

UPDATE ON MANDATORY OPIOID CME REQUIREMENTS

SENATE ENROLLED ACT (SEA) #225 (effective July 1, 2018)

Beginning July 1, 2019, each physician who is licensed by a board under IC 25-1-9 and applies for registration or re-registration under this chapter must have completed two (2) hours of continuing education during the previous two (2) years **addressing the topic of opioid prescribing and opioid abuse**.

All continuing education courses must be:

- Approved by the board or the licensing board that regulates the practitioner; or
- Offered by an approved organization

The Indiana Professional Licensing Agency (IPLA) shall maintain on the agency's internet website a schedule of or link to opioid abuse continuing education courses that are available.

If a practitioner is required to take continuing education as a condition to renew a registration, certification, or license, the continuing education courses must be applied to the fulfillment of that requirement.

These continuing education requirements expire July 1, 2025.

OF NOTE:

Only physicians renewing their **Indiana Controlled Substances Registration (CSR)** will need to have completed 2 hours of CME on the topic of Opioid Prescribing and Abuse. Those who simply prescribe via their general Indiana practitioner license are not required to do so.

Licensees will not need to submit certificates of completion. Instead, they will attest on their renewal form that the hours have been completed. The Medical Licensing Board may then audit up to 10% of licensees to ensure compliance. Licensees should retain their certificates of completion for up to 3 years from the date of renewal.

INDIANA PROFESSIONAL LICENSING AGENCY WEBSITE

<https://www.in.gov/pla/4040.htm>

The IPLA website lists organizations who are approved to provide this continuing education, including:

- United States Department of Education
- Council on Post-Secondary Education
- Joint Commission on Accreditation of Hospitals
- Joint Commission on Healthcare Organizations
- Federal, state, and local government agencies
- A college or other teaching institution accredited by the United States Department of Education or the Council on Post-Secondary Education
- A national organization of licensed physicians/osteopathic physicians
- **A national, state, district or local organization that operates as an affiliated entity under the approval of an organization listed above***
- An internship or residency program conducted in a hospital that has been approved by an organization listed above
- A list of recognized providers can be found on the ACCME website at:
<http://www.accme.org/find-cme-provider>.

*Because the ISMA is considered a state organization affiliated with the AMA, the ISMA is an approved provider. And because Indiana CME providers are accredited and recognized by the ISMA, they are considered an approved provider for this education.

EDUCATION CONTENT

Content must be specific to Opioid Prescribing and Opioid Abuse.
Suggested content could include:

- Review of current landscape of the opioid epidemic
- Summarize and critique evidence for opioids to treat pain
- Identify current Indiana laws that pertain to opioid prescribing
- Discuss the importance of self-care and non-opioid modalities in the whole person treatment of pain
- Recognize how to diagnose opioid use disorder
- Review current treatment options for persons with opioid use disorder