



Pharmacist Continuing Education (CE) Reporting Requirements

Updated 10/4/2024

ORC [4729.12](#) requires pharmacists to obtain a minimum of 3.0 continuing education units (CEUs) (30 hours) every two years in conjunction with their license renewal. Please refer to the chart on the next page for hours required for the 2025 reporting period and the timeframe in which they must be earned.

The following provides an overview of the Board's continuing education requirements:

- Any format (live, home study) is acceptable
- Minimum 30 hours (3 CEUs) total, which must include:
 - Minimum 2 hours medication errors/patient safety (ACPE -05)*
 - Minimum 2 hours jurisprudence or law (ACPE -03) or Ohio Board of Pharmacy Approved Jurisprudence*

NOTE: Only ACPE courses and CE from approved in-state providers (law and provision of volunteer healthcare services) are accepted. Some examples of courses that are not accepted include continuing medical education (CME) and continuing legal education (CLE).

- ***Programs which show up on NABP's CPE monitor transcript with the "IPCE" credit type designation will be accepted for purposes of fulfilling a pharmacist's continuing education requirement.***

For Newly Licensed Ohio Pharmacists Only

For newly licensed Ohio pharmacists who obtain an initial license by reciprocity or examination during an even-numbered year or prior to May 1st in an odd-numbered year, the pharmacist is not required to earn continuing education hours for their first renewal cycle. Any credits earned during this period **may not** be carried over to the next cycle.

In-State Providers of Continuing Education

Pursuant to OAC [4729-6](#), in-state providers of continuing education will only be allowed to grant CE credit for pharmacy jurisprudence courses or the [provision of volunteer healthcare services](#). All jurisprudence programs from in-state providers must be approved by the Board of Pharmacy prior to the presentation of the program.

Continuing Education Requirements by Reporting Cycle

License Number	2025 Reporting Cycle*
03-1-XXXXX 03-2-XXXXX 03-3-XXXXX 03-4-XXXXX Issued on/before April 30, 2023	Total Hours – 30 Law/Jurisprudence – 2 Patient Safety/Medication Errors – 2 Earned between Sept. 16, 2023 and Sept. 15, 2025
03-4-XXXXX Issued between May 1, 2023 and Sept. 15, 2025	Not required to report

***Pharmacists who meet the continuing education requirements via a Board approved pharmacy practice-specific specialty certification are still required to obtain the required CEUs in pharmacy law and patient or medication safety listed above.**

Proof of Completion

All ACPE credits earned shall be reported to the National Association of Boards of Pharmacy (NABP) CPE Monitor. Pharmacists shall keep all certificates and other documented evidence of participation that have been issued by a non-ACPE accredited provider for approved credits for a minimum of one year following the year in which the CE was required for renewal. Pharmacists are only required to supply documentation as proof of completion when requested by the Board.

A pharmacist may satisfy some of the CE requirements by the following:

- Holds a current certification by a Board approved pharmacy practice-specific specialty certification program. The program shall require periodic recertification examinations and provide documentation that the pharmacist is currently certified in the program. The pharmacist must still earn and attest at the time of license renewal of having completed at least 0.2 CEUs (2 hours) of pharmacy jurisprudence/law and 0.2 CEUs (2 hours) of medication errors/patient safety per CE reporting cycle.
- Provide healthcare services as volunteer in accordance with [section 4745.04 of the Ohio Revised Code](#). The location where health care services are provided shall be an approved in-state provider of volunteer healthcare services by the Ohio Board of Pharmacy. **Volunteer hours may only account for one-third of the CE requirement (10 hours).** The pharmacist must still earn and attest at the time of license renewal of having completed at least 0.2 CEUs (2 hours) of pharmacy jurisprudence/law and 0.2 CEUs (2 hours) of medication errors/patient safety per CE reporting cycle.

Jurisprudence (Law) Requirements

Pharmacists have two options to meet the current requirement that they obtain CEUs of pharmacy jurisprudence:

1. [A.C.P.E.](#) law programs as identified by A.C.P.E numbering convention “03”; or
2. If provided by an in-state provider of continuing education, Board approved continuing pharmacy education programs that address current laws, rules, and regulations pertaining to the practice of pharmacy and recent changes that have occurred to those laws, rules and regulations. A list of Board approved courses can be

accessed from the Board's continuing education web site:
<https://www.pharmacy.ohio.gov/Licensing/JurisprudencePrograms>.

It is the responsibility of the pharmacist to verify that they have obtained pharmacy jurisprudence that meets the requirements of OAC [4729:1-5-02](#) prior to attesting that their CE requirements have been met.

REMINDER: Every year, the Ohio Board of Pharmacy offers free, online Jurisprudence CE for pharmacists and technicians. This no-cost quiz can be accessed by visiting the Board's continuing education web site:
<http://www.pharmacy.ohio.gov/Licensing/CE.aspx>. The test is taken online and is graded immediately upon submission. You are encouraged to pre-print the exam, and you will have only two opportunities to take and submit the test for grading. A score of seventy-five percent is needed to pass. After successful completion, you will have the ability to immediately print your certificate, and a copy of your certificate will also be emailed to you. Be sure to keep this certificate to use if you are audited. We are not able to upload successful completion of the exam to CPE monitor. **NOTE:** Do not mail any quizzes to the Board office. We will not hand-process or mail a certificate to you.

Board Approved Pharmacy Practice-Specific Specialty Certification Programs

Resolution Adopted July 11, 2022

Pursuant to OAC 4729:1-5-02 (B)(1), the Ohio Board of Pharmacy hereby approves all current and future specialty certification programs from the following organizations for the purposes of pharmacist continuing education:

- The Board of Pharmacy Specialties (<https://www.bpsweb.org/>)
- The Specialty Pharmacy Certification Board (<https://naspnet.org/>)

Effective July 9, 2002, the Board recognizes the Certified Specialist in Poison Information (CSPI) certification as an approved specialty certification program.

Ohio Licensed Pharmacists Practicing Outside the State of Ohio

Rule [4729:1-5-02](#) states: Ohio-licensed pharmacists who hold a current license in states where continuing education is mandatory, have met the continuing pharmacy education

requirements of that state, and who have not practiced pharmacy in Ohio **at any time** during the two years prior to the renewal date in which a pharmacist's license must be renewed, may renew their license in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 4729. of the Revised Code without having to comply with the requirements of this rule.

IMPORTANT: Pharmacists who are practicing pharmacy outside the state of Ohio but are solely licensed as an Ohio Pharmacist, must still meet the Board's requirements.

Ohio Licensed Pharmacists who are Retired or Not Actively Practicing Pharmacy

Ohio Licensed Pharmacists who wish to maintain an active Ohio Pharmacist license, even if they are retired or not actively practicing pharmacy and do not meet any of the other exemptions listed in this guidance document, are required to earn the full continuing education requirements listed in the table on Page 2 of this document.

The Board does not have a retired or non-renewing status. Pharmacists who meet certain criteria may be eligible for Emeritus status. Please review the criteria here – www.pharmacy.ohio.gov/Emeritus. Pharmacists who are in Inactive – Emeritus status are not required to meet the continuing education requirements as they do not hold an active license to practice pharmacy.

Military Extensions and Waivers

ACTIVE MILITARY SERVICE MEMBERS AND THEIR SPOUSES: The Board may grant extension periods and waivers for CEU requirements for the time in which the active duty took place. *To ask for consideration, please write a letter of explanation to the Board (Attention: Licensing Department) or send an email to licensing@pharmacy.ohio.gov and include official documentation of the active-duty timeframes.*

ACTIVE MILITARY SERVICE MEMBERS: The Board may approve relevant military education, training or service towards CEU requirements. *To ask for consideration, please write a letter of explanation to the Board (Attention: Licensing Department) or send an email to licensing@pharmacy.ohio.gov and include official documentation of the experience along with total hours for consideration.*