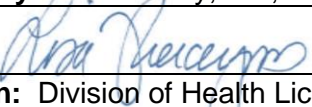


POLICY – OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER

Approved by: Lisa Piercey, MD, MBA, FAAP	Policy Number: 21-1
Signature: 	Supersedes: N/A
Application: Division of Health Licensure and Regulation	Effective Date: February 17, 2021
Authority: Executive Order 50	Rule: N/A

CONTINUING EDUCATION AUDIT OF IN-PERSON/LIVE HOURS SUSPENDED THROUGH DECEMBER 2021

Purpose: The provisions of Tennessee Code Annotated, Titles 63 and 68, and related rules require health care practitioners to complete or submit proof of completing continuing education requirements or otherwise demonstrate continuing competence as a condition of reinstating a license, certification, or registration.

The Department of Health understands that the effects of COVID-19 have resulted in the cancellation of in-person/live continuing education courses, resulting in the inability of health care practitioners to obtain the requisite number of in-person/live continuing education credits/hours. The Commissioner of Health deems the suspension of in-person/live continuing education credits/hours to be a necessary response to the difficulties encountered by health care practitioners as a result of COVID-19.

Policy: The Commissioner has been designated the authority through Executive Order 50, and through incorporation into later Orders, to waive in-person/live continuing education requirements. For the Commissioner’s audit of continuing education credits/hours required to be obtained in any period that encompasses the calendar year of 2020 or 2021, all continuing education credits/hours that are obtained through non in-person/live methods during 2020 or 2021 will be accepted as proof of completing any continuing education requirements that are a condition of renewing and reinstating a license, certification or registration. The Commissioner will not audit the in-person or live event component for hours obtained during this time. The audit process will otherwise remain unchanged. Beginning January 1, 2022, any continuing education credits/hours taken in calendar year 2022 must be obtained as required by each individual profession’s rules. For boards requiring in-person/live credits/hours, the 2021/2022 audit cycle will include review for that requirement unless all hours for the 2021/2022 cycle were obtained in 2021.