

1399.483. Approval of Continuing Education Courses.

(a) Only a provider may obtain approval to offer continuing education courses.

(b) The content of all courses of continuing education submitted for board approval shall be relevant to the practice of acupuncture and Asian medicine and shall fall within the following two (2) categories

(1) Category 1 courses are those courses related to clinical matters or the actual provision of health care to patients. Examples of Category 1 courses include, but are not limited to, the following:

(A) Acupuncture and Asian Medicine

(B) Western biomedicine and biological sciences.

(C) Scientific or clinical content with a direct bearing on the quality of patient care, community or public health, or preventive medicine.

(D) Courses concerning law and ethics and health facility standards.

(E) Courses designed to develop a licensee's patient education skills, including, but not limited to, patient education in therapeutic exercise techniques, nutritional counseling, and biomechanical education.

(F) Courses designed to enhance a licensee's ability to communicate effectively with other medical practitioners.

(G) Courses in acupuncture's role in individual and public health, such as emergencies and disasters.

(H) Courses in the behavioral sciences, patient counseling, and patient management and motivation when such courses are specifically oriented to the improvement of patient health.

(I) Research and evidence-based medicine as related to acupuncture and Asian medicine.

(2) Category 2 courses are those courses unrelated to clinical matters or the actual provision of health care to patients. Examples of Category 2 courses include, but are not limited to, the following:

(A) Practice management courses unrelated to clinical matters and direct patient care, including, but not limited to administrative record keeping, laws and regulations unrelated to clinical medicine, insurance billing and coding, and general business organization and management.

(B) Breathing and other exercises, i.e. qi gong and taiji quan that are for the benefit of the licensee and not the patient.

(c) Each provider shall include, for each course offered, a method by which the course participants evaluate the following:

(1) The extent to which the course met its stated objectives.

(2) The adequacy of the instructor's knowledge of the course subject.

(3) The utilization of appropriate teaching methods.

(4) The applicability or usefulness of the course information.

(5) Other relevant comments.

(d) Courses designed to be completed by an individual on an independent or home study basis shall not exceed 50% of the required continuing education hours.

(1) Courses that require practical or hands on techniques may not be approved for independent or home study.

(2) Courses approved for independent or home study shall include a self-assessment by the licensee upon completion of the course that tests the participants mastery of the course material.

(e) A provider is prohibited from selling, advertising or promoting any named brand product or service during a course. A provider shall ensure that any discussion of name product or service is objectively selected and presented with favorable and unfavorable information and balanced discussion of prevailing information on the product, competing products, alternative treatments or services. A provider shall ensure written disclosure to the audience, at the time of

the program, of any relationship between any named product(s) or services discussed and the provider or between any such products or service and any individuals instructor, presenter, panelist, or moderator. However, a provider may offer for sale products or services after the course has been completed as long as it is made clear to all participants that they are under no obligation whatsoever to stay for the sales presentation or purchase any products. Nothing in this subdivision shall be interpreted as restricting a provider from discussing generic products during a course.

Dear Sir or Madam,

My name is BeiBei Wu, and I am writing today to request that you put on the upcoming Board Meeting Agenda the following topic: Webinar Distance Learning CEUs being allowed to count for more than 50% of the California CEU Requirement.

With the development of technology, distance learning has become the way of the future, especially with Webinar technology. Personally, from attending so many different webinars and live seminars in the past year, I have felt that the difference, and the degree of knowledge one is able to derive from both types of classes are indiscernible. It is of my personal opinion, as well as the opinions of many of my colleagues, that the CEUs derived from webinar courses should no longer be considered as being inferior to live seminars. In fact, I have found that many times, the experience of the webinar classes are actually superior to going to a live course.

We all have very busy schedules, and the amount of time for traveling, hotel arrangements, car rentals, needed for attending a desired course in person is just not practical in this modern age. With the development of webinars, we are able to remain the comfort of our own offices or homes, and attend the course from anywhere in the world! The quality of the education, the degree of information we obtain, is no different than if we would go to the live class. And sometimes, in situations where the live course is very full, it is extremely difficult to see the speaker and have interactions, whereas over the web, our questions are addressed in a timely manner, and we can clearly see the speaker and the material that he or she is presenting.

In light of all this, I humbly request that the Webinar CEUs be counted as the same as Live attendance CEUs.

Thank you,

Sincerely,

BeiBei Wu, L.Ac.

To Whom It May Concern:

My name is Lily Huang, and I am writing today on behalf of myself and many of my colleagues to ask that you include in your agenda for the next upcoming Board Meeting the motion to make distance learning CEUs count just as much as in-person CEUs.

I have been a practitioner for a number of years now, and when it comes to continuing education, I have definitely had my share of good and bad classes through various companies. Recently, I have attended quite a few webinar distance learning courses, which are classes you watch online, and I have found that the quality of these classes have really improved. In fact, they are so good that I felt I had to share it with my colleagues, who all agree with me that it is a shame that we can only take 25 CEUs of these webinar classes! There are so many wonderful classes out there on the webinar, and I would like to take much more of them, but I feel limited because we are only able to take 25 CEUs for renewal! They are so convenient, and they offer such wonderful information, that I believe strongly that it should count just as much as the classes we have to attend in person.

I hope you will take this into consideration!

Thank you,

Lily Huang, L.Ac.

Sincerely,

Lily Huang, L.Ac.