



South Carolina
Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation



Board of Medical Examiners

Nikki R. Haley
Governor

Holly G. Pisarik
Director

110 Centerview Drive
Post Office Box 11289
Columbia, SC 29211-1289
Phone: (803) 896-4500
FAX: (803) 896-4515

DATE: May 13, 2014
TO: All Licensed Physicians in South Carolina
FROM: Sheridan Spoon, Administrator
SUBJECT: South Carolina MD/DO Continuing Education Requirements

Applicants for renewal wishing to renew their medical license by compliance with S.C. Code 40-47-40(2)(a) should be aware that the Board requires that these hours be earned during the biennial [2-year] renewal period and that at least thirty [30] of these hours must be related directly to the licensee's practice area. These 40 hours must be earned during the renewal period of July 1, 2013 and June 30, 2015.

For the [2013-15] renewal period ONLY, the board will permit hours earned from January 1, 2013, to June 30, 2013, to count for renewal so long as these hours were not used for 2011-13 compliance. Please see the relevant section from the practice act below.

SECTION 40-47-40. Continuing professional education.

The continued professional competency of a physician holding a permanent license must be demonstrated in the following manner:

(1) For renewal of a permanent license initially issued during a biennial renewal period, compliance with all educational, examination, and other requirements for the issuance of a permanent license is sufficient for the first renewal period following initial licensure.

(2) For renewal of an active permanent license biennially, documented evidence of at least one of following options during the renewal period is required:

(a) forty hours of Category I continuing medical education sponsored by the American Medical Association, American Osteopathic Association, or another organization approved by the board as having acceptable standards for courses it sponsors, at least thirty hours of which must be related directly to the licensee's practice area;

(b) certification of added qualifications or recertification after examination by a national specialty board recognized by the American Board of Medical Specialties or American Osteopathic Association or another approved specialty board certification;

(c) completion of a residency program or fellowship in medicine in the United States or Canada approved by the Accreditation Council on Graduate Medical Education or American Osteopathic Association;

(d) passage of the Special Purpose Examination or Comprehensive Osteopathic Medical Variable Purpose Examination; or

(e) successful completion of a clinical skills assessment program approved by the board, such as the Institute for Physician Evaluation or the Center for Personalized Education for Physicians.