

ARTICLE 8. LICENSE RENEWAL AND CONTINUING EDUCATION

R4-6-801. Renewal of Licensure

- A. Under A.R.S. § 32-3273, a license issued by the Board under A.R.S. Title 32, Chapter 33 and this Chapter is renewable every two years. A licensee who has more than one license may request in writing that the Board synchronize the expiration dates of the licenses. The licensee shall pay any prorated fees required to accomplish the synchronization.
- B. A licensee holding an active license to practice behavioral health in this state shall complete 30 clock hours of continuing education as prescribed under R4-6-802 between the date the Board received the licensee's last renewal application and the next license expiration date. A licensee may not carry excess continuing education hours from one license period to the next.
- C. To renew licensure, a licensee shall submit the following to the Board on or before the date of license expiration or as specified in A.R.S. § 32-4301:
 - 1. A renewal application form, approved by the Board. The licensee shall ensure that the renewal form:
 - a. Includes a list of 30 clock hours of continuing education that the licensee completed during the license period;
 - b. If the documentation previously submitted under R4-6-301(12) was a limited form of work authorization issued by the federal government, includes evidence that the work authorization has not expired; and
 - c. Is signed by the licensee attesting that all information submitted is true and correct;
 - 2. Payment of the renewal fee as prescribed in R4-6-215; and
 - 3. Other documents requested by the Board to determine that the licensee continues to meet the requirements under A.R.S. Title 32, Chapter 33 and this Chapter.
- D. The Board may audit a licensee to verify compliance with the continuing education requirements under subsection (B). A licensee shall maintain documentation verifying compliance with the continuing education requirements as prescribed under R4-6-803.
- E. A licensee whose license expires may have the license reinstated by complying with subsection (C) and paying a late renewal penalty within 90 days of the license expiration date. A license reinstated under this subsection is effective with no lapse in licensure.

R4-6-802. Continuing Education

- A. A licensee who maintains more than one license may apply the same continuing education hours for renewal of each license if the content of the continuing education relates to the scope of practice of each license.
- B. For each license period, a licensee may report a maximum of:
 - 1. Ten clock hours of continuing education for first-time presentations by the licensee that deal with current developments, skills, procedures, or treatments related to the practice of behavioral health.

The licensee may claim one clock hour for each hour spent preparing, writing, and presenting information;

2. Six clock hours of continuing education for attendance at a Board meeting where the licensee is not:
 - a. A member of the Board,
 - b. The subject of any matter on the agenda, or
 - c. The complainant in any matter that is on the agenda; and
3. Ten clock hours of continuing education for service as a Board or ARC member.

C. For each license period, a licensee shall report:

1. A minimum of three clock hours of continuing education sponsored, approved, or offered by an entity listed in subsection (D) in:
 - a. Behavioral health ethics or mental health law, and
 - b. Cultural competency and diversity; and
2. Completion of the three clock hour Arizona Statutes/Regulations Tutorial.

D. A licensee shall participate in continuing education that relates to the scope of practice of the license held and to maintaining or improving the skill and competency of the licensee. The Board has determined that in addition to the continuing education listed in subsections (B) and (C), the following continuing education meets this standard:

1. Activities sponsored or approved by national, regional, or state professional associations or organizations in the specialties of marriage and family therapy, professional counseling, social work, substance abuse counseling, or in the allied professions of psychiatry, psychiatric nursing, psychology, or pastoral counseling;
2. Programs in behavioral health sponsored or approved by a regionally accredited college or university;
3. In-service training, courses, or workshops in behavioral health sponsored by federal, state, or local social service agencies, public school systems, or licensed health facilities or hospitals;
4. Graduate or undergraduate courses in behavioral health offered by a regionally accredited college or university. One semester-credit hour or the hour equivalent of one semester hour equals 15 clock hours of continuing education;
5. Publishing a paper, report, or book that deals with current developments, skills, procedures, or treatments related to the practice of behavioral health. For the license period in which publication occurs, the licensee may claim one clock hour for each hour spent preparing and writing materials; and
6. Programs in behavioral health sponsored by a state superior court, adult probation department, or juvenile probation department.

E. The Board has determined that a substance abuse technician, associate substance abuse counselor, or an independent substance abuse counselor shall ensure that at least 20 of the 30 clock hours of continuing education required under R4-6-801(B) are in the following categories:

1. Pharmacology and psychopharmacology,
2. Addiction processes,
3. Models of substance use disorder and addiction treatment,
4. Relapse prevention,
5. Interdisciplinary approaches and teams in substance use disorder and addiction treatment,

6. Substance use disorder and addiction assessment and diagnostic criteria,
7. Appropriate use of substance use disorder and addiction treatment modalities,
8. Substance use disorder and addiction as it related to diverse populations,
9. Substance use disorder and addiction treatment and prevention,
10. Clinical application of current substance use disorder and addiction research, or
11. Co-occurring disorders.

R4-6-803. Continuing Education Documentation

- A.** A licensee shall maintain documentation of continuing education for 24 months following the date of the license renewal.
- B.** The licensee shall retain the following documentation as evidence of participation in continuing education:
 1. For conferences, seminars, workshops, and in-service training presentations, a signed certificate of attendance or a statement from the provider verifying the licensee's participation in the activity, including the title of the program, name, address, and telephone number of the sponsoring organization, names of presenters, date of the program, and clock hours involved;
 2. For first-time presentations by a licensee, the title of the program, name, address, and telephone number of the sponsoring organization, date of the program, syllabus, and clock hours required to prepare and make the presentation;
 3. For a graduate or undergraduate course, an official transcript;
 4. For an audited graduate or undergraduate course, an official transcript; and
 5. For attendance at a Board meeting, a signed certificate of attendance prepared by the Board.