

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

2010 RENEWAL AND CONTINUING MEDICAL EDUCATION (CME) REQUIREMENT FOR OSTEOPATHIC PHYSICIANS (D.O.)

Please be advised that a new law has been enacted which repeals the current law regarding osteopathic physicians (D.O.s) and puts them under chapter 453, relating to medicine and surgery. This now means that M.D.s and D.O.s are regulated under the same law.

The biggest impact to D.O.s is in the area of license renewal. Like M.D.s, D.O.s are now expected to obtain continuing medical education (CME) as a requirement for renewal, **effective with the 2010 renewal.**

CME requirement for 2010 renewal:

The CME requirement **may be met by:**

1. Completing, between July 1, 2008 - June 30, 2010, an accredited residency or fellowship program;
2. Completing, between July 1, 2008 – June 30, 2010, a full academic year of education in a medically related field leading to an advanced degree other than D.O.;
3. Meeting the CME requirements of a medical society to which the D.O. belongs;
4. Meeting the CME requirements of an American Board of Medical Specialties (ABMS) specialty board with which the D.O. is certified; or
6. Obtaining 40 or 20 category 1 or 1A CME hours between July 1, 2008 – June 30, 2010.

Category 1 CME hours

D.O.s fulfilling the CME requirement through #6 above would need to obtain:

40 hours if they received their license in Hawaii prior to 7/1/08; or

20 hours if they received their license in Hawaii between 7/1/08 – 6/30/09. Only 20 hours are required for the initial renewal. Beginning with the 2012 renewal and thereafter, 40 hours will be required.

Random audit

The Board of Medical Examiners will conduct a random audit to determine whether the CME requirement has been met. As such, **D.O.s will not need to submit their documentation of CME unless they have been randomly selected.** A letter to this effect will be sent in April 2010 to advise and provide instructions for those who have been selected.