

**Tennessee Council for Hearing Instrument Specialists
Policy on Continuing Education Violations**

The Tennessee Council for Licensing Hearing Instrument Specialists requires each licensee to successfully complete twenty (20) hours of continuing education during the two (2) calendar years (January 1 – December 31) that precede the licensure renewal year. Two (2) of the twenty (20) hour requirement shall pertain to Tennessee statutes and rules concerning hearing instrument specialists.

In the event a licensee is found to be deficient in the number of required continuing education (CE) hours for a particular year, that person will be required to pay a civil penalty of Fifty Dollars (\$50.00) for each hour deficient, and make up the deficient hours. The made up hours cannot be counted toward the current continuing education period.

The civil penalty must be paid, and all deficient CE hours must be taken and documented by the Board, within ninety (90) days after Department staff mails the licensee a notice of deficiency.

Notice of discipline for CE deficiency will be assessed by the Department via Agreed Citation, which will detail the licensee's rights and obligations under the Uniform Administrative Procedures Act, T.C.A. §§ 4-5-301, et seq. The discipline assessed in accordance with this continuing education policy constitutes formal discipline against a practitioner's license and as such will be reported to the disciplinary data bank and will be noted on the practitioner's licensure profile.

If such licensee fails to pay the civil penalty and demonstrate that he or she has cured the CE deficiency within the calendar year in which he receives notification, the Department will file a licensure complaint and the licensee will be prosecuted in accordance with the Uniform Administrative Procedures Act, T.C.A. §§ 4-5-301, et seq.

Adopted by the Council for Licensing Hearing Instrument Specialists on the 22nd day of March 2013.