

Continuing Competency Waiver FAQ's

Q: During the declared emergency, there were limited or no continuing competency programs available. Therefore, I could not complete the continuing competency required as a condition of renewal. What can be done?

A: The Department may waive continuing competency requirements, in whole or in part, when a credential holder submits documentation that "circumstances beyond his or her control have prevented completion of such requirements." Waivers may be considered for circumstances lasting longer than 30 consecutive days that DHHS determines are beyond the credential holder's control. Such circumstances can include, but are not limited to, a shortage of available continuing competency courses resulting from an officially declared state of emergency.

Q: How do I apply for a waiver of continuing competency requirements due to circumstances beyond my control?

A: At the time of renewal, credential holders may apply for a waiver of the continuing competency requirements on the renewal application. Persons applying must provide documentation supporting the reasons why they could not complete the required hours. The Department will review requests, and if approved, the credential will be renewed. If denied, the credential holder will be notified.

Credential holders cannot apply for a waiver until they receive the renewal notice; submit renewal waivers and documentation as early as possible to allow for review.

Q: My credential expires after the declared emergency has been lifted. I was not able to complete the continuing competency requirements due to circumstances beyond my control. Can I still renew my license on active status?

A: Yes, you may qualify for a waiver of the continuing competency hours due to "circumstances beyond [your] control" that prevented the completion of such requirements, as explained in the prior question.

Q: My profession limits the number of hours of online/home study continuing education, but in-person continuing education is not available at this time. My profession is not listed in Executive Order No. 20-10. Can I obtain all of my continuing education hours for renewal or reinstatement online or by home study?

A: The Department will not enforce any limit on the number of continuing education hours obtained online or by home study for renewal or reinstatement of any type of license during the State Declaration of Public Health Emergency. The Department will be as flexible as possible for renewals that take place following the emergency. If licensees obtained online or home study CE hours during the emergency because in-person courses were not available, the Department will accept those CE hours even if the renewal (expiration date) for that profession takes place after the emergency has ended. Communication will be sent to licensees once any subsequent renewal period begins so that licensees know when the limits for online or home study CE are back in place.