

American Nurses Association®
STATES WHICH REQUIRE CONTINUING EDUCATION FOR RN LICENSURE
2003 Chart

State	Requires CE to renew RN license?	Number of CE hours to renew RN license	Number of CE hours required for reentry	CE hours required for HIV/AIDS
Alabama	Yes	24 contact hours for active license ¹	24 hrs/2 years	No
Alaska	Yes	30 hours	30 hours	No
Arizona	No	None	30 hrs/5yrs or reentry course	No
Arkansas	Yes	15	20 hours for everyone plus refresher course	No
California	Yes	30 hours within 2 years	30hrs/2 years*	Yes ²
Colorado	No	None	No	No
Connecticut	No	None	Board discretion for lapsed license ²	No
Delaware	Yes	30 contact hours biennially.	30 hours	No
District of Columbia	Yes	Only for inactive licensees	12 hours/1 year	No
Florida	Yes	25 contact hours within 2 years ³	1 hour per month if inactive	1 hour
Georgia	No	40 hours of didactic and 160 hours of clinicals	No	No
Guam	Reentry only	None	40 clinic and 160 hours of clinicals	No
Hawaii	No	None	No	No
Idaho	Reentry only	None	incremental amounts determined by the BON	No
Illinois	Reentry only	None	5 years, 48 hrs of theory/96 clinical	No
Indiana	Reentry only	None	BON discretion	No
Iowa	Yes	36 hours every 3 years license and 12 for re-entry. HIV/AIDS requirement remains no.	15 hrs. year prior to reentry	N/A
Kansas	Yes	30 hours every 2 years w/ 15 hours of independent study	60 hours didactic/180 clinical	N/A
Kentucky	Yes	30 hours every 2 years	15 hours/year ⁴	Two contact hours.

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Louisiana	No	15 hours every year or 10 hours + part time practice or 5 hours +full-time practice	Review course if out of practice 4 or more years*	No
Maine	No	None	No	No
Maryland	No	None	Review course, board approved reorientation program or 3 semester hours.	No
Massachusetts	Yes	15 hours every 2 years	15 hours/2 years preceding license reactivation	No
Michigan	Yes	25 hours every 2 years	25 hours/ 2 years	No
Minnesota	Yes	24 contact hours per 24 month renewal period	1 hour for every month out of practice with a maximum of 150 hours	2 contact hours per 24 months ⁵
Mississippi	Yes ⁶	20 contact hours within 2 years with conditions.	20 hours/2 year prior to application for reinstatement or BON approved reorientation program or 3 semester hours.	No
Missouri	No	None	No	No
Montana	No	None	No*	No
Nebraska	Yes	20 hours within 2 yrs + 500 hours of nursing practice within 5 years	20 hours in last 2 years + 500 hours practice in last 5 years or BON approved review course	"No" We do not have an HIV/AIDS CE requirement
Nevada	Yes	30 contact hours within 2 years; 20 may be home study	Refresher program after 5 yrs	No

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New Hampshire	Yes	30 contact hours within last 2 years.	900 hrs active practice w/in 4 years prior to application. 30 hrs/2 years.	No
New Jersey	No	No	No	No
New Mexico	Yes		approved refresher course complete preceptorship.* ⁷	No
New York	No	None	No	Approved State Education Department infection control curriculum every four years. Failure to follow infection control principles is possible professional misconduct.
North Carolina	No	None	240 hr refresher course if out of practice 5 or more years.	No
North Dakota	No	None	Refresher course if out of practice 5 or more years.	No
Ohio	Yes	24 hours in a two year period. Additional hours for advanced practice.	24 hours in preceding 2 years.	No
Oklahoma	No	None	No	No
Oregon	No	None	Formal program required if RN has not practiced 960 hours in past 5 years.	No
Pennsylvania	No	None	No	No
Rhode Island	No	None	No	No
South Carolina	No	None	80 hrs theory, 80 hours clinical, if RN has not practiced 960 hours in past 5 yrs.	No

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South Dakota	No	None	80 hrs theory, 80 hours clinical, if RN has not practiced for 6 years	No answer
Tennessee	No	None	No	No
Texas	Yes	20 contact hours last two years preceding reactivation application. Additionally, refresher course required if inactive four years or more.	20 hours/2 yrs refresher course or supervised employment if inactive more than 2 years.	No
Utah	Yes	30 hours/2 years + practice	3 hours up to 3 years	No
Vermont	No	None	120 hours, clinical and theory, after 5 years thru reentry course. 120 hrs. refresher course if out of practice 5 years or more	No
Virginia	No	None	No	No
Virgin Islands	Yes	15 contact hours every two years	After 5 years, refresher course– 90 theory, 70 hours clinical	No
Washington	Yes	None	160 clinical hours, 80 hours theory, if inactive 3 yrs	Yes ⁸
West Virginia	Yes	30 hours every two year reporting period on the odd year. Two of the thirty must be in “end of life including pain management”	30 contact hours of CE from the previous reporting period	No
Wisconsin	No	None	At discretion of the board	No
Wyoming	Yes	20 hours every two years. .	20 hours within 2 years	No

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End Notes

1. In Alabama, if an individual is licensed by endorsement or has requested reinstatement or reactivation, contact hours are prorated after initial requirements for reentry are met. Specialty practitioners include: Certified Registered Nurse Practitioners (CRNP), Certified Nurse Midwives (CNM) and Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetists(CRNA). To be approved to practice as a specialty practitioner, all continuing education requirements for certification must be met. Also, continuing education requirements must be met for licensure. The specialty practitioner may apply continuing education contact hours earned for certification toward license renewal provided the contact hours are earned in the earning period defined in the regulations. (Also see accompanying booklet titled "C.E. Questions and Answers for Licensees and Providers of Continuing Education").
2. In California, the California Business and Prof. Code @32 (1996) established the legislative requirements for an omnibus board to determine appropriate continuing education on AIDs related to assessment and treatment for licensed health care professions. Subsequently, the board has delegated this responsibility to the respective health care boards.
3. When licensed lapsed in excess of 3 years, Board may review application and require continuing education.
4. Whether renewal or reentry, each licensee must have 1 hour of continuing education on domestic violence.
5. The AIDS continuing education is mandated under KRS 214.615 and is required for all health professionals. Must be approved course by Kentucky Cabinet for Health Services.
6. The Michigan hours for AIDs continuing education come under the heading of infection control.
7. Mississippi requires continued education if the nurse has not practiced within the past 5 years.
8. Preceptorship includes 75 hours of didactic and 75 hours of clinical course work. NM does not require CE for endorsees.
9. In Washington to receive initial license there must be documentation of a minimum of 7 hours of HIV/AIDS education to include etiology, epidemiology; testing and treatment; legal and ethical issues to include confidentiality; and psychosocial issues to include special population considerations.
10. In Arkansas the refresher course required if inactive for more than five years.
11. In West Virginia two of the 30 hours must be in "end of life including pain management."

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