (Accreditation Council for CME) or state medical society recognized by ACCME;

• approved for credit by American Academy of Family Physicians;

• designated for AOA Category 1-A credit; or

• approved by TMA based on standards established by AMA for its Physician's Recognition Award.

**Medical Ethics and/or Professional Responsibility**

• At least 2 of the formal hours must involve the study of medical ethics and/or professional responsibility. Professional responsibility includes but is not limited to courses in: Risk management, Domestic Abuse; or Child Abuse. Formal courses must be approved for ethics or professional responsibility credit by the accrediting agency. Also acceptable are the CME activities designated by the Texas Medical Board as Medical Ethics and/or Professional Responsibility [Note: Courses listed fulfill Medical Ethics/Professional Responsibility requirements for registration but are not automatically acceptable for fulfillment of CME Ethics requirements for disciplinary orders.]

• Please note that during the October 14, 2016 Full Board meeting, agenda item – “9. Discussion, recommendation, and possible action regarding Board approval of CME for medical ethics”was considered. After discussion, the Board approved to eliminate the process for board approval of CME for medical ethics. Board meeting minutes are available for review in the Publicationssection of our website, located under “Agency” by Board and date of meeting.

**24 Informal Hours:**

• Composed of informal self study, attendance at hospital lectures

• or grand rounds not approved for formal CME or case conferences and shall be recorded in a manner easily transmitted to the board.

There is a maximum of 48 total excess credit hours that may be carried forward and a limit of two years from the date of the registration following the period during which the hours were earned. Excess hours are applied/reported according to their Category. See Board Rule 166.2 for additional information.