

R156-60*-304. Continuing Education.

(1) Required Hours. In accordance with Subsection 58-60-105(1) and Section 58-60-205.5, a licensed advanced substance use disorder counselor and a licensed substance use disorder counselor shall complete the requirement during each two year license renewal cycle. A certified advanced substance use disorder counselor and a certified substance use disorder counselor shall complete the requirement during each two year period following the date of initial licensure.

(a) Continuing education shall consist of a minimum of 40 hours. Within the required 40 hours the following are required:

- (i) two hours of suicide prevention as described in Subsection R156-60-105;
- (ii) six hours of ethics and/or law education ; and

(b) The required number of hours of continuing education for an advanced substance use disorder counselor and a licensed substance use disorder counselor who first become licensed during the two year renewal cycle shall be decreased in a pro-rata amount

(c) The Division may defer or waive the continuing education requirements as provided in Section R156-1-308d.

(2) Continuing education under this section shall:

- (a) be relevant to the practice of substance use disorder counseling;
- (b) be relevant to the licensee's professional practice;
- (c) have a method of verification of attendance and completion;
- (d) be prepared and presented by individuals who are qualified by education, training, and experience to provide continuing education; and

(e) be approved by, conducted by, or under the sponsorship of one of the following:

- (i) a recognized accredited college or university;
- (ii) a community mental health agency or a public agency that provides mental health services;
- (iii) a professional association or society involved in the practice mental health therapy; or
- (iv) the Division of Occupational and Professional Licensing;

(3) Credit for continuing education shall be recognized in accordance with the following:

(a) Each hour of continuing education course credit shall consist of not fewer than 50 minutes of education. ;

(b) course work shall be recognized if completed in any of the following forms:

- (i) lectures;
- (ii) seminars;
- (iii) conferences;
- (iv) training session;
- (v) specialty certification;
- (vi) lecturing or instructing of a continuing education course under this section; and
- (vii) distance learning.

(c) Licensees shall receive two hours of continuing education for one hour of time spent lecturing or instructing a continuing education courses and a maximum of 10 of hours per two year period may be recognized for teaching courses.

(d) a maximum of 15 hours for distance learning courses that are not real-time and interactive.

~~(e)~~ No education may be used towards the continuing education requirements that were:

- (i) received prior to licensure in Utah
- (ii) courses taken for college or university credit.

(4) Each licensee shall maintain adequate documentation as proof of compliance with this Section. The licensee shall retain this proof for a period of four years after the end of the renewal cycle for which the continuing education is due. At a minimum, the documentation shall contain the following:

- (i) date of the course;
- (ii) name of the course provider;
- (iii) name of the instructor;
- (iv) course title;
- (v) number of hours of continuing education credit; and
- (vi) course objectives.

(5) Extra Hours of Continuing Education. If an advanced substance use disorder counselor or a licensed substance use disorder counselor completes more than the required number of hours of continuing education during a two year renewal cycle specified in Subsection (1), up to ten hours of the excess over the required number may be carried over to the next two year renewal cycle.