

## **DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS**

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## What's New

## October 2009 - Status of the Proposed Changes to the Continuing Education Regulations

The Board is finalizing the required rulemaking documents to obtain approval from the Office of Administrative Law to implement the proposed changes to Title 16, Division 1, Article 12 of the California Code of Regulations, which governs Certified Public Accountants' and Public Accountants' continuing education (CE) and license renewal requirements. The Board anticipates the regulatory changes will take effect January 1, 2010. The significant proposed changes are outlined below.

All licensees renewing a license in an **active status** on or after January 1, 2010 will be required to complete the following as part of the total 80-hour CE requirement:

- Four hours of ethics education.
- A two-hour Board-approved Regulatory Review course if more than six years have lapsed since the licensee last completed a Board-approved Professional Conduct and Ethics (PC&E) course.

NOTE: The Board-approved PC&E course requirement is discontinued. Licensees may continue to claim credit for completion of a Board-approved PC&E course to fulfill the ethics education and/or Regulatory Review course requirements, provided the course is completed prior to January 1, 2011 and reported to the Board prior to January 1, 2012.

All licensees renewing a license in an **active status** on or after January 1, 2012 will also be required to complete the following as part of the total 80-hour CE requirement:

A minimum of 20 hours of CE, including a minimum of 12 hours in technical subject matter, in each year of the two-year license renewal period.

Additionally, licensees converting a license from an **inactive to an active status** on or after January 1, 2010 will also be required to complete the following as part of the total 80-hour CE requirement:

A minimum of 20 hours of CE, including a minimum of 12 hours in technical subject matter, in the one-year period immediately preceding the time of license renewal or status conversion.

The Board will be updating its Web site with additional information on the changes to the CE requirements, recently instituted CE Audits, Peer Review, and frequently asked questions. Please be sure to plan ahead and continue to visit the Board's Web site for additional information.

Please visit our <u>Web site</u> for all the latest information from the CBA. To receive e-mail updates, subscribe to the CBA's <u>E-News</u>.