

Tennessee Board of Optometry

Policy on Continuing Education for a Licensee's First Renewal Cycle

The Rules of the Tennessee Board of Optometry exempt a Licensee from the Continuing Education (CE) requirements for the calendar year that the Licensee graduates from an accredited college or school of optometry.

A Licensee's first licensure renewal cycle could range between twelve (12) to thirty-five (35) months due to the Licensee's licensure date and the month and year of their birth. To ensure all Licensee's practice under the most current procedures in their field, the Board requires twenty (20) of the forty (40) CE credit hours be completed if the Licensee's first licensure renewal cycle exceeds twelve (12) months, but is not more than twenty-four (24) months.

For Licensees whose first licensure renewal cycle exceeds twelve (12) months, but is not more than twenty-four (24) months, the Licensee shall be required to complete Board approved CE credit hours in the following:

- A minimum of thirteen (13) of the twenty (20) credit hours is required in courses pertaining to ocular disease and related systemic disease,
 - At least two (2) of the thirteen (13) credit hours shall be a course or courses designed specifically to address controlled substance prescribing practices
- A maximum of four (4) credit hours may pertain to Optometric Business/Practice Management and/or ethics/jurisprudence;
- A maximum of three (3) credit hours may be completed by grand rounds;
 - One (1) hour of credit is received for two (2) hours of attendance,
- CE credit hours may also be obtained pertaining to Clinical Optometry;
- A maximum of eight (8) of the twenty (20) credit hours may be completed in multi-media/online formats; and
- Each licensee shall maintain current certification in cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) in addition to the twenty (20) hours described above.

Licensees whose licensure renewal cycle exceeds twenty-four (24) months are required to complete forty (40) CE credit hours as required of Licensees on a regular CE renewal cycle in accordance with Rule 1045-02-.05.

Adopted by the Board of Optometry on the 6th Day of April 2022.