



Continuing Competency Credit Eligibility Updates: CPR-BLS and the Jurisprudence Education Module

Prior to the Bylaw changes enacted on March 2, 2020, in order to provide safe care as per the CDHBC Practice Standards and Code of Ethics, registrants were expected to remain current with CPR in order to respond to a medical emergency during the provision of care. While this was not a formal requirement per the College Bylaws, it was considered an ethical obligation. Registrants were able to claim continuing competency (CC) credits for CPR certification courses once per QAP cycle, provided that the CPR course included both didactic and hands-on instruction, and that participants successfully completed a final exam.

With the Bylaw changes that took effect on the March 2, 2020 maintaining current CPR (Basic Life Support or Health Care Provider level) became a formal registration requirement for registrants renewing their practicing license annually*. In light of this change, the Quality Assurance Committee has determined that CPR-BLS (or HCP) courses will no longer be eligible for continuing competency (CC) credits because they are not viewed as expanding one's competency beyond the minimum required for registration. This change in credit eligibility will take effect beginning January 1, 2021.

With that said, the College recognizes that registrants may decide to undertake a variety of first aid and CPR courses, in addition to the required BLS (or HCP) level. For example, some may take CPR that is specific to children or an Occupational First Aid course which also includes CPR. While such courses cannot be used to fulfill a registrant's registration requirements, they remain eligible for continuing competency (CC) credits.

The Quality Assurance Committee (QAC) has also determined that the approach to the College's Jurisprudence Education Module should be consistent with that of CPR-BLS, since both are formal requirements to maintain one's license and currency. Therefore, beginning January 1, 2021, the Jurisprudence Education Module will no longer be eligible for continuing competency credits. Registrants who have completed the Jurisprudence Education Module as part of their current QAP cycle are encouraged to enter this activity in their OLP to claim these credits before December 31, 2020.

*The College is aware that some registrants are currently finding it challenging to source CPR-BLS courses that are available in their area due to the current COVID-19 pandemic. Registrants are encouraged to maintain their CPR-BLS certification during the pandemic if they are able, particularly if they are providing direct client care. However, given the current challenges with course availability in some areas, the Registration Committee recently determined that the formal requirement of current CPR-BLS certification for registration renewals will be deferred until 2022.