

**645—32.3(154D,272C) Standards.**

**32.3(1) *General criteria.*** A continuing education activity which meets all of the following criteria is appropriate for continuing education credit if the continuing education activity:

- a. Constitutes an organized program of learning which contributes directly to the professional competency of the licensee;
- b. Pertains to subject matters which integrally relate to the practice of the profession;
- c. Is conducted by individuals who have specialized education, training and experience by reason of which said individuals should be considered qualified concerning the subject matter of the program. At the time of audit, the board may request the qualifications of presenters.

- d. Fulfills stated program goals, objectives, or both; and
- e. Provides proof of attendance to licensees in attendance including:
  - (1) Date(s), location, course title, presenter(s);
  - (2) Number of program contact hours; and
  - (3) Certificate of completion or evidence of successful completion of the course provided by the course sponsor.

**32.3(2) *Specific criteria.*** Continuing education hours of credit may be obtained by completing the following:

- a. Attendance at workshops, conferences, symposiums and webinars.
- b. Academic courses. Official transcripts indicating successful completion of academic courses which apply to the field of mental health counseling or marital and family therapy, as appropriate, will be necessary in order to receive the following continuing education credits:

1 academic semester hour = 15 continuing education hours

1 academic quarter hour = 10 continuing education hours

- c. Completion of independent study courses that meet the general criteria in subrule 32.3(1).
- d. A maximum of 20 hours of continuing education credit may be granted for any of the following activities not to exceed a combined total of 20 hours:

(1) Presenting professional programs which meet the criteria in rule 645—32.3(272C). Two hours of credit will be awarded for each hour of presentation. A course schedule or brochure must be maintained for audit. Presentation at a professional program does not include teaching a class at an institution of higher learning at which the applicant is regularly and primarily employed. Presentations to lay public are excluded.

(2) Scholarly research or other activities, the results of which are published in a recognized professional publication such as a refereed journal, monograph or conference proceedings. The scholarly research must be integrally related to the practice of the professions.

(3) Publication in a refereed journal. The article in a refereed journal for which the licensee is seeking continuing education credit must be integrally related to the practice of the professions.

(4) Teaching in an approved college, university, or graduate school. The licensee may receive credit on a one-time basis for the first offering of the course.

(5) Authoring papers, publications, and books. The licensee will receive 5 hours of credit per page with a maximum of 20 hours of credit.

(6) Serving on a state or national professional board. The licensee will receive a maximum of three hours of credit.

**32.3(3) *Required specific criteria:***

- a. Three hours of the 40 continuing education hours will be in ethics.
- b. Effective with the biennial continuing education compliance period that begins October 1, 2022, persons serving in a supervisory role must complete three hours of continuing education in supervision.
- c. Effective July 1, 2019, a licensee who regularly examines, attends, counsels or treats adults in Iowa shall complete, within six months of employment or prior to the expiration of a current certification, an initial two-hour course in dependent adult abuse training for mandatory reporters offered by the department of health and human services. Thereafter, all mandatory reporters shall take a one-hour recertification training every three years, prior to the expiration of a current certification.

*d.* Effective July 1, 2019, a licensee who regularly examines, attends, counsels or treats children in Iowa shall complete, within six months of employment or prior to the expiration of a current certification, an initial two-hour course in child abuse training for mandatory reporters offered by the department of health and human services. Thereafter, all mandatory reporters shall take a one-hour recertification training every three years, prior to the expiration of a current certification.  
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