

Continuing Education Requirements for Florida Pharmacists

General Continuing Education Requirements

Florida licensed pharmacists are required to obtain thirty (30) hours of approved courses of continued professional pharmaceutical education the 24 month period prior to the expiration date of the license. For example approved continuing education courses will need to be completed between October 1, 2007 and September 30, 2009 before the "PS" license expires on September 30, 2009. (64B16-26.103)

Ten (10) of the thirty (30) hours of approved courses of continued professional pharmaceutical education must be LIVE continuing education hours. LIVE continuing education is defined as either a live seminar, a live video teleconference, or through an interactive computer based application. (64B16-26.103)

HIV/AIDS Continuing Education Requirements

Effective July 1, 2006, applicants for licensure are no longer required by Chapter 456, FS, to show proof of a course on HIV/AIDS as part of the initial licensure process.

You will, however, be required by Chapter 456, FS, to take an HIV/AIDS course approved by the board for your first renewal. **As of July 1, 2006 licensees will no longer be required by Chapter 456, FS, to take an HIV/AIDS course for each renewal.**

Medication Error Continuing Education Requirements

As a part of the biennial renewal, pharmacists are required to complete a two (2) hour Florida Board of Pharmacy or Accreditation Council on Pharmacy Education (ACPE) approved course on Medication Errors. The course must contain the following components: (a) root-cause analysis; (b) error reduction and prevention; (c) patient safety. The two-hour program may be applied towards the thirty-hour continuing education requirement. (64B16-26.103)

Consultant Re-Certification Continuing Education Requirements

Florida licensed consultant pharmacists must complete no less than 24 hours of Board approved consultant continuing education (see rule 64B16-26.302) within the 24 month period prior to the expiration date of the consultant license (see 64B16-26.103). For example Florida approved consultant CE programs must be completed between January 1, 2009 and December 31, 2010 for consultant licenses that expires December 31, 2010.

Course content for consultant re-certification programs must consist of at least twelve (12) hour blocks of self contained training in specified subjects. The subjects can be divided into three (3) hour blocks of any subject category. Duplicated courses are not acceptable. (see rule 64B16-26.302).

Ordering and Evaluation of Laboratory Tests

Florida Consultant pharmacists and pharmacists holding the Doctor of Pharmacy degree that wish to order and evaluate laboratory tests and who are practicing under the provisions of Florida Statute 465.0125* are required to complete at least a three (3) hour initial certification course and at least a one (1) hour recertification course. Successful completion of the course will certify the pharmacist for this practice for two (2) years from the date of completion. (64B16-26.320)

*Florida Statute 465.0125 defines practice settings as nursing homes or licensed home health agencies for Consultant Pharmacists and only licensed home health agencies for the Doctor of Pharmacy.

Nuclear Pharmacy Continuing Education Requirements

Florida Nuclear Pharmacists must complete no less than twenty-four (24) additional hours of coursework each two year period designed to provide in-depth treatment of nuclear pharmacy practice. (64B16-26.304)

Certified Pharmacy Technician (Not required by Florida law but acceptable for initial registration renewal)

To maintain their credentials, Certified Pharmacy Technicians must complete twenty (20) hours of pharmacy related continuing education (one hour of the 20 hours must be pharmacy law) during their two-year certification period. **NOTE:** Registered pharmacy technicians as a condition of renewal will need to complete 20 hours of Board approved continuing education of which 4 hours must be live and 2 hours related to the prevention of errors and pharmacy law.

Immunizing Pharmacists

Pharmacists wishing to provide immunization services will be required to take a Board approved immunization training program. The program must be at least 20 hours in length and include a review of pharmacist immunization laws and CPR training. (64B16-26.1031)

*Credit for any Continuing Education Course may not be used more than once in any given year.
The above information should only be used as a guide and cannot be considered advice.*