



Illinois
State
Medical
Society

IDFPR CME Requirements

These are now in effect for the 2023 renewal cycle for physicians including the sexual harassment and safe opioid prescribing requirements that have been in place.

Alzheimer's Disease and Other Dementias

Quick Summary – CE programs have to include content that addresses the description contained in the Act. There are no administrative rules to follow.

[PA 102-0399](#) requires licensed healthcare professionals, including physicians, nurses, psychologists, optometrists, physical therapists, physician assistants, clinical social workers, nursing home administrators, occupational therapists, podiatrists, respiratory care providers, professional counselors, and audiologists to complete at least a one-hour course in training on the diagnosis, treatment, and care of individuals with Alzheimer's disease and other dementias.

Specifically, for license or registration renewals occurring on or after January 1, 2023, a health care professional who has continuing education requirements must complete at least a one-hour course in training on the diagnosis, treatment, and care of individuals with Alzheimer's disease and other dementias per renewal period. This training shall include, but not be limited to, assessment and diagnosis, effective communication strategies, and management and care planning.

This requirement shall only apply to health care professionals who provide health care services to, and have direct patient interactions with, adult populations age 26 or older in the practice of their profession.

A health care professional may count this one hour for completion of this course toward meeting the minimum credit hours required for continuing education. Any training on Alzheimer's disease and other dementias applied to meet any other State licensure requirement, professional accreditation or certification requirement, or health care institutional practice agreement may count toward the continuing education requirement under this Section.

No Administrative Rules are expected: we have been in contact with IDFPR about whether or not they are going to publish rules to implement the new law, and this was their recent response: "The CE requirement for Alzheimer's and dementias applies to other professions in addition to medicine. The requirements are set forth in the statute, so it does not look like we need to draft rules unless something comes up that needs to be addressed by rule."

Implicit Bias Training

Quick Summary – CE programs have to include the topics/elements contained in recently published administrative rules.

The IDFPR has now adopted the FINAL rules regarding the new one-hour CME requirement in implicit bias awareness training. Physicians and numerous other healthcare professionals will have to attest to having completed such a course before renewing their licenses. This is applicable to all Illinois licenses that renew after January 1, 2023.

The rules state that “the implicit bias awareness training course shall include, at a minimum, the following topics:

- 1) explanation of implicit bias; the difference between explicit and implicit biases;
- 2) causes of implicit bias; how they form and operate;
- 3) effects of implicit bias; the harms they cause; and
- 4) interrupting and mitigating implicit bias.”

Physicians (and other healthcare professionals required to meet this requirement) can attest to such completion once they participate in a one-hour educational program containing all of the elements and topics listed above.

Mandated Training for Reporting Child Abuse and Neglect

Quick Summary – the content of any CE programs has to align with the content contained in DCFS’ training course.

Persons required to report child abuse or child neglect must complete an initial mandated reporter training within three months of their date of engagement in a professional or official capacity as a mandated reporter, or within the timeframe of any other applicable state law that governs training requirements for a specific profession, and at least every three years thereafter. The initial requirement only applies to the first time they engage in their professional or official capacity.

The mandated reporter training shall be provided through the Department, through an entity authorized to provide continuing education for professionals licensed through the IDFPR, the State Board of Education, the Illinois Law Enforcement Training Standards Board, the Department of State Police, or through an organization approved by the Department to provide mandated reporter training.

The Department of Children and Family Services provides an online training course entitled Recognizing and Reporting Child Abuse: Training for Mandated Reporters, available 24 hours a day, 365 days a year on the DCFS website – <https://mr.dcfstraining.org/UserAuth/Login!loginPage.action>

This is the best resource for all issues related to mandated reporters, including the required training (see page 13):

https://www2.illinois.gov/dcf/safekids/reporting/Documents/cfs_1050-21_mandated_reporter_manual.pdf