



**U.S Public Health Services
Nursing Tip of the Month
January 2020
Continuing Education**



Nursing Continuing Education Opportunities

Maintaining a valid nursing license is a requirement of your commission. Most states and the District of Columbia require continuing nursing education with each renewal cycle. We have prepared some tips to take into consideration when working to renew your license and resources to explore for no-cost or low-cost continuing education units (CEUs).

Know the continuing education requirements of the state in which you hold your license. *Specifically, how often is the renewal cycle, how many CEUs are required each cycle, are there any special courses/topics that are required or excluded?* For example, in Nebraska, only four (4) hours can be applied from Basic Life Support (BLS). If you renew your BLS twice within the RN/APRN license renewal cycle, only one 4-hour credit can be applied. In Texas, no hours from a BLS course can be applied as continuing education for license renewal.

In addition, some states require specific subject areas be covered every renewal cycle or every other renewal cycle. This table is for illustrative purposes only and is not intended to cover all State variations. Check with your state for specific requirements.

Sources: [Nebraska](#); [Texas](#); [Florida](#)

State	Required Subject Area	Hours required/Frequency
Florida	Prevention of Medical Errors	2 hrs/ every renewal cycle
	Florida Laws & Rules	2 hrs/ every renewal cycle
	Recognizing Impairment in the Workplace	2 hrs/ every other renewal cycle
	Human Trafficking	2 hrs/ check dates on website Every renewal/biennium
	Domestic Violence	2 hrs/ every 3 rd biennium
	HIV/AIDS	1 hr/ one-time requirement for first renewal
Texas – All Nurses	Nursing Jurisprudence and Nursing Ethics	2 hrs/ every 3 rd renewal cycle
	Human Trafficking Prevention*	Complete course/ required for license renewals after 09/1/2020
Texas – APRN	Pharmacotherapeutics	5 hrs/ every renewal cycle

*If the RN provides direct patient care

Verify the provider of the CEUs is Board-approved for the state in which you hold your license. Take special consideration if you are stationed in one state (i.e. Virginia) but hold a license in another (i.e. Florida). You would not want to waste your time or money attending CEU courses only to find out your state will not accept the certification. All Boards recognized American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC) approved CE. ([ANCC](#))

Sources for Continuing Education
State Board of Nursing American Nurses Association/American Nurses Credentialing Center ANANC RN.com CEUfast Nurse.com NetCEU Nursing CEUs Graduate level classes (check with state regulations)

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**Point of contact: CDR Jonathan Paulsel, CDR Dave Norberg, LCDR Sarah Benzo, and LCDR Alina Schmidt,
for the Tip of the Month Workgroup N-PAC Career Development Subcommittee.**

PHS-NURSE LIST SERV

TO REQUEST A MENTOR