

TENNESSEE BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS

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POLICY STATEMENT FAILURE TO OBTAIN REQUIRED CONTINUING MEDICAL EDUCATION

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A medical doctor licensed in Tennessee is required to complete forty (40) hours of continuing medical education courses during the two (2) calendar years (January 1 – December 31) that precede the licensure renewal year. (See Tenn. Comp. R. & Regs. 0880-2-.19 regarding continuing education requirements.) However, the Board of Medical Examiners recognizes that a medical doctor may inadvertently fail to obtain the required hours of continuing medical education. As such, the Board has adopted the following procedures when the medical doctor fails to obtain the continuing education hours for a calendar year:

**1. Medical doctors who are short up to five (5) hours of continuing education will be given a thirty (30) day grace period following a continuing education audit to make up to five (5) continuing education hours. Proof of completion of the continuing education hours within thirty (30) days will be counted towards compliance with the continuing education requirements. Failure to provide proof of completion of any continuing education hours within thirty (30) days will result in these hours being counted toward the deficient hours of continuing education. Medical doctors who are short more than five (5) hours of continuing education will not be given the thirty (30) day grace period.**

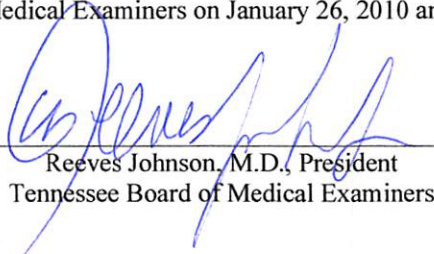
**2. A medical doctor found not in compliance with the continuing education requirements must pay a civil penalty in the amount of one hundred (\$100.00) for each hour of Category I missed. Payment must be rendered within ninety (90) days of notification from the Board that the medical doctor has been found to have failed to obtain the required continuing education hours.**

**3. The medical doctor must make up the amount of continuing education hours that he/she is deficient, in addition to completing the continuing education hours requirement for the current calendar year. The deficient hours must be made up within ninety (90) days of receipt of this policy. Documented proof of the deficient hours obtained must be submitted to the Board upon completion.**

**4. The medical doctor must complete an additional ten (10) continuing education hours. This requirement is in addition to the requirement that the medical doctor make up the continuing education hours for which he/she is deficient, and in addition to the continuing education hours' requirement for the current calendar year. The ten (10) hours must be made up within ninety (90) days of receipt of this policy. Documented proof of completion of the deficient hours must be submitted to the Board upon completion.**

Failure to comply with this policy may result in disciplinary action. Failure to respond to the Board's request for documentation or to make up deficient continuing education hours after notification by the Board may also result in disciplinary action. The Board has authorized the use of an agreed citation for such disciplinary purposes. An agreed citation is reportable on the Department of Health's website and its monthly disciplinary action report, but not to the National Practitioner Data Bank.

Originally adopted by the Board of Medical Examiners on January 26, 2010 and revised on November 3, 2020.



Reeves Johnson, M.D., President  
Tennessee Board of Medical Examiners