

Online Continuing Education Extended through August 2020

The Office of Behavioral Health (OBH) has extended its policy change to allow full MHRT/C certificate holders to complete the 18-hour continuing education requirement entirely online until **August 31**, **2020**. Given ongoing restrictions related to COVID-19 and uncertainty about when face-to-face training can resume, OBH removed the cap on online training hours. Individuals still must complete at least four hours in ethics, and the process to apply for renewal is the same. See **our website** for more information.

What Do We Mean by Agency-Specific Training and Why Doesn't it Count Toward the Continuing Education Requirement?

Continuing education (CE) goes beyond what an individual might already know or have training in and it must address one or more of the MHRT/C knowledge competencies. All agencies have certain policies and procedures staff must adhere to, as well as mandatory annual training in areas such as sexual harassment, workplace violence, healthy boundaries with clients, how to write progress notes, use the electronic medical record platform, and more. These kinds of training are considered specific to and required by the agency, not as an individual's CE for the MHRT/C certification. Ideally an individual will work with their supervisor to determine appropriate CE to achieve their personal and professional needs and goals. Click here for more information on the continuing education requirement.

MHRT/C Provisional Level A and Level B Certification

There are individuals who hold a Provisional Level A or B certificate, earned under the 2009 Guidelines. As the guidelines have changed, individuals with a **Level A** certificate should reapply under the new program. This entails completing an application, the online module "**Maine's Mental Health System 101: An Introduction**", and submitting these with an official transcript. The module title links to the training.

Those with a **Level B** have until their expiration date to complete their missing requirements. Options to do this include Credit for Work Experience (formerly "Waiver"), college course work, or other relevant training. If they choose to complete their remaining requirements through the existing non-academic courses (Amethyst or Newhouse Training), **they must do so before June 30, 2020**. After this date those courses are no longer available.

Domain 8 Vocational Support Non-Academic Curriculum Train-the-Trainer

The train-the-trainer course to teach Domain 8 will be held on **June 26, 29, and 30**, via two-hour Zoom video sessions. For details on how to apply, please go to the **Non-Academic Tab** of the MHRT/C web page on the CFL website. The **deadline to apply is June 12, 2020**.

NOTE: You are required to apply for and attend a separate Train-the-Trainer session for each MHRT/C domain you wish to teach, even if you have applied in the past for a different domain.

Thank you for all you do! We hope you stay safe, healthy, and hopeful.