

The Renewal Processes!

Certifications through ASPT are not renewed by a member. ASPT does validate members certifications if the member has done his or her part in completing the processes to obtain a certification card and validation seal. When a member completes the continuing education process in the proper time with the proper fees, that member is then eligible to renew his or her membership. Once that membership is renewed ASPT then recognizes the validity of the certification and certification card and responds by sending the appropriate card and seal.

It is difficult for a supervisors to determine if his or her employee is accurately relaying the communications between ASPT and the member. Often members just see things differently than the information we sent out indicated; so how is a supervisor to know? There is no sure fire way for a supervisor to know; but there are some things the supervisor can say and do which, with a little understanding, can help to bring about that understanding.

Suppose it is November 30th, of 2009 and a supervisor has two employees each with a card reading "Valid Through 12/31/2009." That does not mean that each has exactly the same thing to do to renew for 2010. What determines the steps a member must go through to get a validation card and seal is the process each went through to get the card he or she currently has in hand.

Members who "joined," the registration point for ceu and membership renewal schedules, October 1st of 2008 through September 30, 2009, and passed the test in that time frame; all, have a 2009 validation, a requirement to renew membership for 2010, but do not need continuing education to renew for 2010. This member will need ceus in 2010 for 2011.

Members who have a 2009 certification card in hand because they sent in \$25.00 last year will need ceus this year.

Here is the process:

In July ASPT sends to all current members who renewed on time for that year a ceu newsletter. The letter details the three methods of obtaining ceus and how they will be handled in the process. The letter also instructs the member on where and when to submit ceus.

CEU Method 1:

Attend an ASPT ceu day. This is fine and we encourage it but we realize that not everyone can go and not every institution can let phlebotomists leave for the day or longer; so, we have two more methods to choose from.

CEU Method 2:

1. Members are encouraged to order any desired ceu test from ASPT between July and August of each year. Click on the “Manuals” tab to see the list.
2. Members are instructed to return completed ceu test to ASPT between October 1st and November 15th of each year.

CEU Method 3:

Obtain non-ASPT ceus for approval by the AAHS. In The previous methods ASPT has some level of control over the content and quality of the program and quality of continuing education. In any other format quality continuing education can take place; however, a system had to be put into place to control the aspects relative to length and quality of content. ASPT contracted with AAHS to bear the burden of this function in the early 1990's and they have been doing so in one form or another since.

Acceptable contact hours for ceus are any medically related programs which either make the individual a better healthcare provider or in some way prepares the member to be more enriched in the art and science of medicine. The education does not have to be in the members certification discipline and it can be obtained through in-services in the institution, through programs at community colleges, even CPR and First Aid can be submitted once each.

The real point is not how long the program is but did the member go to at least six hours totaled? Was it truly medically related? Were the topics conducted by competent personnel? Who were they? What were the topics? And, can AAHS verify that the piece of paper has not been fraudulently generated. That is usually done by means of official transcripts, letters on institution letter head signed by any supervisor in authority to speak such for the institution and a phone numbers for contact purposes if deemed necessary. There is no strict form or format as long as the hours could be verified.

Members are instructed to submit non-ASPT ceus to AAHS, between October 1st and November 15th of each year. They are instructed to attach the appropriate fees as described in the letter.

It is hoped that this section helps a little bit in understanding the renewal process. If not please let us know what we need to do to help you understand better.