

## Continuing Medical Education for Licensure Reregistration

The majority of boards require continuing medical education (CME) for license reregistration (Table 21). Some states also mandate CME content, such as HIV/AIDS, risk management, or end of life palliative care. In addition, many states also require that a certain percentage of CME be *AMA PRA Category 1 Credit™* or equivalent. About two thirds of states accept the AMA PRA certificate or application as equivalent for purposes of licensure reregistration. Some states also accept certificates/awards of the American Osteopathic Association, American Board of Medical Specialties, a state medical society, and a national specialty society, as well as completion of graduate medical education residency/fellowship programs.

### Additional Notes for Specific Licensing Jurisdictions

**California MD and DO**—All general internists and family physicians who have a patient population of which more than 25% are 65 years of age or older must complete at least 20 hours of mandatory CME in geriatric medicine or the care of older patients.

All physicians and surgeons (except pathologists and radiologists) must complete mandatory CME in the subjects of pain management and the treatment of terminally ill and dying patients (one-time requirement of 12 credits). Physicians must complete this requirement by their second license renewal date or within four years, whichever comes first.

**Florida MD**—*First time license renewal*: one hour HIV/AIDS, two hours in prevention of medical errors. *Second and subsequent renewals*: forty hours, including two hours in prevention of medical errors. *Every third renewal*: forty hours, including two hours in prevention of medical errors and two hours in domestic violence CME. *Note*: End-of-life care and palliative care can no longer be completed in lieu of HIV/AIDS or domestic violence courses.

All CME must be *AMA PRA Category 1 Credit™*, except for domestic violence and prevention of medical errors. Domestic violence and prevention of medical errors courses offered by any state or federal government agency or professional association, including any provider of *AMA PRA Category 1 Credit™*, are acceptable.

**Florida DO**—*First time license renewal*: Forty hours, including one hour HIV/AIDS, professional and medical ethics, Florida laws and rules, controlled substances; two hours domestic violence and prevention of medical errors. Of the remaining required hours, at least 20 must be AOA Category

1-A. *Second and subsequent renewals*: one hour each in professional and medical ethics, Florida laws and rules, and controlled substances; two hours in prevention of medical errors. *Every third renewal*: two hours of domestic violence. *For each license renewal*: Of the remaining required hours, at least 20 must be AOA Category 1-A; all other hours (including those in the required content categories) can be either *AMA PRA Category 1 Credit™* or AOA Category 1-A credit.

CME on professional and medical ethics, Florida laws and rules, controlled substances, and prevention of medical errors must be obtained by completing live, participatory attendance courses.

**Hawaii**—The information for the CME requirements for physician license renewal were obtained from the Hawaii Medical Board website at [http://hawaii.gov/dcca/pvl/boards/medical/education\\_information/pvl\\_medical\\_physician.pdf](http://hawaii.gov/dcca/pvl/boards/medical/education_information/pvl_medical_physician.pdf).

**Iowa**—Licensure renewal fee waived for physicians on active duty (full-time training or active service) in the U.S. armed forces, reserves or national guard during their renewal period.

**Kansas**—Requirement is 50 credits in 18 months (20 Category 1), or 100 credits in 30 months (30 Category 1), or 150 credits in 42 months (60 Category 1).

**Maryland**—Partial CME credit is offered for ABMS certification, select peer review, serving as an intervenor or monitor on a physician rehabilitation committee or professional committee, and serving as a preceptor for resident physicians or medical students. For first license renewal, the CME requirement is waived, but the licensee must have completed an approved orientation program.

**Missouri**—The CME license renewal requirement can be met by a) completing 50 hours *AMA PRA Category 1 Credits™*, AOA Category 1-A or 2-A credits, or American Academy of Family Physicians prescribed credits; b) completing 40 hours of *AMA PRA Category 1 Credit™* or AOA Category 1-A credit if each course, seminar, or

**New Jersey**—The six credits for cultural competence are in addition to the 100-hour requirement for physicians licensed prior to 3/24/05; these credits may be included if licensed after this date. For more information, see: [www.njconsumeraffairs.gov/bme/press/cultural.htm](http://www.njconsumeraffairs.gov/bme/press/cultural.htm).

For newly licensed physicians, the Board requires attendance at an orientation program; no CME is given for this.

**Oregon**—Additional one-hour pain management course specific to Oregon provided by the pain management commission of DHS. Additionally, licensees in residency training and those serving in the military (and deployed outside Oregon for 90 days or more) are exempt from the CME requirement.

**Vermont**—Of the 30 required credits, at least 1 hour must be on hospice, palliative care, and/or pain management services. In addition, for each licensee who has or has applied for a DEA number, at least 1 hour must be on safe and effective prescribing of controlled substances.

**Washington MD**—The board classifies CME into five different categories. A candidate for relicensure may earn all 200 required hours every four years in Category 1; a maximum of 80 hours may be earned in any of the other four categories. See: [www.doh.wa.gov/Portals/1/Documents/3000/657-128.pdf](http://www.doh.wa.gov/Portals/1/Documents/3000/657-128.pdf)

**Table 21**  
Continuing Medical Education for Licensure Reregistration

	Required Number of CME Credits per Year(s)	Average Credits per Year	AMA PRA Category 1 <sup>14</sup> or Equivalent ADA, AAFP or ACOG Credits	Certificates/Awards Accepted as Documentation								State-Mandated CME Content/ Additional Notes	
				AMA PRA	AMA PRA app.	ADA	ABMS	SMS	NSS	GME	Other		
Alabama	25 1 yr	25	25			Yes	Yes						No rollover of credits
Alaska	50 2 yrs	25	50	Yes			Yes				Yes		
Arizona	40 2 yrs	20		Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes				Yes	Yes	
Arizona DO	40 2 yrs	20	12 per yr (AGA 1-A)			Yes	Yes				Yes		No more than 8 hours are obtained annually by completing CME classified by the ACCME as Category 1
Arkansas	20 1 yr	20	*	Yes		Yes					Yes		* 50 percent in Category 1 and in primary area of practice
California*	50 2 yrs	25	50		Yes		Yes	Yes			Yes		Pain management, geriatric medicine, end-of-life care (see intro)
California DO*	150 3 yrs	50	60 (AGA 1-A or B)			Yes*							Pain management, geriatric medicine, end-of-life care (see intro); ADA cert. accepted when accompanied by AQA activity registration
Colorado	none												
Connecticut	50 2 yrs	25											Infectious disease, risk management, sexual assault, domestic violence, cultural competence
Delaware	40 2 yrs	20	40		Yes								
DC	50 2 yrs	25	50		Yes	Yes					Yes		3 credits HIV/AIDS
Florida*	40 2 yrs	20	40	Yes							Yes		See intro
Florida DO*	40 2 yrs	20	20 (AGA 1-A)	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes				Yes		See intro
Georgia	40 2 yrs	20	40		Yes	Yes					Yes		
Guam	100 2 yrs	50	25		Yes	Yes				Yes		ACEP	
Hawaii	40 2 yrs	20	40	Yes		Yes		Yes	Yes	Yes			See intro
Idaho	40 2 yrs	20	40	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes				Yes		
Illinois	150 3 yrs	50	60	Yes				Yes	Yes	Yes			SMS, NSS if ACCME-accredited
Indiana	none												
Iowa	40 2 yrs	20	40	Yes			Yes				Yes		Required every 5 yrs: Training for identifying and reporting child and dependent adult abuse; chronic pain management, end-of-life care
Kansas*	50 18mos	50	20	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes			Yes		
Kentucky	60 3 yrs	20	30	Yes		Yes				Yes	Yes		One-time domestic violence course for primary care physicians; 2 credits HIV/AIDS every 10 yrs, course must be KY-approved
Louisiana	20 1 yr	20	20	Yes									One-time board orientation course
Maine	100 2 yrs	50	40	Yes	Yes		Yes	Yes			Yes		
Maine DO	100 2 yrs	50	40 (AGA 1-A or B)										Specialists may obtain other than AQA Category 1 credits
Maryland*	50 2 yrs	25	50		Yes		Yes <sup>†</sup>						<sup>†</sup> Partial credit for ABMS
Massachusetts	100 2 yrs	50	40 (AGA 1-A)	Yes	Yes		Yes	Yes					Study board reqs; risk management; 3 credits pain management for renewals; 2 credits for end-of-life care; 3 credits in Electronic Health Records for renewals after 1/1/15
Michigan	150 3 yrs	50	75					Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes		

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**Table 21 (continued)**  
**Continuing Medical Education for Licensure Reregistration**

	Required Number of CME Credits per Year(s)	Average Credits per Year	AMA PRA Category 1+ or Equivalent ADA, AAFP or ACOG Credits	Certificates/Awards Accepted as Documentation							State-Mandated CME Content/ Additional Notes		
				AMA PRA	AMA PRA app.	ADA	ABMS	SMS	NSS	GME		Other	
Michigan DO	150 3 yrs	50	60 (AGA 1-A or B)			Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes			
Minnesota	75 3 yrs	25	75	Yes			Yes				MOCOMP	ABMS cert or MOC accepted	
Mississippi	40 2 yrs	20	40 (DOs: ADA 1-A)		Yes		Yes*				Yes		Initial certification only (not renewal)
Missouri*	50 2 yrs	25	50				Yes				Yes		See intro
Montana	none												
Nebraska	50 2 yrs	25	50	Yes		Yes							
Nevada	40 2 yrs	20	40		Yes						Yes		Ethics (2 credits), 20 credits in specialty; other 18 credits can be any in Category 1; prevention of transmission of infectious agents through safe injection practices
Nevada DO	35 1 yr	35	10 (ADA 1-A)		Yes	Yes	Yes						
New Hampshire	100 2 yrs	50	40	Yes			Yes				Yes		Credits reported to NH Med Society
New Jersey*	100 2 yrs	50	40								Yes		Cultural competence
New Mexico	75 3 yrs	25	75	Yes			Yes				Yes		5 credits in pain management
New Mexico DO	75 3 yrs	25	75	Yes			Yes					USMLE	Active membership in ADA may replace 75 CME credits
New York	none												Infection control, child abuse
North Carolina	60 3 yrs	20	60			Yes	Yes						Must be practice-relevant; ongoing ABMS MOC or ADA DCC accepted in lieu of CME
North Dakota	60 3 yrs	20	60	Yes	Yes		Yes					MOCOMP	
Ohio	100 2 yrs	50	40 (DOs: ADA 1-A or B)		Yes	Yes							CME must be OSMA/OCA-certified. Physician owner/operator of pain management clinics must complete at least 20 hrs Category 1 CME in pain medicine every 2 yrs
Oklahoma	60 3 yrs	20	60	Yes			Yes				Yes†		† 50 hrs for each yr of GME
Oklahoma DO	16 1 yr	16	16 (ADA 1-A or B)										1 credit on prescribing controlled substances (every 2 yrs)
Oregon*	60 2 yrs	30	60	Yes		Yes	Yes				Yes		6 credits pain management and/or treatment of the terminally ill and dying w/1 first 12 mos of licensure
Pennsylvania	100 2 yrs	50	20					Yes			Yes		12 credits risk management or patient safety
Pennsylvania DO	100 2 yrs	50	20 (ADA 1-A)					Yes			Yes		12 credits risk management or patient safety
Puerto Rico	60 3 yrs	20	40	Yes									
Rhode Island	40 2 yrs	20	40	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes		2 credits: universal precautions, bioterrorism, end of life, OSHA, ethics, pain management, infection control, modes of transmission, or palliative care
South Carolina	40 2 yrs	20	40				Yes				Yes		75% specialty education (30 credits every 2 yrs)
South Dakota	none												

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**Table 21 (continued)**  
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				AMA PRA	AMA PRA app.	ADA	ABMS	SMS	NSS	GME	Other		
Tennessee*	40 2 yrs	20	40	Yes									1 credit (every 2 years) in prescribing controlled substances; providers of intractable pain management must have specialized CME in pain management
Tennessee DO	40 2 yrs	20	24 (AOA 1-A or 2-A)										See note above for Tennessee MD board
Texas	48 2 yrs	24	12 (DOs: AOA 1-A)	Yes		Yes	Yes				Yes		Of 24 Category 1 credits, at least 2 in ethics and/or prof. responsibility 10 credits pain management annually for those who practice in a pain clinic
Utah	40 2 yrs	20	34								Yes		Six hours may be from Division of Occupational and Professional Lic.
Utah DO	40 2 yrs	20	34								Yes		See note above for Utah MD board
Vermont*	30 2 yrs	15	30	Yes									See intro
Vermont DO	30 2 yrs	15		Yes									At least 12 of 30 credits must be osteopathic medical education
Virgin Islands	25 1 yr	25	25										
Virginia	60 2 yrs	30	30		Yes						Yes		
Washington*	200 4 yrs	50	Not specified	Yes			Yes	Yes	Yes				
Washington DO	150 3 yrs	50	60 (AOA 1-A or B)	Yes	Yes		Yes	Yes		Yes	(See note)		Also accepted as equivalent: Current certification of CME from medical practice academies and original certification or recertification within 6 yrs by specialty board
West Virginia	50 2 yrs	25	50	Yes			Yes						30 credits related to physician's designated specialty; CME required in best practice prescribing of controlled substances and drug diversion, unless the physician does not prescribe, administer or dispense a controlled substance
West Virginia DO	32 2 yrs	16	16 (AOA 1-A or B)			Yes					Yes		2 credits (one-time requirement) in end-of-life care; 3 Credit hours required in Board-approved pain management prescribing/drug diversion CME each renewal cycle
Wisconsin	30 2 yrs	15	30	Yes									
Wyoming	60 3 yrs	20	60	Yes		Yes	Yes				Yes	Yes	

**Abbreviations**

- ABMS—American Board of Medical Specialties
- ACCME—Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education
- AMA PRA—American Medical Association Physician's Recognition Award
- AOA—American Osteopathic Association
- AAFP—American Academy of Family Practice
- ACEP—American College of Emergency Physicians
- ACOG—American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists
- CMA—California Medical Association
- CAFP—California Academy of Family Physicians
- CME—continuing medical education
- EM—emergency medicine
- FM—family medicine
- GME—graduate medical education
- GP—general practice

- MOCOMP—Maintenance of Competence Program, Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada
- NSS—National specialty society
- OGA—Ohio Osteopathic Association
- OB/GYN—obstetrics-gynecology
- OSHA—Occupational Safety and Health Administration
- OSMA—Ohio State Medical Association
- Psych—psychiatry
- SMS—State medical society
- USMLE—United States Medical Licensing Examination
- WMD—weapons of mass destruction

\* Refer to introductory text to this table for more information on this state's regulations.

**Note:** All information should be verified with licensing board; medical licenses are granted to those physicians meeting all state requirements—at the discretion of the board.

activity includes a post-test of the material covered in the 40 CME credits; c) specialty board certification or recertification; or d) participating in an ACGME- or AOA-approved internship or residency program during the reporting period if at least 60 days of the reporting period were spent in the internship or residency.

### Resident/Fellow Physician Licenses

Nearly all boards issue educational licenses, permits, certificates, or registration to resident/fellow physicians in graduate medical education (GME) programs (Table 22). (The GME program director generally provides a list of residents/fellows and any other required information directly to the licensing jurisdiction.) For many of those boards, residents/fellows must obtain a new permit or license when changing residency/fellowship programs within the state.

Medical boards in less than half of states require that prospective MD residents have passed United States Medical Licensing Examination (USMLE) Step 1 to receive a permit/license. A small number of states require passage of Steps 1 and 2.

Some states also require that resident/fellow physicians obtain full licensure (not limited or training licenses) at some point in their training (usually after having completed a certain number of years of GME).

#### Additional Notes for Specific Licensing Jurisdictions

**California**—International medical graduates (IMGs) must submit an application to determine that all core requirements have been met and must be issued a Postgraduate Training Authorization Letter before they may begin training in California.

**Illinois**—Limited temporary licenses (valid for 6 months) are awarded to persons in non-Illinois residency programs who are accepted for a specific period of time to perform a portion of that program at a clinical residency program in Illinois due to the lack of adequate facilities in their state.

Visiting Resident Permits are issued for 180 days to persons who have been invited or appointed for a specific period of time to perform a portion of that clinical residency program under the supervision of an Illinois-licensed physician in an Illinois patient care clinic or facility affiliated with the out-of-state GME program.

**Massachusetts**—Limited registration is issued to physicians enrolled in accredited residency programs and physicians enrolled in fellowships at hospitals with accredited residency programs in the area of the applicant's specialty.

**Mississippi**—Institutional license is issued to first-year residents and IMGs providing health care in state institutions. Applicants are not required to meet all requirements for permanent unrestricted licensure.

Restricted temporary license is issued to physicians enrolled in first year of GME at the University of Mississippi School of Medicine for practice limited to that school.

Addictionology Fellowship License is issued to physicians admitted for treatment in a board-approved drug and/or alcohol addiction treatment program or to physicians enrolled in fellowship of addictionology of the Mississippi State Medical Association Impaired Professionals Program.

**Oregon**—Limited license granted to fellows for one year and renewed for one additional year. Limited license for graduate training granted annually until training is completed.

**Pennsylvania**—Interim limited license (up to 12 consecutive months) is issued to physicians providing medical service other than at the training location of the licensee's accredited GME program.

Graduate license allows for participation for up to 12 consecutive months in GME within the complex of the hospital to which the licensee is assigned and any satellite facility or other training location used in the program.