

## IMPORTANT INFORMATION

### 2010 RENEWAL AND CONTINUING MEDICAL EDUCATION REQUIREMENT (CME) FOR PHYSICIANS (M.D.)

#### LICENSE RENEWAL

Medical licenses expire on January 31, 2010 unless renewed. In order to renew, physicians must meet the continuing medical education (CME) requirements.

#### RANDOM AUDIT

In order to determine whether the CME requirement has been met, the Board conducts a random audit.

**As a result, physicians do NOT need to submit documentation of CME unless they are being audited.** Those who are being audited will receive a memo in October 2009. Because they are expected to submit CME documentation with their renewal, they will not be able to renew online.

#### CME REQUIREMENT

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

1. Completing, in the year **2008 or 2009**, an ACGME accredited residency or fellowship program;
2. Completing, in the year **2008 or 2009**, a full academic year of education in a medically related field leading to an advanced degree other than M.D. ;
3. Meeting the CME requirements of a medical society to which the physician belongs;
4. Meeting the CME requirements of an American Board of Medical Specialties (ABMS) specialty board with which the physician is certified;
5. Having a current American Medical Association Physician Recognition Award (PRA); or
6. Obtaining 40 or 20 category 1 CME hours during the years **2008-2009** (see below for details).

#### CATEGORY 1 CME HOURS

Physicians fulfilling the CME requirement through #6 above would need to obtain:

**40 hours** if they received their license in Hawaii prior to 2/1/08; or

**20 hours** if they received their license in Hawaii between 2/1/08 – 1/31/09. Only 20 hours are required for the initial renewal. Beginning with the 2012 renewal and thereafter, 40 hours will be required.

## CATEGORY 1 CME ACTIVITIES

Category 1 CME hours may be obtained at any time during the years **2008-2009** through the activities below. As such, obtaining all CME hours in a single month (40 hours in February of 2008, for instance) would be acceptable.

- Attending activities that provide category 1 CME hours;
- Participating in internet activities that provide category 1 CME hours;
- Reading/responding to articles in journals that provide category 1 CME hours;
- Participating in an ACGME accredited residency or fellowship program during the years **2008-2009**; or
- Participating in academic study of a medically related field leading to an advanced degree other than M.D. during the years **2008-2009**.

As the rules do not allow the Board to accept the following, the CME requirement **may NOT be met by:**

- Certification with a specialty board;
- Passing a specialty board certification exam;
- Membership in a medical organization (such as a medical society or association); or
- Teaching.

## WAIVER/MODIFICATION

The Board is able to waive/modify the CME requirement if the physician:

- Practices in an isolated geographical area with an absence of opportunities for CME; or
- Is unable to devote sufficient hours to CME because of incapacity, undue hardship, or any other extenuating circumstances.

Physicians wishing to request a waiver/modification will need to **mail** in the renewal, fee and affidavit which;

- Requests a waiver/modification of the CME requirement;
- Provides an explanation as to why you were unable to meet the CME requirement; and
- Is notarized.