

**From:**

**“ARKANSAS PSYCHOLOGY BOARD RULES AND REGULATIONS, 2009”**

**SECTION 9. CONTINUING EDUCATION.**

**9.1. License Holders**

License holders must meet the following minimum continuing education (CE) requirements to renew their licenses to practice psychology in the State of Arkansas.

9.1. A. Each licensee must complete a minimum of twenty (20) hours of (CE) activity during each license renewal period. The defined accrual period is July 01 through June 30 each year. CE hours obtained from January 01, 2009 through June 30, 2009 shall count for this initial reporting period on June 30, 2010. For this purpose, the Board recognizes a general category of CE activities and allows licensees to distribute activities among the following:

9.1. A. (1). Professionally relevant activities in formal settings to include:

9.1. A. (1) (a). Any educational experience approved by APA.

9.1. A. (1). (b). Collaborative study with a Psychologist(s) which involves supervised independent study and/or training. This activity may include supervision-related activities for a maximum of 10 clock/contact hours per year if specific training objectives and goals are clearly documented. Licensees must be able to document the training objectives and goals for such study activities.

9.1. A. (2) Also acceptable, are experiences which demonstrate professional benefit to the licensee. These would include:

9.1. A. (2) (a) Workshops provided by a qualified professional from state and/or nationally recognized training programs, i.e., the American Medical Association, the National Association of Social Workers, the Association for Counseling Development, etc. Training must be provided by a qualified professional.

9.1. A. (2) (b) In-service training programs related to the practice of psychology. In-services must have demonstrable psychological content. In-services with psychological content that are given at

the professional's place of employment may not serve as more than fifty percent (50%) of CE hours except where the place of employment is an accredited training institution.

9.1. A. (2) (c) Formal academic coursework related to the development or maintenance of skills related to the practice of psychology. These must be offered by regionally accredited academic institutions. Both undergraduate and graduate course work will be acceptable. A maximum of twenty (20) hours per course is allowed.

9.1. A. (2) (d) Documentation of teaching a new course or publishing an article, book, or monograph in an area of behavioral science.

9.1. A. (2) (e) Presentation at a first-time poster session, workshop, or in-service training at the local, state, or national level. Preparation time required for such presentations may be included.

9.1. A. (2) (f) Training related to upgrading or maintaining skills in the mental health field (e.g., development or application of computer software). Prior approval from the Board is required for these professional training experiences.

9.1.A. (2) (g) CE shall not be exclusively by home study and/or on-line means.

9.1. A. (2)(h) Attendance at Board meetings by licensees and Board members may account for up to one (1) hour per meeting for a maximum of four (4) hours per year.

9.1. A. (3) Activities that are not acceptable for meeting the CE requirement include:

9.1. A. (3) (a) Supervision where required for routine licensure purposes.

9.1. A. (3) (b) Reading books or journal articles, except for Board approved accredited home study programs having examination and certificate of completion.

9.1. A. (3) (c) The Board reserves the right to determine whether any particular CE experience meets Board standards.

9.1. B. Reporting Requirements. It is the responsibility of the licensee to provide to the Board office, upon request, acceptable documentation of CE activities within thirty (30) calendar days. Acceptable documentation includes certificates of attendance, transcripts, and/or other official documentation

9.1. C. The Board will conduct a random audit of licensees CE compliance each year. The Board may deny renewal or take other disciplinary action against a licensee who fails to obtain or document the required CE hours. The Board may discipline a licensee who commits fraud, deceit, or misrepresentation regarding reporting of CE hours.

If, upon the request of the Board, a licensee fails within thirty (30) calendar days of the request, to provide evidence of CE activity, a late fee of \$50 will be assessed for the first failure to provide the requested documentation of CE hours. Licensees who fail to provide valid documentation of CE may be required to appear before the board for a hearing and determination.

9.1. D. A licensee who cannot meet the CE requirement, for good cause, may seek an extension of time to complete the CE requirement by submitting a written request and the license renewal fee to the Board, for determination.

9.1.D.1. Good cause is limited to licensee illness, family illness and/or military service.

9.1.D.2. Residence in a foreign country for at least twelve (12) months of the license renewal period.

9.1.D.3. The Board shall not grant a time extension longer than one (1) year.

## **9.2. Exception to the Requirement.**

9.2.A The CE requirement will be waived for licensees who have been licensed in the State of Arkansas less than one (1) calendar year on the due date (June 30).

9.2.B Persons with voluntarily inactive licenses shall not be required to accumulate CE during their period of inactivity. However, those persons wishing to re-activate their license must provide evidence of having completed twenty (20) CE hours during the previous license year.