

CONTINUING EDUCATION FACT SHEET

LOUISIANA BOARD OF EXAMINERS IN DIETETICS AND NUTRITION

Definition and Philosophy of Continuing Education

LBEDN defines continuing education as education beyond that required for entry into the profession. Continuing education participation is mandatory for maintenance of licensure. The dietetic/nutrition practitioner engages in lifelong development to maintain and improve knowledge and skills for competent practice. This includes continuous self-assessment to identify professional strengths and learning needs, establishment of short-and long-term goals for individual professional development, and selection of appropriate continuing education to meet these goals.

Workshops and Conferences

Workshops in the area of dietetics and nutrition sponsored by professional organizations such as the American Dietetic Association and the Louisiana Dietetic Association are acceptable by LBEDN.

Self-Study Programs

Self-study programs are defined as educational material used for individual study and **must be pre-approved by a pre-approval organization**. Self-study programs which include a reporting form developed for use specifically with that program must be reported on that form only.

Distance learning is acceptable and consists of video conferences, telephone seminars and Internet courses sponsored by universities, schools, clinics, state agencies, hospitals, or related professional organizations.

Video tapes of prior approved activities may be accepted provided they include the reactive discussion which occurred at the activity. All handout materials distributed at the activity must be made available to the viewer of the videotape.

Academic correspondence courses and prep courses for the registration examination are not acceptable continuing education for license renewal.

Exhibits

Continuing education hours may be approved for viewing trade and educational exhibits. A listing of exhibitors must accompany approval requests. For every 25 exhibits viewed, 1 hour of continuing education will be approved, up to a maximum of 3 continuing education hours per year.

Poster Presentations

One (1) continuing education hour may be approved for attending a minimum of 6 poster presentations. Posters must be reviewed by professionals with demonstrated expertise in the content area. Approval is limited to 10 continuing education hours per reporting period.

For approval, individual LDNs must submit a copy of the program identifying the poster title(s) and presenter(s).

Presentations

Speakers may request continuing education hours for making presentations. Presentations to the lay public do not qualify for continuing education hours.

The presenter may submit either a copy of the program indicating his/her name as presenter, or a manuscript of the presentation.

Presenters of poster sessions receive 2 continuing education hours. For approval, an abstract or manuscript and documentation of the review process must be submitted.

Dietetic Demonstration

Demonstrations related to the field of nutrition and dietetics may be approved provided they are an integral part of the continuing education activity. Demonstrations promoting a product are unacceptable.

Academic Coursework

Academic courses in the area of dietetic/nutrition may be completed after licensure is approved. Academic courses taken for credit or audit, including those taken by correspondence, must be successfully completed at a U.S. regionally accredited college/university. A gradeslip or transcript indicating a passing grade or a letter from the course instructor on the institution's letterhead verifying audited coursework must be submitted with the request for continuing education hour approval.

Continuing Education Hours Approved

	Credit	Audit
1 hour semester credit	15 hours	8 hours
1 hour trimester credit	14 hours	7 hours
1 hour quarter credit	10 hours	5 hours

Publications

Continuing education hours for authoring publications must be requested within six months of the publications date. Publications must be submitted in published form for review and, with the exception of books, must appear in professional, peer-reviewed publications. Materials related to employment responsibilities (e.g., cookbooks, diet and staff manuals) and publications for the lay public do not qualify for continuing education. Assignment of continuing education hours is based on the following definitions unless clarification to the contrary is provided by the author:

Single author:	sole author listed
Senior author:	first of two or more authors listed
Co-author:	second and third of three authors listed
Contributing author:	all other authors listed

Publications for which authors may request continuing education hours and the number of allowable hours follow.

Research Articles

Published original research must include an introduction and purpose of the research, methodology, discussion of results, summary, and references.

Single author - 12 hours	Co-author - 5 hours
Senior author - 8 hours	Contribution author - 3 hours

Technical Articles

Published technical articles must include a review of the literature in a specific area, including references and evaluative statements.

Single author - 8 hours	Co-author - 4 hours
Senior author - 5 hours	Contributing author - 2 hours

Information Sharing Articles

Published information sharing articles are considered on the same basis as presentations to professional groups. They must include the reasons for use of a particular practice or procedure, and an evaluation of the activity or procedure described. One (1) hour of continuing education is approved for authoring an information sharing article.

Abstracts

Published abstracts must appear in professional, peer-reviewed publications.

Single author - 2 hours
Co-author - 1 hour

Books

Published books must apply to the field of nutrition or dietetics. They must be designed to update or enhance knowledge and skills beyond that required for initial entry into the profession. Cookbooks, materials related to employment responsibilities, and materials for the lay public do not apply. A maximum of 25 hours is approved for the single author of a book.

Book Reviews

Published book reviews must appear in professional, peer-reviewed publications. Two (2) hours of continuing education are approved for authoring a book review.