

CHAPTER A-E 10

CONTINUING EDUCATION FOR LAND SURVEYORS

A-E 10.01 AUTHORITY AND PURPOSE

The rules in this chapter are adopted under the authority in ss. 15.08 (5) (b), 227.11(2), 443.06Stats., and govern biennial continuing education of registrants of the Land Surveyor Section of the Examining Board of Architects, Landscape Architects, Professional Engineers, Designers and Land Surveyors.

A-E 10.02 DEFINITIONS. As used in this chapter:

- (1) "Biennium" means a 2-year period beginning February 1 of each even-numbered year.
- (2) "Continuing Education" means the planned, professional development activities designed to contribute to the advancement, extension and enhancement of the professional skills and scientific knowledge of the licensee in the practice of land surveying and for improvement of the safety and welfare of the public.
- (3) "Continuing Education Units" (CEU) means that if a program awards CEUs rather than PDHs, one CEU unit equals 10 PDH of an approved educational activity.
- (4) "Professional Development Activities" means organized educational programs on topics related to the practice or theory of land surveying and which foster the enhancement of general or specialized knowledge, practice and values of land surveying.
- (5) "Professional Development Hours" (PDH) means 50 minutes of instruction or participation spent by the registrant in actual attendance or completion of an approved educational activity.

A-E 10.03 CONTINUING EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS

(1)(a) Beginning in the 2012 biennial registration period, and unless granted a waiver under sub. (---) every registrant shall complete at least 20 hours of approved professional development hours or equivalent continuing education hours, pertinent to the practice of land surveying, except that between initial licensure and the first renewal period a new registrant shall not be required to comply with the continuing education requirements for the first renewal of registration.

(b)The professional development hours shall be in each of the following categories:

1. Programs, courses or activities in the area of State of Wisconsin statutes and rules that regulate professional land surveyors and surveys.
2. Programs, courses or activities in the area of professional conduct and ethics.
3. Programs, courses or activities in the area of land surveying or related sciences.

(2)(a) Continuing Education offered by approved providers shall include, but not be limited to:

1. Successful completion of online, correspondence, televised, videotaped, and other short courses or tutorials.

2. Successful completion of a college or university course in the area of land surveying, related sciences and surveying ethics. One semester credit hour of course work is equivalent to 20 professional development hours and one quarter credit hour of course work is equivalent to 13.5 professional development hours.

3. Successful completion of land surveying courses or programs offering professional development hours on land surveying topics.

4. Active participation and successful completion of land surveying programs, seminars, tutorials, workshops, short courses or in-house courses.

5. Attending program presentations at related technical or professional meetings at which at least one hour is spent discussing surveying issues and/or attending a lecture on survey-related issues. Each qualified meeting will be awarded 1 professional development hour.

6. Teaching or instructing courses or programs on a land surveying topic. Teaching credit is valid for teaching a course or seminar for the first time only and does not apply to faculty in the performance of their regularly assigned duties. Two professional development hours will be awarded for every hour of teaching or presentation.

7. Authoring land surveying related papers or articles that appear in circulated journals or trade magazines. Credit is earned in the biennium of publication. A maximum of 5 professional development hours per renewal will be awarded for this activity.

(3) Continuing Education shall be completed within the preceding 2-year licensure certification period.

(4) A land surveyor who fails to meet the continuing education or professional development hours by the renewal date may not engage in the practice of land surveying until the registration is renewed based upon proof of compliance with the continuing education requirements.

A-E 10.04 STANDARDS FOR APPROVAL. (1)(a) To be approved for credit, a continuing education program shall meet all of the following criteria:

1. The program of instruction constitutes an organized method of learning which contributes directly to the professional competency of the registrant and pertains to subject matters which integrally relate to the practice of the profession.
2. The program is conducted by individuals who have specialized education, training or experience and are considered qualified concerning the subject matter of the program.
3. The program provides proof of attendance by the registrants and fulfills pre-established goals and objectives.

(2)(a) Approved providers for continuing education programs shall include, but not be limited to:

1. Wisconsin Society of Land Surveyors (WSLS);
2. National Council of Examiners for Engineering and Surveying (NCEES);

3. National Society of Professional Land Surveyors (NSPS);
4. American Congress on Surveying and Mapping (ACSM);
5. Colleges, universities or other educational institutions approved by the Land Surveyor Section;
6. Other technical or professional societies or organizations.

(3) An advisory committee selected by the Land Surveyor Section will make recommendations as to approval of courses, credit, PDH value for courses and other methods of earning credit.

(a) Credit for college or technical school approved courses will be based upon course credit established by the college or technical school.

(b) Credit for qualifying seminars and workshops will be based on one PDH unit for each hour of attendance. Attendance at qualifying programs presented at professional and for technical meetings will earn 1 PDH.

A-E10.05 CERTIFICATE OF COMPLETION, PROOF OF ATTENDANCE

(1) Each registrant shall certify on the renewal application full compliance with the continuing education requirements set forth in this chapter.

(2) The Land Surveyor Section may conduct a random audit of its registrants on a biennial basis for compliance with these requirements. It is the responsibility of each registrant to retain or otherwise produce evidence of compliance.

(3) The Land Surveyor Section may require additional evidence demonstrating compliance with the continuing education requirements including but not limited to a certificate of attendance or documentation of completion or credit for the courses completed.

(4) If there appears to be a lack of compliance with the continuing education or professional development requirements, a registrant shall be notified in writing and requested to submit evidence of compliance within 30 days of the notice.

(5) The Land Surveyor Section may require a registrant to appear for an interview to address any deficiency or lack of compliance with the continuing education or professional development requirements.

A-E 10.06 RECORDKEEPING. It shall be the responsibility of the registrant to maintain records of continuing education or professional development hours for at least 4 years from the date the certificate or statement of attendance is signed. The record keeping shall include the following

- (1) The name and address of the sponsor or provider;
- (2) A brief statement of the subject matter;
- (3) Printed program schedules, registration receipts or other proof of participation.
- (4) Certificate of attendance;
- (5) The number of hours attended in each program; and the date and place of the program.

A-E 10.07 WAIVER OF CONTINUING EDUCATION

(1) Any renewal applicant seeking renewal of a license without having fully complied with the continuing education requirements shall file a renewal application along with the required fee, and a statement setting forth the facts concerning non-compliance and requesting a waiver of the requirements. The request for waiver shall be made prior to the renewal date. If the Land Surveyor Section finds from such affidavit or any other evidence submitted that extreme hardship has been shown for granting a waiver, the Land Surveyor Section shall waive enforcement of the continuing education requirements for the applicable renewal period.

(2) Extreme hardship shall be determined on an individual basis by the Land Surveyor Section and is defined as an inability to devote sufficient hours to fulfilling the continuing education requirements during the applicable renewal period because of one of the following:

- (a) Full-time service in the uniformed services of the United States of America during a substantial part of the biennium.
- (b) An incapacitating illness documented by a statement from a currently licensed physician.
- (c) A physical inability to travel to the sites of approved programs documented by a currently licensed physician.
- (d) A “retirement” from the occupation of land surveying whereby the renewal applicant no longer receives remuneration from providing land surveying services; or
- (e) Any other similar extenuating circumstances.

(3) Any renewal applicant who, prior to the expiration date of the license, submits a request for a waiver shall be deemed to be in good standing until the final decision on the application is made by the Land Surveyor Section.

A-E 10.08 COMITY.

Applicants for registration from other states who are applying for a registration to practice land surveying under A-E 4.09 (2) shall submit proof of completion of continuing education obtained in another jurisdiction within the 2 years prior to application.