



States Modifying Continuing Medical Education Requirements in Response to COVID-19

Last Updated: September 15, 2020

States with Waivers: 31
States without Waivers: 15 + DC
<i>Note: Colorado, Montana and South Dakota do not require CME</i>

State	Note	Citation
Alabama	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Board and Commission recognize the difficulty licensees may have meeting the annual CME requirement in 2020 due to the public health emergency. Consequently, all licensees are exempt from the continuing medical education requirements for the calendar year 2020, and no audit for 2020 will be conducted. This includes the annual requirement of 25 credits for license renewal, the biannual requirement of 2 credits for ACSC renewal, and the biannual requirement of 4 credits for QACSC renewal. Credits earned in 2020 may not be rolled over to 2021 to meet the 2022 license renewal requirement. In determining compliance with the controlled substances CME requirements for ACSCs (two credits biennially) and QACSCs (four credits biennially), the Board will extend the two-year period to include 2020. If your two-year period was 2019-2020, it is now 2019-2021. If it was 2020-2021, it is now 2020-2022. Qualifying controlled substances CME credits earned in 2020 may be used to comply with the biennial requirement. Status – N/A 	<p>ALBME Guidance</p> <p>State Resource Page</p>
Alaska	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> On May 14, 2020, the State Medical Board approved a fifty percent reduction of CME requirements for MD, DO, DPM and paramedics for the 2019-2020 licensing period. Physician assistants must maintain a current active NCCPA certification to qualify for renewal. Status - This board order will cease on January 1, 2021, following the end of the current renewal cycle. In the event the COVID-19 pandemic extends past the renewal deadline, the board may consider adjusting CME requirements for the 2021-2022 licensing period. 	<p>CME Reduction Board Order</p> <p>State Resource Page</p>
Arizona	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A state agency or board that licenses individuals or entities as indicated herein shall: ... b) Defer requirements to complete continuing education by six months, unless those requirements can be completed online or due to the nature of the license is not practical; c) Suspend any rules that prevent or limit the amount of online or alternative learning hours permitted to issue or renew a license. There has been no change to the CME requirements as the rule, R4-16-102, requires the 40 hours of CME be completed during the two calendar years preceding biennial registration (license renewal). For licenses due to expire between March 1, 2020 and September 1, 2020 the period to renew has been extended by six months from the expiration date. Status – N/A 	<p>Executive Order 2020-17</p> <p>CME FAQs</p> <p>State Resource Page</p>
Arkansas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> [No information found] 	<p>State Resource Page</p>
California	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> DCA Waiver DCA-20-53 Waiving License Renewal Requirements defers the continuing medical education (CME) renewal requirement for licenses that expire between March 31, 2020 and October 31, 2020 for six months after the date of the waiver. Upon expiration of the six-month deferral period, the licensee must have completed the CME requirements. Status – N/A 	<p>CMA Guidance</p> <p>DCA 20-53</p> <p>State Resource Page</p>
Colorado	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Colorado is one of only three states that does not require any continuing medical education for physicians. Not only does Colorado not require doctors to complete continuing education courses in order to renew their licenses, the state’s Medical Practice Act actually forbids the state medical board from requiring continuing education. Status – N/A 	<p>Article re: CME</p> <p>State Resource Page</p>

Connecticut	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Under Executive Order 7DD, the continuing education requirements for providers with annual continuing education requirements are suspended for a period of (1) year. Additionally, for those provider types that have other continuing education requirements, such requirements are suspended for a period of six (6) months. Status – N/A 	Article re: CME Executive Order 7DD State Resource Page
Delaware	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> When completing your on-line renewal, the continuing education attestation page will ask if you have been unable to complete your required continuing education due to the Governor’s declared state of emergency. Any licensee who attests that s/he has had difficulty completing CEs before renewal due to the declared state of emergency will be immediately granted additional time to complete their CEs. If the declared state of emergency has impacted your ability to complete your CEs, you will be given until sixty days after the lifting of the state of emergency to complete your CEs for this renewal cycle. Status – Active, until end of Delaware State of Emergency (currently scheduled to expire October 3, 2020 per Sixth Extension of State of Emergency) 	DPR Guidance State Resource Page
Florida	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> [DOs]: On March 13, the Florida Board of Osteopathic Medicine waived the requirement for live, participatory attendance for certain CE courses for the 2018-2020 biennium. Status – N/A 	Osteo Board Guidance Emergency Rule State Resource Page
Georgia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> [No information found] 	State Resource Page
Hawaii	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> [No information found] 	State Resource Page
Idaho	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Temporary Suspension of rules: 22.01.01.079 Rules of the Board of Medicine for the Licensure to Practice Medicine and Osteopathic Medicine [Continuing Medical Education (CME)] (requiring every person licensed to practice medicine and surgery or osteopathic medicine or surgery in Idaho shall complete no less than forty hours of practice relevant, Category 1, CME every two years.) Waiver of CME requirements: During the COVID-19 response, the Board may waive or extend the time to complete CME credits required for licensure renewal. Status – Active until the end of the COVID-19 emergency, currently scheduled to expire October 8, 2020, per 9/4 Proclamation. 	Supplemental Proclamation (4/2) Board of Med Rules BOM Guidance State Resource Page
Illinois	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Department has also allowed participation in continuing education remotely for programs or requirements that had mandated in person participation. This requirement did not apply to all professions regulated by IDFPR. For medical or osteopathic physicians and surgeons and chiropractic physicians the requirement for 60 hours of Category I continuing education did not include a requirement for in person attendance. Status - Any professional licenses issued by the Department that have renewal dates between March 1, 2020 through and including July 31, 2020 are granted an automatic extension to renew to September 30, 2020. 	Article re: CME IDFR Press Release State Resource Page
Indiana	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> [No information found] 	State Resource Page
Iowa	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All requirements for in-person continuing medical education and all deadlines and other requirements for continuing medical education that are unable to be satisfied due to the health emergency, are temporarily suspended during the period of this health emergency. If a licensee is unable to complete the required continuing medical education required for renewal of their Iowa medical license due to the health emergency, they should note that on their next renewal application. Status - Active, currently scheduled to expire September 20. 	Emergency Declaration (3/22) State Resource Page
Kansas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continuing Education Deadline Extensions: The Board is extending continuing education deadlines until 90 days following the termination of the State of Disaster Emergency declaration for licensees who were unable to obtain the required continuing education due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Licensees currently in the renewal process will certify either that you have completed the required CEs, or, if you have not yet completed them, that you understand you are required by law to complete them within 90 days following termination of the State of Disaster Emergency declaration. The Board will verify compliance by auditing an undetermined percentage of renewal applications. Status – Active for the duration of the public health emergency, currently scheduled to expire January 26, 2021 per EO 20-64. 	KSBHA Guidance Emergency Proclamation (5/26) State Resource Page
Kentucky	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> [No information found] 	State Resource Page
Louisiana	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> General CME requirements and CME audits will be temporarily suspended for 2020 (however, this does not apply to the 3-hour required CME on controlled dangerous substances (CDS) for first time license renewal of authorized prescribers of CDS. There are many online options provided for this educational requirement.) Status – N/A 	LSBME Guidance State Resource Page

Maine	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Keep licenses from expiring or needing to be renewed for 30 days after the declaration of the emergency (including CME requirements). Status – Active for the duration of the public health emergency, currently scheduled to expire October 1, 2020. 	Executive Order 3/24 State Resource Page
Maryland	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> [No information found] 	State Resource Page
Massachusetts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> For the duration of this state of emergency and until December 31, 2020, the continuing medical education (CME) requirement for physicians is suspended. Any physician with a CME requirement whose license is due for renewal on April 2, 2020 through and including Dec. 31, 2020 will not be required to complete any CME requirement. Status – N/A 	Interim Policy re: CME State Resource Page
Michigan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Effective immediately... LARA may renew a license to practice... regardless of whether the licensee has satisfied the continuing education requirement applicable to their license... LARA may recognize hours worked responding to the COVID-19 emergency as hours toward continuing education courses or programs required for licensure. Under Gov. Whitmer’s Executive Order 2020-13, followed by Executive Order 2020-49, followed by Executive Order 2020-82 (that has since been rescinded effective June 3), the Michigan Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs (LARA) may recognize hours worked responding to the COVID-19 emergency beginning March 17, 2020, through June 30, 2020, as hours toward continuing education courses or programs required for licensure. The Executive Order also allows LARA to renew licenses to practice under Part 170, 172, 175, 177, or 187 of the Public Health Code, 1978 PA 368, as amended, regardless of whether the licensees have satisfied the continuing education requirement applicable to their license. Any and all provisions in Article 15 of the Public Health Code are temporarily suspended, in whole or part, to the extent necessary to allow health care professionals licensed and in good standing in any state or territory in the United States to practice in Michigan without criminal, civil, or administrative penalty related to lack of licensure... (C) Continuing education while the emergency declaration is in effect. Status – N/A 	MAFP Guidance re: CME Executive Order 2020-13 State Resource Page
Minnesota	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> EO 20-23 authorizes Health-Related Licensing Boards to defer continuing education reporting requirements until the first full reporting cycle following termination of the peacetime emergency. It is important to note that continuing education requirements are deferred and NOT waived. Status – Active until the end of the peacetime emergency declared in Executive Order 20-01, currently scheduled to expire October 12, 2020, per EO 20-89. 	Press Release re: CME Executive Order 20-23 State Resource Page
Mississippi	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Mississippi State Board of Medical Licensure will extend CME deadlines to December 31, 2020. The renewal date will remain June 30, 2020. Status – N/A 	Mississippi NetCE State Resource Page
Missouri	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> [No information found] 	State Resource Page
Montana	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Montana is one of only three states that does not require any continuing medical education for physicians. Status – N/A 	Link State Resource Page
Nebraska	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> [EO 20-10] ...also defers the requirements for healthcare providers to pay initial licensing fees or to complete continuing education. Licenses due to be renewed during the declared emergency will be extended until 30 days after Executive Order 20-10 is no longer in effect. Renewal notices will then be sent, and licensees will have 90 days to renew by attesting to meeting the continuing education requirement and paying the renewal fee. Status – Active through the COVID-19 emergency. 	Press Release re: Waivers Executive Order 20-10 EO 20-10 FAQs State Resource Page
Nevada	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> [No information found] 	State Resource Page
New Hampshire	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The following changes shall be made for all professionals, licensed by the... OPLC... (1) Certain continuing education requirements for licensed professionals waived... all CE requirements are hereby waived for those licensees who are scheduled to renew between March 13, 2020 and December 31, 2020. (2)... for licensees whose continuing education requirements are not waived under (1) above, licensees shall be allowed to complete CE through remote instruction until December 31, 2020... Status – N/A 	Exhibit H to EO #29 State Resource Page
New Jersey	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> [No information found] 	State Resource Page
New Mexico	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> [MDs]: Pursuant to 16.10.4.15 NMAC: A physician unable to fulfill the CME requirements prior to the date of license expiration may apply to the board for an emergency deferral 	

	<p>of the requirements by submitting a request in writing no later than July 1 of the renewal year. A designee of the board may grant a deferral of up to 90 days.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • [DOs]: Due to the public health emergency declared by Governor Michelle Lujan Grisham in Executive Order 2020-004, and to the cancellation of continuing education (CE) opportunities, the Board of Osteopathic Medicine will implement the following procedures through the Regulation and Licensing Department, Boards and Commissions staff: Boards and Commissions staff will process renewals without the proof of continuing CE credit needed for renewal during the pendency of the public health emergency instituted by Executive Order 2020-004... When the public health emergency is lifted, Boards and Commissions staff will send out a notice to licensees stating that the licensee has 6 months, depending upon the Board or Commission, to submit their proof of CE or be subject to discipline by the Board. • Status – N/A 	<p>NMMB Guidance Re: CME</p> <p>NMBOM Notice</p> <p>State Resource Page</p>
New York	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Some regulations restrict licensees to a certain percentage of self-study for continuing education requirements. In response to the evolving situation with the Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19), and for those licensees whose registrations are due to renew March 1, 2020 – May 1, 2021, the Department will grant an adjustment to all licensees to complete up to 100% of the continuing education as self-study, provided that it is taken from a Department-approved provider and is in an acceptable subject area for the specific profession. Additionally, the Department will grant an adjustment to all licensees, regardless of registration renewal date, to utilize self-study for any coursework taken during the period from March 1, 2020 – May 1, 2021, provided that it is taken from a Department-approved provider and is in an acceptable subject area for the specific profession. Coursework taken outside that timeframe must meet the continuing education requirements in each individual profession’s laws and regulations. • Status – N/A 	<p>NYSED Guidance</p> <p>State Resource Page</p>
North Carolina	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • [No information found] 	<p>State Resource Page</p>
North Dakota	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There have been no other statutory or rule changes regarding licensure, renewals, CME requirements, etc.... • Status – No waivers in place. 	<p>NDBOM April Newsletter</p> <p>State Resource Page</p>
Ohio	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Beginning immediately, the Medical Board will suspend enforcement of the continuing education requirements for the renewal of a license issued by the State Medical Board of Ohio. This includes, but is not limited to, the requirement for Ohio physicians to obtain 50 hours of Category 1 CME at the time of their license renewal. The exercise of this enforcement discretion is effective the day the State of Ohio declared an emergency, March 9, 2020, and will apply to renewals due by March 1, 2021. • Status – N/A 	<p>Article re: CME and Emergency Licensure</p> <p>State Resource Page</p>
Oklahoma	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • [No information found] 	<p>State Resource Page</p>
Oregon	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Licensees will not be asked to report specialty board recertification or completed CME hours until the end of the next licensure biennium. • Status – N/A 	<p>State CME Page</p> <p>State Resource Page</p>
Pennsylvania	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BPOA may suspend any continuing education (C.E.) requirements for such applicants seeking a temporary license. • Re: DOs - The Osteopathic Board does not have a statutory provision for the issuance of temporary licenses; however, out-of-state licensees can apply for an unrestricted license. These licenses also have continuing education requirements suspended by the Governor. • Status – N/A 	<p>PA Dept. of State Guidance</p> <p>State Resource Page</p>
Rhode Island	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • [No information found] 	<p>State Resource Page</p>
South Carolina	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • [No information found] 	<p>State Resource Page</p>
South Dakota	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • South Dakota is one of only three states that does not require any continuing medical education for physicians. • Status – N/A 	<p>Link</p> <p>State Resource Page</p>
Tennessee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rules and policies are hereby suspended to the extent necessary to suspend the requirement that individuals complete or submit proof of continuing education requirements or otherwise demonstrate continuing competence as a condition of reinstating a license, certificate or registration. • Status - Active, currently scheduled to expire August 29, 2020 per EO 50. 	<p>Executive Order #20 (Re: CME)</p> <p>State Resource Page</p>
Texas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continuing Education requirements related to this renewal extension will be waived. Physician and physician assistant licensees whose current permit expired/expires on 2/28/2020 or 5/31/2020 will automatically be extended through 8/31/2020, and any late fees previously accrued will be waived. Newly licensed physicians and physician assistants 	<p>TMB Guidance</p>

	<p>whose initial registration is due in March, April, May or June of 2020 will have that due date extended to 8/31/2020 as well.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Status – N/A 	State Resource Page
Utah	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The requirement to participate in "live" CE hours is temporarily suspended for those with license expiration dates between now [June 18] and end of the pandemic... In other words, online CE may be accrued instead of live CE for the duration of the Pandemic for purposes of license renewal consideration. This waiver is permissive. Those who desire live CE are free to participate in it, though DOPL encourages licensees and providers of CE to adhere to social distancing recommendations... • Status - Active, until end of Utah State of Emergency, currently scheduled to expire September 19, 2020. 	DOPL Notice re: CME State Resource Page
Vermont	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vermont will allow a continuing medical education extension of up to 180 days and provide alternatives to face-to-face CME opportunities impacted by COVID-19. Online courses and training will be allowed. An extension will be granted if you are unable to complete your continuing medical education due to any of the following circumstances: (A) The in-person CME activity was cancelled due to COVID-19; (B) You feel your health may be at risk by attending an in-person CME activity due to the spread of COVID-19; and/or, (C) You feel your health may be at risk by the required travel to attend an in-person CME activity due to the spread of COVID-19. The office will allow online courses to be taken in lieu of formal CE required by your profession's administrative rules and allow a continuing education renewal extension of up to 180 days. • Status - The Office will revoke this policy when the impact of COVID-19 has subsided (currently scheduled to expire October 15, 2020, per Addendum 5 to EO 01-20). 	Office of Professional Regulation Guidance State Resource Page
Virginia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Existing Virginia code provides that "The board may grant an exemption for all or part of the requirements for circumstances beyond the control of the licensee, such as temporary disability, mandatory military service, or officially declared disasters." If the licensee is unable to complete all of the required 60 hours of CME due to the COVID-19 crisis, he/she will indicate this at the time of license renewal. The licensee will then be asked to explain the reasons he/she was unable to complete the 60 hours (i.e. canceled courses). • Status – N/A 	8 VAC § 85-20-235(G) State Resource Page
Washington	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The language of each statutory and regulatory provision specified below is hereby waived and suspended in its entirety: Barriers to continued and uninterrupted healthcare practice, including continuing education and other training requirements and license renewal deadlines. • Status – Active through COVID-19 emergency. 	Proclamation 20-32 State Resource Page
Washington, DC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • [No information found] 	Resource Page
West Virginia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The following statutory regulations are to be suspended for the duration of the State of Emergency: ... the requirement that individuals graduating from ACGME programs have to complete 40 hours of continuing medical education prior to licensure... the requirement that physicians biennially furnish proof of completion of 32 hours of CME prior to renewal. • Status - Active through COVID-19 emergency. 	Executive Order 07-20 State Resource Page
Wisconsin	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • On April 15, Gov. Evers signed AB 1038, which said, in part, "a health care provider credential is not subject to renewal, or any other conditions for renewal including continuing education, and remains valid during the period specified... the period shall be the period beginning on March 12, 2020, and ending on the 60th day after the end of the period covered by the public health emergency..." • Yesterday the Legislature passed, and Governor Evers signed a package (Act 185) aimed at dealing with the COVID-19 pandemic... temporary suspension of licensure renewal requirements (includes CME requirements) • Status - Active until 60 days after the end of the COVID-19 emergency, currently scheduled to be the end of October per EO 82. 	AB 1038 WMS Guidance State Resource Page
Wyoming	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • [No information found] 	State Resource Page