



Pharmacist Continuing Education (CE) Reporting Requirements

Updated 8/25/2022

[Rule 4729:1-5-02 of the Ohio Administrative Code](#) updates the required minimum continuing education units (CEUs) pharmacists are required to obtain and aligns the reporting period to the biennial renewal cycle.

Specifically, pharmacists are required to obtain a minimum of 4.0 CEUs (40 hours) every two years prior to license renewal. Please refer to the chart on the next page for hours required for the 2021 reporting period.

The following provides an overview of the Board's continuing education requirements:

- Any format (live, home study) is acceptable
- Minimum 40 hours (4 CEUs) total, which must include:
 - Minimum 2 hours medication errors/patient safety (ACPE -05)
 - Minimum 2 hours jurisprudence or law (ACPE -03) or Ohio Board of Pharmacy Approved Jurisprudence
- **NOTE:** Only ACPE courses and CE from approved in-state providers (law and provision of volunteer healthcare services) are accepted. Some examples of courses that are not accepted include continuing medical education (CME) and continuing legal education (CLE).
- ***Programs which show up on NABP's CPE monitor transcript with the "IPCE" credit type designation will be accepted for purposes of fulfilling a pharmacist's continuing education requirement.***

For New Licensees Only

For newly licensed Ohio pharmacists who obtain an initial license by reciprocity or examination during an even-numbered year or prior to May 1st in an odd-numbered year, the pharmacist must complete the following continuing education requirements prior to the next renewal cycle:

- Any format (live, home study) is acceptable
- Minimum 20 hours (2 CEUs) total, which must include:
 - Minimum 1-hour medication errors/patient safety (ACPE -05)
 - Minimum 1-hour jurisprudence or law (ACPE -03) or Ohio Board of Pharmacy Approved Jurisprudence
- **NOTE:** Only ACPE courses and CE from approved in-state providers (law and provision of volunteer healthcare services) are accepted. Some examples of courses that are not accepted include continuing medical education (CME) and continuing legal education (CLE).

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In-State Provider Changes (Effective September 16, 2018)

Effective September 16, 2018, new rules ([4729-6](#)) make changes to in-state providers of continuing education. These changes include:

- In-state providers will only be allowed to grant CE credit for pharmacy jurisprudence courses or the [provision of volunteer healthcare services](#).
- All jurisprudence programs from in-state providers must be approved by the Board of Pharmacy prior to the presentation of the program.
- Limits to the type of courses that may be presented for CE credit.

Continuing Education Requirements by Reporting Cycle

License Number	2023 Reporting Cycle*
03-1-XXXXX 03-2-XXXXX 03-3-XXXXX	Total Hours – 40 Law/Jurisprudence – 2 Patient Safety/Medication Errors – 2 Earned between Sept. 16, 2021 and Sept. 15, 2023
03-4-XXXXX <i>Issued prior to April 30, 2021</i>	Total Hours – 40 Law/Jurisprudence – 2 Patient Safety/Medication Errors – 2 Earned between Sept. 16, 2021 and Sept. 15, 2023
03-4-XXXXX <i>Issued between May 1, 2021 and Dec. 31, 2021</i>	Total Hours – 40 Law/Jurisprudence – 2 Patient Safety/Medication Errors – 2 Earned between initial date of licensure and Sept. 15, 2023
03-4-XXXXX Issued between Jan. 1, 2022 and April 30, 2023	Total Hours – 20 Law/Jurisprudence – 1 Patient Safety/Medication Errors – 1 Earned between initial date of licensure and Sept. 15, 2023
03-4-XXXXX Issued between May 1, 2023 and Sept. 15, 2023	Not required to report

***Pharmacists who meet the continuing education requirements via a Board approved pharmacy practice-specific specialty certification are still required to obtain the required CEUs in pharmacy law and patient or medication safety listed above.**

Proof of Completion

All ACPE credits earned shall be reported to the National Association of Boards of Pharmacy (NABP) CPE Monitor. Pharmacists shall keep all certificates and other documented evidence of participation that have been issued by a non-ACPE accredited provider for approved credits for a minimum of one year following the year in which the CE was required for renewal. Pharmacists are only required to supply documentation as proof of completion when requested by the Board.

A pharmacist may satisfy some of the CE requirements by the following:

- Holds a current certification by a Board approved pharmacy practice-specific specialty certification program. The program shall require periodic recertification examinations and provide documentation that the pharmacist is currently certified in the program. The pharmacist must still earn and provide evidence at the time of license renewal of having completed at least

0.2 CEUs (2 hours) of pharmacy jurisprudence/law and 0.2 CEUs (2 hours) of medication errors/patient safety per CE reporting cycle.

- Provide healthcare services as volunteer in accordance with [section 4745.04 of the Ohio Revised Code](#). The location where health care services are provided shall be an approved in-state provider of volunteer healthcare services by the Ohio Board of Pharmacy. **Volunteer hours may account for one-third of the CE requirement (13 hours).** The pharmacist must still earn and provide evidence at the time of license renewal of having completed at least 0.2 CEUs (2 hours) of pharmacy jurisprudence/law and 0.2 CEUs (2 hours) of medication errors/patient safety per CE reporting cycle.

Jurisprudence (Law) Requirements

Pharmacists have two options to meet the current requirement that they obtain C.E.U.s of pharmacy jurisprudence:

1. [A.C.P.E.](#) law programs as identified by A.C.P.E numbering convention "03"; or
2. If provided by an in-state provider of continuing education, Board approved continuing pharmacy education programs that deal with current laws, rules, and regulations dealing with the practice of pharmacy and the recent changes that have occurred to those laws, rules and regulations. A list of Board approved courses can be accessed from the Board's continuing education web site: <http://www.pharmacy.ohio.gov/Licensing/CE.aspx>.

It is the responsibility of the pharmacist to verify that they have obtained pharmacy jurisprudence the meets the requirements in OAC [4729:1-5-02](#) prior to attesting that their C.E. requirements have been met.

As a reminder, the Board of Pharmacy also offers free, online Jurisprudence CE. This no-cost quiz can be accessed by visiting the Board's continuing education web site: <http://www.pharmacy.ohio.gov/Licensing/CE.aspx>. The test is taken on-line and is graded immediately upon submission. You are encouraged to pre-print the exam, and you will have only two opportunities to take and submit the test for grading. A score of seventy-five percent is needed to pass. After successful completion, you will have the ability to immediately print your certificate and a copy of your certificate will also be emailed to you. Be sure to keep this certificate to use if you are audited. We are not able to upload successful completion of the exam to CPE monitor. Please note: Do not mail any quizzes to the Board office. We will not hand-process nor will we mail a certificate to you.

Board Approved Pharmacy Practice-Specific Specialty Certification Programs

Resolution Adopted July 11, 2022

Pursuant to OAC 4729:1-5-02 (B)(1), the State of Ohio Board of Pharmacy hereby approves all current and future specialty certification programs from the following organizations for the purposes of pharmacist continuing education:

- The Board of Pharmacy Specialties (<https://www.bpsweb.org/>)
- The Specialty Pharmacy Certification Board (<https://naspnet.org/>)

Ohio Licensed Pharmacists Practicing Outside the State of Ohio

Rule [4729:1-5-02](#) states: Ohio-licensed pharmacists who hold a current license in states where continuing education is mandatory, have met the continuing pharmacy education requirements of that state, and who have not practiced pharmacy in Ohio **at any time** during the two years prior to the renewal date in which a pharmacist's license must be renewed, may renew their license in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 4729. of the Revised Code without having to comply with the requirements of this rule.

Military Extensions and Waivers

ACTIVE MILITARY SERVICE MEMBERS AND THEIR SPOUSES: The Board may grant extension periods and waivers for C.E.U. requirements for the time in which the active duty took place. *To ask for consideration, please write a letter of explanation to the Board (Attention: Director of Licensing) or send an email to licensing@pharmacy.ohio.gov and include official documentation of the active duty timeframes.*

ACTIVE MILITARY SERVICE MEMBERS: The Board may approve relevant military education, training or service towards C.E.U. requirements. *To ask for consideration, please write a letter of explanation to the Board (Attention: Director of Licensing) or send an email to licensing@pharmacy.ohio.gov and include official documentation of the experience along with total hours for consideration.*