

Frequently Asked Questions regarding the Montana Board of Nursing repeal of continuing education renewal requirements

My nursing license was up for renewal this year (expiring 12/31/2023) – do I need to complete any continuing education credits for this year’s renewal?

Continuing education (CE) credits are no longer required and will no longer be audited effective immediately. The board still requires licensees maintain competence in their area of practice, and if continuing education credits help a licensee comply with that, they should continue to obtain CE credits – the board is simply removing their oversight for that, recognizing that many employers and certifying bodies are already double-checking such requirements.

Why did the board decide to make this change?

Please see the board’s response to comments received during the administrative rulemaking process that capture the board’s intent: <https://boards.bsd.dli.mt.gov/docs/nur/24-159-93adp-arm.pdf>

Did the board consider any input before making this change?

Yes! As part of the rulemaking process, the board is required by Montana law to solicit public comment. In addition to the minimum requirements of that law, all nurses licensed in Montana were emailed in late June 2023 relaying that the board was considering this change and told how they could submit comment. The board then reviewed all comments received at their October 18, 2023 board meeting (the audio recording and time stamped agenda can be found on the Board’s website, <https://nurse.mt.gov/> under the Board Information tab then Board meetings – scroll to past meetings to find the 10/18/23 recording). Additionally, the board discussed their consideration of this change in concept and substance at the January and April meetings in 2023.