

Provisions of Section 10 of Public Act 09-232

(a) As used in this section:

(1) "Commissioner" means the Commissioner of Public Health;

(2) "Contact hour" means a minimum of fifty minutes of continuing education activity;

(3) "Department" means the Department of Public Health;

(4) "Licensee" means any person who receives a license from the department pursuant to chapter 384 of the general statutes; and

(5) "Registration period" means the one-year period for which a license renewed in accordance with section 19a-88 of the general statutes is current and valid.

(b) Except as otherwise provided in this section, for registration periods beginning on and after July 1, 2011, a licensee applying for license renewal shall earn a minimum of twenty-four contact hours of continuing education within the preceding twenty-four-month period. Such continuing education shall (1) be in an area of the licensee's practice; and (2) reflect the professional needs of the licensee in order to meet the veterinary health care needs of the public. Qualifying continuing education activities include, but are not limited to, courses, including on-line courses, offered or approved by national or state veterinary medical organizations, societies or associations, colleges or schools of veterinary medicine and other professional societies and organizations as appropriate to the educational needs of the licensee.

(c) Each licensee applying for license renewal pursuant to section 19a-88 of the general statutes shall sign a statement attesting that he or she has satisfied the continuing education requirements of subsection (b) of this section on a form prescribed by the department. Each licensee shall retain records of attendance or certificates of completion that demonstrate compliance with such continuing education requirements for a minimum of three years following the year in which the continuing education activities were completed and shall submit such records to the department for inspection not later than forty-five days after a request by the department for such records.

(d) A licensee applying for the first time for license renewal pursuant to section 19a-88 of the general statutes is exempt from the continuing education requirements of this section.

(e) A licensee who is not engaged in active professional practice in any form during a registration period shall be exempt from the continuing education requirements of this section, provided the licensee submits to the department, prior to the expiration of the registration period, a notarized application for exemption on a form prescribed by the department and such other documentation as may be required by the department. The application for exemption pursuant to this subsection shall contain a statement that the licensee may not engage in professional practice until the licensee has met the continuing education requirements of this section.

(f) In individual cases involving medical disability or illness, the commissioner may, in the commissioner's discretion, grant a waiver of the continuing education requirements or an extension of time within which to fulfill the continuing education requirements of this section to any licensee, provided the licensee submits to the department an application for waiver or extension of time on a form prescribed by the department, along with a certification by a licensed physician of the disability or illness and such other documentation as may be required by the commissioner. The commissioner may grant a waiver or extension for a period not to exceed one registration period, except that the commissioner may grant additional waivers or extensions if the medical disability or illness upon which a waiver or extension is granted continues beyond the period of the waiver or extension and the licensee applies for an additional waiver or extension.

(g) Any licensee whose license has become void pursuant to section 19a-88 of the general statutes and who applies to the department for reinstatement of such license pursuant to section 19a-14 of the general statutes, as amended by this act, shall submit evidence documenting successful completion of twelve contact hours of continuing education within the one-year period immediately preceding application for reinstatement.