

Physician CME Hours requirements

Total hrs needed	Hours required
Formal Category 1 or 1A Hours	24
Informal Hours - up to 24 hrs allowed	

Total Hours required prior to biennial renewal **48**

Specialty type requirements

Subject Area	Hours required	Applicability	Frequency
Medical Ethics and/or Professional Responsibility (Category 1 or 1A)	2	All physicians	each renewal period
Pain Management and the Prescription of Opioids (Category 1 or 1A)	2	any physician who practices direct patient care	1) within 1 year of issuance; and again, for the next renewal; and 2) for existing physicians every 4 renewals (every 8 years)
Human Trafficking Prevention	Yes	any physician who practices direct patient care	1) prior to first renewal, and 2) for existing physicians every 3 renewals (every 6 years)
The Life of the Mother Act - TMB CE Course	Yes	any physician who provides obstetric care (see list)	one time requirement - see section for details
Tick-Borne Diseases	optional	any physician whose practice includes the treatment of tick-borne diseases	encouraged to complete
EMS Medical Director (also known as Off-Line Medical Director)	12	any physician who is a registered off-line medical director for EMS Services	1) within two years (see section and Board rule for full requirements). 2) one hour each subsequent biennial renewal
Pain Management Clinics	10	any physician who is a medical director of a pain management clinic	each renewal period
Physician competency or practice monitoring	optional	any physician who participates in a program sponsored by the board for the evaluation of a physician competency or practice monitoring	up to 12 hrs

Pending/Future updates

<i>Forensic Examinations</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>Physicians whose practice includes treating patients in an emergency room setting</i>	<i>each renewal period</i>
<i>Nutrition and Metabolic Health</i>	<i>unknown</i>	<i>all physicians</i>	<i>each renewal period</i>

Additional Options

Alternate compliance	Hours covered	Applicability	Requirements
Board Certification/Re-certification	Most formal and informal	DOES cover the ethics DOES NOT cover the Human trafficking prevention MIGHT cover the opioid requirement - depending on specialty bd	must be completed within 36 months prior to renewal, and valid for ONE renewal period
Maintenance of Certification (MOC)	Most formal and informal	DOES cover the ethics DOES NOT cover the Human trafficking prevention MIGHT cover the opioid requirement - depending on specialty bd	if current MOC is being met, can be used for multiple renewal periods
Residency/Fellowship Training	Most formal and informal	DOES cover the ethics DOES NOT cover the Human trafficking prevention MIGHT cover the opioid requirement - depending on specialty	must be in training, or have completed training within 6 months prior to renewal
Exemptions	Hours covered	Applicability	Frequency
Licensee's catastrophic illness	All	Upon request	Valid for one renewal, but maybe renewed with additional request
Licensee's military service of >1 yrs outside of TX	All	Upon request	Valid for one renewal, but maybe renewed with additional request
Licensee's residence of >1 yrs outside of US	All	Upon request	Valid for one renewal, but maybe renewed with additional request
Good Cause	All	Upon request	Valid for one renewal, but maybe renewed with additional request

Excess Credits

Subject Area	Hours allowed	Applicability	Frequency
General Requirements	Max 48 hrs	Can be carried forward	Limit of 2 years from the date of registration
Medical Ethics and/or Professional Responsibility (Category 1 or 1A)	none	May NOT be carried forward	
Pain Management and the Prescription of Opioids (Category 1 or 1A)	none	May NOT be carried forward	

Note – Physicians who hold physician in training (PIT) permits are not required to complete CME requirements. CME requirements begin only after a physician license has been issued.