CONTINUING EDUCATION RULE REVISIONS

The Rule Revisions that went into effect on September 14, 2018, include numerous revisions to the continuing education requirements. It is imperative that you review the requirements for fulfilling your continuing education requirements. Some of the major changes are listed below. Please go to: https://www.ok.gov/pels/Licensees/Continuing_Education/index.html to view ALL of the continuing education Administrative Rules.

245:15-11-3(b)(2) New licensees by way of examination or comity shall be exempt for their first pro-rated renewal period and first two-year renewal period. PDH’s earned during this exempt period may not be carried forward to the first non-exempt renewal period.

245:15-11-5(b) Beginning January 1, 2019, a licensee may choose either the Board’s standard continuing education requirement as detailed above, or comply with the calendar year reporting method, which is equivalent to fifteen (15) PDH’s per calendar year, totaling thirty (30) PDH’s per renewal period, with no allowable carryover. The Board shall adopt a conversion table allowing for different renewal periods within the calendar year.

245:15-11-5(c) A Professional Land Surveyor or a dual licensee must earn at least two (2) PDH’s covering the Oklahoma Minimum Standards for the Practice of Land Surveying per renewal period, with no allowable carryover for this requirement. This requirement shall commence with the completion of the licensee’s first full two-year renewal period following the adoption of these administrative rules, unless exempt under one of the provisions listed in OAC 245:15-11-3(b).

245:15-11-5(d) A licensee shall only renew their license when they can truthfully certify that they have met the continuing education requirements of this subchapter and have proper proof of completion of the required PDH’s to which they are certifying.

245:15-11-5(a) (11) Documented self-study (1 PDH unit = 3 hours) maximum of 3 PDH’s per renewal period was removed from the Rules and is no longer an option for continuing education credit.

245:15-11-7(b) (2) Active participation in educational outreach activities pertaining to professional licensure or the surveying/engineering professions that involve K-12 or higher education students may count as active participation in a professional and technical society (limited to 2 PDH’s per organization with a maximum of 4 PDH’s per renewal period).

245:15-11-7(b) (4) With the commencement of the licensees first full two-year renewal period following adoption of these administrative rules, credit for approved activities which focus on other jurisdictional professional engineering or professional land surveying licensure laws, regulations, or minimum standards may be approved, but shall be limited to 2 PDH’s per two-year renewal period.

245:15-11-11(b) If the Board, or its designee disallows claimed PDH’s completed during the designated renewal period for audit, as activities that do not meet the criteria for continuing education activities, the licensee shall have 90 days after notification to substantiate the original claim or to complete new continuing education activities to meet the minimum requirement. Further, if verification is supplied for the submitted hours, but disallowed as not acceptable verification, the licensee shall have 90 days after notification to substantiate the original claim with acceptable verification, or complete new continuing education activities to meet the minimum requirement.

245:15-11-11(c) Licensees who do not properly respond to the audit by the stated deadline, shall be in non-compliance with the audit and shall not be granted extra time to earn additional continuing education credit. If a licensee is audited for their continuing education requirements for their renewal period, the licensee shall not be allowed to retire their license to avoid complying with the audit or avoid disciplinary action if they incorrectly certified at the time of renewal that they had completed their continuing education requirements.

Questions - please contact Mark Kirk - mkirk@pels.ok.gov