

California Code of Regulations
Title 16, Division 13.1, Article 10.

Continuing Education Requirements

§ 1397.60. Definitions.

This section shall be applicable to a license that expires on or after, or is reinstated or issued on or after, January 1, 2013.

As used in this article:

(a) "Conference" means a course consisting of multiple concurrent or sequential free-standing presentations. Acceptable presentations must meet the requirements of section 1397.61(c).

(b) "Continuing education" means the variety of forms of learning experiences, including, but not limited to, lectures, conferences, seminars, workshops, grand rounds, in-service training programs, video conferencing, and independent learning technologies.

(c) "Course" or "presentation" means an approved systematic learning experience of at least one hour in length. One hour shall consist of 60 minutes of actual instruction. Courses or presentations less than one hour in duration shall not be acceptable.

(d) "Grand rounds" or "in-service training program" means a course consisting of sequential, free-standing presentations designed to meet the internal educational needs of the staff or members of an organization and is not marketed, advertised or promoted to professionals outside of the organization. Acceptable presentations must meet the requirements of section 1397.61(c).

(e) "Independent learning" means the variety of forms of organized and directed learning experiences that occur when the instructor and the student are not in direct visual or auditory contact. These include, but are not limited to, courses delivered via the Internet, CD-ROM, satellite downlink, correspondence and home study. Self-initiated, independent study programs that do not meet the requirements of section 1397.61(c) are not acceptable for continuing education. Except for qualified individuals with a disability who apply to and are approved by the Board pursuant to section 1397.62(c), independent learning can be used to meet no more than 75% (27 hours) of the continuing education required in each renewal cycle. Independent learning courses must meet the requirements of section 1397.61(c).

(f) "Provider" means an organization, institution, association, university, or other person or entity assuming full responsibility for the course offered, whose courses are accepted for credit pursuant to section 1397.61(c)(1).

NOTE: Authority cited: Sections 2915(g) and 2930, Business and Professions Code. Reference: Sections 29 and 2915, Business and Professions Code.

HISTORY:

1. New section filed 2-16-2012; operative 1-1-2013, at which time the previous version of section 1397.60 is inoperative (Register 2012, No. 7).

§ 1397.61. Continuing Education Requirements.

This section shall be applicable to a license that expires on or after, or is reinstated or issued on or after, January 1, 2013.

(a) Except as provided in section 2915(e) of the Business and Professions Code and section 1397.62 of these regulations, each licensed psychologist shall certify on the application for license renewal that he or she has completed the continuing education requirements set forth in section 2915 of the Code. A licensee who renews his or her license for the first time after the initial issuance of the license is only required to accrue continuing education for the number of months that the license was in effect, including the month the license was issued, at the rate of 1.5 hours of approved continuing education per month. Continuing education earned via independent learning pursuant to section 1397.60(e) shall be accrued at no more than 75% of the continuing education required for the first time renewal. The required hours of continuing education may not be accrued prior to the effective date of the initial issuance of the license. A licensee who falsifies or makes a material misrepresentation of fact on a renewal application or who cannot verify completion of continuing education by producing verification of attendance certificates, whenever requested to do so by the Board, is subject to disciplinary action under section 2960 of the Code.

(b) Any person renewing or reactivating his or her license shall certify under penalty of perjury to the Board of Psychology as requested on the application for license renewal, that he or she has obtained training in the subject of laws and ethics as they apply to the practice of psychology in California. The training shall include recent changes/updates on the laws and regulations related to the practice of psychology; recent changes/updates in the Ethical Principles of Psychologists and Code of Conduct published by the American Psychological Association; accepted standards of practice; and other applications of laws and ethics as they affect the licensee's ability to practice psychology with safety to the public. Training pursuant to this section may be obtained in one or more of the following ways:

- (1) Formal coursework in laws and ethics taken from an accredited educational institution;
- (2) Approved continuing education course in laws and ethics;
- (3) Workshops in laws and ethics;
- (4) Other experience which provide direction and education in laws and ethics including, but not limited to, grand rounds or professional association presentation. If the licensee chooses to apply a specific continuing education course on the topic of laws and ethics to meet the foregoing requirement, such a course must meet the content requirements named above, must comply with section 1397.60(c), and may be applied to the 36 hours of approved continuing education required in Business and Professions Code section 2915(a).

(c) The Board recognizes and accepts for continuing education credit courses pursuant to this section. A licensee will earn one hour continuing education credit for each hour of approved instruction.

(1) Continuing education courses shall be:

(A) provided by American Psychological Association (APA), or its approved sponsors;

(B) Continuing Medical Education (CME) courses specifically applicable and pertinent to the practice of psychology and that are accredited by the California Medical Association (CMA) or the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME); or

(C) provided by the California Psychological Association, or its approved sponsors.

(D) approved by an accrediting agency for continuing education courses taken prior to January 1, 2013, pursuant to this section as it existed prior to January 1, 2013.

(2) Topics and subject matter for all continuing education shall be pertinent to the practice of psychology. Course or learning material must have a relevance or direct application to a consumer of psychological services.

(3) No course may be taken and claimed more than once during a renewal period, nor during any twelve (12) month period, for continuing education credit.

(4) An instructor may claim the course for his/her own credit only one time that he/she teaches the acceptable course during a renewal cycle, or during any twelve (12) month period, receiving the same credit hours as the participant.

(d) Examination Functions. A licensee who serves the Board as a selected participant in any examination development related function will receive one hour of continuing education credit for each hour served. Selected Board experts will receive one hour of continuing education credit for each hour attending Board sponsored Expert Training Seminars. A licensee who receives approved continuing education credit as set forth in this paragraph shall maintain a record of hours served for submission to the Board pursuant to section 1397.61(e).

(e) A licensee shall maintain documentation of completion of continuing education requirements for four (4) years following the renewal period, and shall submit verification of completion to the Board upon request. Documentation shall contain the minimum information for review by the Board: name of provider and evidence that provider meets the requirements of section 1397.61(c)(1); topic and subject matter; number of hours or units; and a syllabus or course description. The Board shall make the final determination as to whether the continuing education submitted for credit meets the requirements of this article.

(f) Failure to provide all of the information required by this section renders any application for renewal incomplete and not eligible for renewal.

NOTE: Authority cited: Sections 2915(g) and 2930, Business and Professions Code. Reference: Sections 29, 32, 2915 and 2915.7, Business and Professions Code.

HISTORY:

1. New section filed 2-16-2012; operative 1-1-2013, at which time the previous version of section 1397.61 is inoperative (Register 2012, No. 7).

§ 1397.62. Continuing Education Exemptions and Exceptions.

This section shall be applicable to a license that expires on or after, or is reinstated or issued on or after, January 1, 2013.

At the time of making application for renewal of a license, a psychologist may as provided in this section request an exemption or an exception from all or part of the continuing education requirements.

(a) The Board shall grant an exemption only if the psychologist verifies in writing that, during the two year period immediately prior to the expiration date of the license, he or she:

(1) Has been engaged in active military service reasonably preventing completion of the continuing education requirements, except that a licensee granted an exemption pursuant to this section shall still be required to fulfill the laws and ethics requirement set forth in section 1397.61(b); or

(2) Has been prevented from completing the continuing education requirements for reasons of health or other good cause which includes:

(A) Total physical and/or mental disability of the psychologist for at least one year; or

(B) Total physical and/or mental disability of an immediate family member for at least one year where the psychologist has total responsibility for the care of that family member.

Verification of a physical disability under subsection (a)(2) shall be by a licensed physician and surgeon or, in the case of a mental disability, by a licensed psychologist or a board certified or board eligible psychiatrist.

(b) An exception to the requirements of Business and Professions Code section 2915(d) may be granted to licensed psychologists who are not engaged in the direct delivery of mental health services for whom there is an absence of available continuing education courses relevant to their specific area of practice.

(1) An exception granted pursuant to this subsection means that the Board will accept continuing education courses that are not acceptable pursuant to section 1397.61(c) provided that they are directly related to the licensee's specific area of practice and offered by recognized professional organizations. The Board will review the licensee's area of practice, the subject matter of the course, and the provider on a case-by-case basis. This exception does not mean the licensee is exempt from completing the continuing education required by Business and Professions Code section 2915 and this article.

(2) Licensees seeking this exception shall provide all necessary information to enable the Board to determine the lack of available approved continuing education and the relevance of each course to the continuing competence of the licensee. Such a request shall be submitted in writing and must include a clear statement as to the relevance of the course to the practice of psychology and the following information:

(A) Information describing, in detail, the depth and breadth of the content covered (e.g., a course syllabus and the goals and objectives of the course), particularly as it relates to the practice of psychology.

(B) Information that shows the course instructor's qualifications to teach the content being taught (e.g., his or her education, training, experience, scope of practice, licenses held and length of experience and expertise in the relevant subject matter), particularly as it relates to the practice of psychology.

(C) Information that shows the course provider's qualifications to offer the type of course being offered (e.g., the provider's background, history, experience and similar courses previously offered by the provider), particularly as it relates to the practice of psychology.

(3) This subsection does not apply to licensees engaged in the direct delivery of mental health services.

(c) Psychologists requiring reasonable accommodation according to the Americans with Disabilities Act may be granted an exemption from the on-site participation requirement and may substitute all or part of their continuing education requirement with an American Psychological Association or accreditation agency approved independent learning continuing education program. A qualified individual with a disability must apply to the Board to receive this exemption.

(d) Any licensee who submits a request for an exemption or exception that is denied by the Board shall complete any continuing education requirements within 120 days of the notification that the request was denied.

NOTE: Authority cited: Sections 2915(g) and 2930, Business and Professions Code. Reference: Section 2915, Business and Professions Code.

HISTORY:

1. New section filed 2-16-2012; operative 1-1-2013, at which time the previous version of section 1397.62 is inoperative (Register 2012, No. 7).

§ 1397.67. Renewal After Inactive or Delinquent Status.

This section shall be applicable to a license that expires on or after, or is reinstated or issued on or after, January 1, 2013.

(a) To activate a license which has been placed on inactive status pursuant to section 2988 of the Code, the licensee must submit evidence of completion of the requisite 36 hours of qualifying continuing education courses for the two-year period prior to establishing the license as active.

(b) For the renewal of a delinquent psychologist license within three years of the date of expiration, the applicant for renewal shall provide evidence of completion of 36 hours of qualifying continuing education courses for the two-year period prior to renewing the license. After a license has been delinquent for three years, the license is automatically cancelled and the applicant must submit a complete licensing application, meet all current licensing requirements, and successfully pass the licensing examination just as for the initial licensing application unless the board grants a waiver of the examination pursuant to section 2946 of the Code.

NOTE: Authority cited: Sections 2915(g) and 2930, Business and Professions Code. Reference: Section 2915, 2984, and 2988, Business and Professions Code.

HISTORY:

1. New section filed 2-16-2012; operative 1-1-2013, at which time the previous version of section 1397.67 is inoperative (Register 2012, No. 7).

§ 1397.69. Licensee Fees.

This section shall be applicable to a license that expires on or after, or is reinstated or issued on or after, January 1, 2013.

For the administration of this article, in addition to any other fees due the Board and as a condition of renewal or reinstatement, a \$10 fee is to be paid to the Board by a licensee renewing in an active status or after inactive or delinquent status.

NOTE: Authority cited: Sections 2915(g) and 2930, Business and Professions Code. Reference: Section 2915(j), Business and Professions Code.

HISTORY:

1. New section filed 2-16-2012; operative 1-1-2013, at which time the previous version of section 1397.69 is inoperative (Register 2012, No. 7).

§ 1397.70. Sanctions for Noncompliance.

This section shall be applicable to a license that expires on or after, or is reinstated or issued on or after, January 1, 2013.

(a) If documentation of the continuing education requirement is improper or inadequate, the license is ineligible for renewal until any deficiency is corrected, and is subject to citation or discipline. Continued practice without a valid license shall constitute grounds for appropriate disciplinary action pursuant to sections 148 and/or 2960 of the Code.

(b) Misrepresentation of compliance shall constitute grounds for disciplinary action or denial.

NOTE: Authority cited: Sections 2915 and 2930, Business and Professions Code. Reference: Section 2915, Business and Professions Code.

HISTORY:

1. New section filed 2-16-2012; operative 1-1-2013, at which time the previous version of section 1397.70 is inoperative (Register 2012, No. 7).