



RULE-MAKING ORDER
(RCW 34.05.360)

CR-103 (7/10/97)

Agency: Board of Accountancy

- Permanent Rule
- Emergency Rule
- Expedited Adoption
- Expedited Repeal

(1) Date of adoption: October 29, 1999

(2) Purpose:

To clearly outline the standards continuing professional education courses must meet

(3) Citation of existing rules affected by this order: New section WAC 4-25-831

Repealed:

Amended:

Suspended:

(4) Statutory authority for adoption: RCW 18.04.055, 18.04.105(8)

Other authority:

PERMANENT RULE ONLY (including EXPEDITED ADOPTION):

Adopted under notice filed as WSR 99-19-043 on September 13, 1999 (date).

Describe any changes other than editing from proposed to adopted version: None

EMERGENCY RULE ONLY

Under RCW 34.05.350 the agency for good cause finds:

- (a) That immediate adoption, amendment, or repeal of a rule is necessary for the preservation of the public health, safety, or general welfare, and that observing the time requirements of notice and opportunity to comment upon adoption of a permanent rule would be contrary to the public interest.
- (b) That state or federal law or federal rule or a federal deadline for state receipt of federal funds requires immediate adoption of a rule.

Reasons for this finding:

EXPEDITED REPEAL ONLY

Under Preproposal Statement of Inquiry filed as WSR _____ on _____ (date).

(5.3) Any other findings required by other provisions of law as precondition to adoption or effectiveness of rule?

- Yes
- No

If Yes, explain:

(6) Effective date of rule:

Permanent Rules

or Expedited Rule Making

- 31 days after filing
- Other (specify) 1/1/2000*

*(If less than 31 days after filing specific finding in 5.3 under RCW 34-05.380(3) is required)

Emergency Rules

- Immediately
- Later (specify) _____

NAME (TYPE OR PRINT)

Dana M. McInturff, CPA

SIGNATURE

TITLE

Executive Director

DATE

11/09/99

CODE REVISER USE ONLY

CODE REVISER'S OFFICE
STATE OF WASHINGTON
FILED

NOV 15 1999

TIME 9:43

WSR 99-23-046

AM/PM

(COMPLETE REVERSE SIDE)

**Note: If any category is left blank, it will be calculated as zero.
No descriptive text.**

**Count by whole WAC sections only, from the WAC number through the history note.
A section may be counted in more than one category.**

The number of sections adopted in order to comply with:

Federal statute:	New	___	Amended	___	Repealed	___
Federal rules or standards:	New	___	Amended	___	Repealed	___
Recently enacted state statutes:	New	<u>1</u>	Amended	___	Repealed	___

The number of sections adopted at the request of a nongovernmental entity:

New ___ Amended ___ Repealed ___

The number of sections adopted on the agency's own initiative:

New ___ Amended ___ Repealed ___

The number of sections adopted in order to clarify, streamline, or reform agency procedures:

New 1 Amended ___ Repealed ___

The number of sections adopted using:

Negotiated rule making:	New	___	Amended	___	Repealed	___
Pilot rule making:	New	___	Amended	___	Repealed	___
Other alternative rule making:	New	<u>1</u>	Amended	___	Repealed	___

NEW SECTION

WAC 4-25-831 What are the program standards for CPE? (1)

Qualifying program: A program qualifies as acceptable CPE for purposes of RCW 18.04.215(4) if it is a formal program of learning which contributes to the growth in the professional knowledge and professional competence of an individual in the practice of the profession. A formal program means:

- The program is at least fifty minutes in length;
- Attendance is recorded;
- Participants sign in to confirm attendance and, if the program is greater than four credit hours, participants sign out during the last hour of the program; and
- Attendees are provided a certificate of completion.

(2) **Undergraduate and graduate courses:** A graduate or undergraduate course qualifies for CPE credit if it meets the standards in subsections (1) and (5) of this section. For both undergraduate and graduate courses one quarter credit equals 10 CPE credit hours and one semester credit equals 15 CPE credit hours.

(3) **Committee meetings:** Generally, CPE credit is not allowed for attending committee meetings. A meeting qualifies for CPE credit only if it meets the standards in subsections (1) and (5) of this section.

(4) **Quality assurance review:** Service on the board's QAR committee, participating as a QAR team captain or reviewer, and participating on other board-approved quality or peer review committees may be considered for CPE credit as defined by board policy.

(5) **Subject areas:** Programs dealing with the following general subject areas are acceptable so long as they meet the standards in subsection (1) of this section:

- (a) Technical subjects include:
 - (i) Auditing standards or procedures;
 - (ii) Compilation and review of financial statements;
 - (iii) Financial statement preparation and disclosures;
 - (iv) Attestation standards and procedures;
 - (v) Projection and forecast standards or procedures;
 - (vi) Accounting and auditing;
 - (vii) Management advisory services;
 - (viii) Personal financial planning;
 - (ix) Taxation;
 - (x) Management information services;
 - (xi) Budgeting and cost analysis;
 - (xii) Asset management;
 - (xiii) Professional ethics (other than those programs used to satisfy the requirements of WAC 4-25-830(3));
 - (xiv) Specialized areas of industry;

- (xv) Human resource management;
- (xvi) Economics;
- (xvii) Business law;
- (xviii) Mathematics, statistics, and quantitative applications in business;
- (xix) Business management and organization;
- (xx) General computer skills, computer software training, information technology planning and management;
- (b) Nontechnical subjects include:
 - (i) Communication skills;
 - (ii) Interpersonal management skills;
 - (iii) Leadership and personal development skills;
 - (iv) Client and public relations;
 - (v) Practice development;
 - (vi) Motivational and behavioral courses;
 - (vii) Speed reading and memory building;
 - (viii) Negotiation or dispute resolution courses;
- (c) Professional ethics with specific application to the practice of public accounting in Washington state covers the following subjects: Revised Code of Washington chapter 18.04, Washington Administrative Code chapter 4-25, and the code of professional conduct promulgated by the American Institute of CPAs.

Subjects other than those listed above may be acceptable provided you can demonstrate they contribute to your professional competence. You are solely responsible for demonstrating that a particular program is acceptable.

(6) **Group programs:** You may claim CPE credit for group programs such as the following so long as the program meets the standards in subsections (1) and (5) of this section:

- (a) Professional education and development programs of national, state, and local accounting organizations;
- (b) Technical sessions at meetings of national, state, and local accounting organizations and their chapters;
- (c) Formal in-firm education programs;
- (d) Programs of other organizations (accounting, industrial, professional, etc.);
- (e) Dinner, luncheon, and breakfast meetings which are structured as formal educational programs;
- (f) Firm meetings for staff and/or management groups structured as formal education programs. Portions of such meetings devoted to communication and application of general professional policy or procedure may qualify, but portions devoted to firm administrative, financial and operating matters generally will not qualify.

(7) **CPE credit:** CPE credit is allowable only for those programs taken after the issuance of the CPA certificate. Credit is not allowed for programs taken to prepare an applicant for the ethics examination as a requirement for initial certification. CPE credit is given for whole hours only, with a minimum of fifty minutes constituting one hour. For example, one hundred minutes of continuous instruction counts as two hours of CPE credit; however, more than fifty minutes but less than one hundred minutes of

continuous instruction counts only as one hour CPE credit. Attendees obtain CPE credit only for time spent in instruction; no credit is allowed for preparation time.

(8) **Self-study programs:** Credit for self-study programs is allowed in the renewal period in which you completed the program as established by the evidence of completion provided by the program sponsor.

(a) **Interactive self-study programs:** The amount of credit allowed for interactive self-study is that which is recommended by the program sponsor on the basis of the average completion time under appropriate "field tests." In order to claim CPE credit for interactive self-study programs, you must obtain evidence of satisfactory completion of the course from the program sponsor.

(b) **Noninteractive self-study programs:** The amount of credit allowed for noninteractive self-study is one-half the average completion time as determined by the program sponsor on the basis of appropriate "field tests." To claim CPE credit for noninteractive self-study programs, you must obtain evidence of satisfactory completion of the course from the program sponsor.

(9) **Instructor, discussion leader, or speaker:** If you serve as an instructor, discussion leader or speaker at a program which meets the standards in subsections (1) and (5) of this section, the first time you present the program you may claim CPE credit for both preparation and presentation time. One hour of credit is allowed for each fifty minutes of instruction. Additionally, you may claim credit for actual preparation time up to two times the presentation hours. No credit is allowed for subsequent presentations. A maximum of 72 CPE credit hours are allowed for preparation and presentation during each CPE reporting period.

(10) **Published articles, books:** You may claim CPE credit for published articles and books, provided they contribute to your professional competence. Credit for preparation of such publications may be claimed on a self-declaration basis for up to 30 hours in a CPE reporting period. In exceptional circumstances, you may request additional credit by submitting the article(s) or book(s) to the board with an explanation of the circumstances that justify a greater credit. The amount of credit awarded for a given publication will be determined by the board.

(11) **Carry-forward:** CPE credit hours you complete during one period cannot be carried forward to the next period.

(12) **Carry-back:** CPE credit hours you complete during one period can be carried back to the previous reporting period; however, only in accordance with WAC 4-25-830(5).