



Pennsylvania
Department of State
State of Podiatry

CONTINUING MEDICAL EDUCATION (CME) REQUIREMENTS

In order to renew a license, a podiatrist must have completed 50 hours of CME during the immediately preceding two-year license period. A license period runs from January 1 of an odd-numbered year through December 31 of the next even-numbered year.

- **Effective January 1, 2015**, Per Act 31 of 2014, two (2) hours of Board-approved continuing education in child abuse recognition and reporting requirements must be completed for renewal or reactivation of a license. Details and a list of Board-approved providers can be found at www.dos.pa.gov. Verification of completion must be sent electronically and directly from the course provider. It may take up to 7 days for the provider to submit the records to the Board's office.
***ACT 31 OF 2014 APPLIES REGARDLESS OF WHETHER A LICENSEE IS SUBJECT TO ANY OTHER CONTINUING EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS OF THE BOARD.**
- **Effective January 1, 2017**, Section 9.1(a)(2) of ABC-MAP* requires that all prescribers or dispensers, as defined in Section 3 of ABC-MAP, complete at least two hours of continuing education in pain management, the identification of addiction or in the practices of prescribing or dispensing of opioids as a portion of the total continuing education required.
 - The required continuing education is part of the total required and must be taken from a Board-approved continuing education provider.
 - *The Achieving Better Care by Monitoring All Prescriptions Program Act (ABC-MAP) (Act 191 of 2014, as amended) is available on the Legislature's website at: <http://www.legis.state.pa.us/cfdocs/Legis/LI/uconsCheck.cfm?txtType=HTM&yr=2014&sessInd=0&smthLwInd=0&act=191>
- At least 30 CME hours must be in courses or programs that fall within the scope of podiatric medicine and are approved by the Board or the Council on Podiatric Medical Education (www.cpme.org).
- The remaining 20 CME hours may be in courses and programs that are in related medical subjects and that are approved by the American Medical Association or the American Osteopathic Association.
- A maximum of 10 CME hours may be obtained through approved programs and courses that involve the review of magazine or journal articles.
- Clock hours may be obtained by completing approved synchronous or asynchronous distance education courses and programs. Approved asynchronous distance education courses or programs must include a skill or knowledge assessment component in addition to all other requirement

The following categories of podiatrists are wholly or partially exempt from CME:

- A licensee who holds an **active/retired license** and who provides care only to immediate family members shall be exempt from continuing medical education, *except for:*
 - **2 hours of child abuse recognition and reporting requirements**
and
 - **2 hours of continuing education in pain management, the identification of addiction or in the practice of prescribing or dispensing of opioids.**



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- A podiatrist who graduated from a school of podiatric medicine and surgery and received a license to practice podiatry in the same biennial renewal period.
- A podiatrist who was enrolled in a podiatric residency program (during the biennial renewal period) approved by the American Podiatric Association.
- A podiatrist who was on active military duty, whether in the United States or elsewhere, during the biennial renewal period.

The following procedures govern the waiver of CME for non-exempt podiatrists:

- The Board may grant a waiver of all or part of the CME requirement, on a case-by-case basis, in circumstances involving serious illness or other documented hardship, provided that the granting of the waiver will not jeopardize the public safety and welfare.
- A podiatrist seeking a waiver of CME must submit a written request to the Board together with a \$50 processing fee (no fee for a military waiver request). The waiver request must set forth in detail the circumstances that prevent compliance with the CME requirement and must include appropriate documentation.
- **The waiver request should be submitted to the Board 90 days prior to the end of the biennial renewal period for which the waiver is being sought.**
- The Board will provide written notification of its granting or denial of a waiver request.

Additional information regarding the continuing medical education requirements and the Board's regulations may be found on the Board's website at www.dos.pa.gov/pod.

PLEASE NOTE: THE BOARD DOES NOT RECOMMEND ANY SPECIFIC CME COURSES.

IT IS THE LICENSEE'S RESPONSIBILITY TO MAINTAIN/TRACK THEIR PERSONAL CME CREDIT HOURS.

LICENSEE SHALL RETAIN PROOF OF COMPLETION OF CME FOR AT LEAST 5 YEARS AFTER COMPLETION OF THE CME OR AFTER THE COMPLETION OF THE BIENNIAL REGISTRATION FOR WHICH THE CME WAS REQUIRED, WHICHEVER IS LATER.