

**155A.271 CONTINUING EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS.**

Subdivision 1. **Continuing education requirements.** (a) Effective August 1, 2014, to qualify for license renewal under this chapter as an individual cosmetologist, nail technician, esthetician, advanced practice esthetician, or salon manager, the applicant must attest to the completion of four hours of continuing education credits from an accredited school or a professional association of cosmetology during the three years prior to the applicant's renewal date. One credit hour of the requirement must include instruction pertaining to state laws and rules governing the practice of cosmetology. Three credit hours must include instruction pertaining to health, safety, and infection control matters consistent with the United States Department of Labor's Occupational Safety and Health Administration standards applicable to the practice of cosmetology, or other applicable federal health, infection control, and safety standards, and must be regularly updated so as to incorporate newly developed standards and accepted professional best practices. Credit hours earned are valid for three years and may be applied simultaneously to all individual licenses held by a licensee under this chapter.

(b) Effective August 1, 2017, in addition to the hours of continuing education credits required under paragraph (a), to qualify for license renewal under this chapter as an individual cosmetologist, nail technician, esthetician, advanced practice esthetician, or salon manager, the applicant must also attest to the completion of one four-hour continuing education course from a continuing education provider based on any or all of the following:

- (1) product chemistry and chemistry interaction;
- (2) proper use of machines and instruments;
- (3) business management and human relations; or
- (4) techniques relevant to the type of license held.

Credits must be completed during the three years prior to the applicant's renewal date and may be applied simultaneously to other individual licenses held as applicable, except that credits completed under this paragraph must not duplicate credits completed under paragraph (a).

(c) Paragraphs (a) and (b) do not apply to an instructor license, a school manager license, or an inactive license.

*[See Note.]*

Subd. 1a. **Product sales or marketing prohibited.** The marketing or sale of any product is prohibited during a continuing education class receiving credit under subdivision 1.

Subd. 2. **Continuing education providers.** (a) Only a board-licensed school of cosmetology, a post-secondary institution as defined in section 136A.103, paragraph (a), or a board-recognized professional association organized under chapter 317A may offer continuing education curriculum for credit under subdivision 1, paragraph (a). Continuing education curriculum under subdivision 1, paragraph (b), may be offered by a:

- (1) board-licensed school of cosmetology;
- (2) board-recognized professional association organized under chapter 317A; or
- (3) board-licensed salon.

The school and professional association may offer online and independent study options to achieve maximum involvement of licensees. Continuing education providers are encouraged to offer classes available in foreign language formats.

(b) Board authorization of a continuing education provider under paragraph (a) is valid for one calendar year and is contingent upon submission and preapproval of the lesson plan or plans with learning objectives for the class to be offered and the payment of the application fee in section 155A.25, subdivision 1a, paragraph (d), clause (11). The board may revoke authorization of a continuing education provider at any time for just cause and the board may demand return of documents required under subdivision 3.

Subd. 3. **Proof of credits.** The continuing education provider shall provide to licensees who attend a class a receipt to prove completion of the class. Licensees shall retain proof of their continuing education credits for one year beyond the credit's expiration. The continuing education provider shall retain documentation of all licensees successfully completing a class and the licensee's credit hours for five years.

Subd. 4. **Audit.** The board shall conduct random audits of active licensees periodically to ensure compliance with continuing education requirements. To initiate an audit, the board shall notify an active licensee of the audit and request proof of credits earned during a specified period. The licensee must provide the requested proof to the board within 30 days of an audit notice. The board may request that a school or professional association verify a licensee's credits. The continuing education provider must furnish verification, or a written statement that the credits are not verified, within 15 days of the board's request for verification. If the board determines that a licensee has failed to provide proof of necessary credits earned during the specified time, the board may revoke the individual's license and may deem the individual an expired practitioner subject to penalty under section 155A.25 or 155A.36.

**History:** 2013 c 85 art 5 s 28; 2014 c 162 s 5; 2015 c 77 art 2 s 45,87

**NOTE:** The amendment to subdivision 1 by Laws 2015, chapter 77, article 2, section 45, is effective August 1, 2017. Laws 2015, chapter 77, article 2, section 45, the effective date.