

**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 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

*b.* Rescinded IAB 7/6/05, effective 8/10/05.

*c.* 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 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 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) Distance learning conferences or courses will be allowed if the following criteria are met:

1. The program is offered through electronic transmission such as the Iowa Communications Network (ICN).

2. The program allows for interaction between the presenter and the participants.

3. The program issues the participants an official transcript, certificate of attendance or verification of successful completion of the course which applies to the field of mental health counseling or marital and family therapy.

(5) Home study courses will be allowed if the following criteria are met:

1. The program is recognized by the National Board for Certified Counselors (NBCC), Commission on Rehabilitation Counselor Certification (CRCC), American Association of Marriage and Family Therapy (AAMFT) or meets all of the criteria in 645—32.3(272C).

2. An official transcript, verification or certificate of completion is presented after successful completion of the course.

(6) Viewing multimedia presentations will be allowed if the following criteria are met:

1. There is a sponsoring group or agency.

2. There is a facilitator or program official present.

3. The program official may not be the only attendee.
  4. The program meets all of the criteria in 645—32.3(272C).
  - (7) Computer-assisted instructional courses or programs pertaining to the practice of mental health counseling or marital and family therapy will be allowed if the following criteria are met:
    1. The courses and programs are approved by the National Board for Certified Counselors (NBCC), Commission on Rehabilitation Counselor Certification (CRCC), American Association of Marriage and Family Therapy (AAMFT) or their affiliates or meet all of the criteria in 645—32.3(272C).
    2. An official transcript, certificate of completion, or verification that includes the following information is presented after successful completion of the course:
      - Date course/program was completed.
      - Title of the course/program.
      - Number of course/program continuing education hours.
      - Official signature or verification of the course/program sponsor.
  - (8) 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.
  - (9) Authoring papers, publications, and books. The licensee shall receive five hours of credit per page with a maximum of 20 hours of credit.
- 32.3(3) Required specific criteria.** Three hours of the 40 continuing education hours shall be in ethics.