

## Medical License CME Requirement Act

Sec. 24. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2005*) (a) As used in this section:

- (1) "Active professional practice" includes, but is not limited to, activities of a currently licensed physician who functions as the medical director of a managed care organization or other organization;
  - (2) "Commissioner" means the Commissioner of Public Health;
  - (3) "Contact hour" means a minimum of fifty minutes of continuing education activity;
  - (4) "Department" means the Department of Public Health;
  - (5) "Licensee" means any person who receives a license from the department pursuant to section 20-13 of the general statutes; and
  - (6) "Registration period" means the one-year period for which a license has been renewed in accordance with section 19a-88 of the general statutes and is current and valid.
- (b) Except as otherwise provided in subsections (d), (e) and (f) of this section, for registration periods beginning on and after October 1, 2007, a licensee applying for license renewal shall earn a minimum of fifty contact hours of continuing medical education within the preceding twenty-four-month period. Such continuing medical education shall (1) be in an area of the physician's practice; (2) reflect the professional needs of the licensee in order to meet the health care needs of the public; and (3) include at least one contact hour of training or education in infectious diseases, including, but not limited to, acquired immune deficiency syndrome and human immunodeficiency virus, risk management, sexual assault and domestic violence. For purposes of this section, qualifying continuing medical education activities include, but are not limited to, courses offered or approved by the American Medical Association, American Osteopathic Medical Association, Connecticut Hospital Association, Connecticut State Medical Society, county medical societies or equivalent organizations in another jurisdiction, educational offerings sponsored by a hospital or other health care institution or courses offered by a regionally accredited academic institution or a state or local health department.
- (c) Each licensee applying for license renewal pursuant to section 19a-88 of the general statutes shall sign a statement attesting that

the licensee has satisfied the continuing education requirements of subsection (b) of this section on a form prescribed by the department. Each licensee shall retain records of attendance or certificates of completion that demonstrate compliance with the continuing education requirements of subsection (b) of this section for a minimum of three years following the year in which the continuing education activities were completed and shall submit such records or certificates to the department for inspection not later than forty-five days after a request by the department for such records or certificates.

(d) A licensee applying for the first time for license renewal pursuant to section 19a-88 of the general statutes is exempt from the continuing medical education requirements of this section.

(e) (1) A licensee who is not engaged in active professional practice in any form during a registration period shall be exempt from the continuing medical education requirements of this section, provided the licensee submits to the department, prior to the expiration of the registration period, a notarized application for exemption on a form prescribed by the department and such other documentation as may be required by the department. The application for exemption pursuant to this subdivision shall contain a statement that the licensee may not engage in professional practice until the licensee has met the requirements set forth in subdivision (2) or (3) of this subsection, as appropriate.

(2) Any licensee who is exempt from the provisions of subsection (b) of this section for less than two years shall be required to complete twenty-five contact hours of continuing medical education that meets the criteria set forth in said subsection (b) within the twelve-month period immediately preceding the licensee's return to active professional practice.

(3) Any licensee who is exempt from the requirements of subsection (b) of this section for two or more years shall be required to successfully complete the Special Purpose Examination of the Federation of State Medical Boards prior to returning to active professional practice.

(f) In individual cases involving medical disability or illness, the commissioner may, in the commissioner's discretion, grant a waiver of the continuing education requirements or an extension of time within which to fulfill the continuing education requirements of this section to any licensee, provided the licensee submits to the department an application for waiver or extension of time on a form prescribed by the department, along with a certification by a licensed physician of the disability or illness and such other documentation as may be required by the commissioner. The commissioner may grant a

waiver or extension for a period not to exceed one registration period, except that the commissioner may grant additional waivers or extensions if the medical disability or illness upon which a waiver or extension is granted continues beyond the period of the waiver or extension and the licensee applies for an additional waiver or extension.

(g) Any licensee whose license has become void pursuant to section 19a-88 of the general statutes and who applies to the department for reinstatement of such license pursuant to section 19a-14 of the general statutes shall submit evidence documenting successful completion of twenty-five contact hours of continuing education within the one-year period immediately preceding application for reinstatement.

Sec. 25. Section 19a-88b of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2005*):

(a) (1) Notwithstanding section 19a-14 or any other provisions of the general statutes relating to continuing education or refresher training, the Department of Public Health shall renew a license, certificate, permit or registration issued to an individual pursuant to chapters 368d, 368v, [370] 371 to 388, inclusive, 393a, 395, 398, 399, 400a and 400c [which] that becomes void pursuant to section 19a-88 or 19a-195b while the holder [thereof] of the license, certificate, permit or registration is on active duty in the armed forces of the United States, [within] not later than six months from the date of discharge from active duty, upon completion of any continuing education or refresher training required to renew a license, certificate, registration or permit [which] that has not become void pursuant to section 19a-88 or 19a-195b. A licensee applying for license renewal pursuant to this section shall submit an application on a form prescribed by the department and other such documentation as may be required by the department.

(2) Notwithstanding section 19a-14 or any other provisions of the general statutes relating to continuing education, the Department of Public Health shall renew a license issued to an individual pursuant to chapter 370 that becomes void pursuant to section 19a-88 while the holder of the license is on active duty in the armed forces of the United States, not later than one year from the date of discharge from active duty, upon completion of twenty-five contact hours of continuing education that meet the criteria set forth in subsection (b) of section 24 of this act. A licensee applying for license renewal pursuant to this subdivision shall submit an application on a form prescribed by the department and other such documentation as may be required by the department.

(b) The provisions of this section [shall] do not apply to reservists or National Guard members on active duty for annual training that is a regularly scheduled obligation for reservists or members of the National Guard for training [which] that is not a part of mobilization.

(c) No license shall be issued under this section to any applicant against whom professional disciplinary action is pending or who is the subject of an unresolved complaint.