# STATE OF NEVADA MEDICAL LABORATORY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

SUBJECT: Continuing Education Unit (CEU) Credit Program

## REQUIREMENTS:

All State of Nevada Medical Laboratory Certificants (each director, technologist and technician) are required to participate in the continuing education unit (CEU) credit program as a condition for maintaining certification by the State of Nevada (NAC 652.455). Under this CEU program, each Certificant is required to document the biannual accumulation of 20 contact hours (2.0 CEU) immediately preceding the application for renewal of the license (NAC 652.148 and NAC 652.455). For laboratory assistant or blood gas assistant, ten (10) hours (1.0 CEU) are required within the 2 years immediately preceding the application for renewal of the license (NAC 562.455). In general, any scientific or career-related courses sponsored by the American Medical Association (AMA) as well as accredited University sponsored courses will be considered as approved courses.

#### **GUIDELINES FOR OBTAINING CEU:**

- 1. Certificants other than laboratory assistant or blood-gas assistant must obtain a minimum of ten contact hours (1.0 CEU) of the required 20 contact hours (2.0 CEU) from the list of "approved courses" (NAC 652.025). The remaining 10 contact hours (1.0 CEU) may be obtained in "unapproved courses" (NAC 652.145 and NAC 652.455), or all 20 contact hours (2.0 CEU) from approved courses."
- 2. Any inactive or delinquent Certificant desiring to become active shall submit evidence of continuing education to the Bureau by completing 1.0 CEU within the 2 years immediately preceding the application for reinstatement of the licensed (NAC 652.461).

### **DEFINITIONS OF CEU CATEGORIES:**

1. **Documentation** (Verification of Attendance, letter or transcripts) signed by program sponsor is required for all credits claimed from "approved courses." For "unapproved courses," in addition to Verification of Attendance or letter signed by the sponsor, Certificants must submit the program brochure or information literature (containing the title, course description, and length in hours, date, location and name and credentials of

the instructor/speaker) to their employers. Transcripts of formal education must originate from the Registrar's office of the college or university. Two semester hours are equivalent to 2.0 CEU's or three quarter hours are equivalent to 2.0 CEU's (NAC 652.465). These documents are to be filed by the name Certificants and available in each laboratory for inspection.

## 2. Approved Courses:

- a. Approved courses are listed in NAC 652.025.
- b. Accredited academic credit in scientific or career-related course-work at a college or university. One credit per week per course will be accepted with no limitation of the total number of credits for the year; OR
- c. Formally organized scientific or career-related roundtables, symposia, seminars, workshops, or colloquia, which are at least one hour in duration (to equal 0.1 CEU).

## 3. Unapproved Courses

- a. **Teaching:** Credit may be claimed for contact hours (one contact hour equals 0.1 CEU) of teaching health professionals, including medical students, graduate students, interns, residents, graduate fellows, practicing physicians and allied health professionals. Presentations in workshops and seminars may be claimed.
- b. Papers, publications, books and exhibits (paper and poster sessions): Ten contact hours (1.0 CEU) may be claimed for:
  - 1) Publication of a paper in a recognized (indexed) journal or presented before a professional audience; OR
  - Publication of a chapter in a scientific or career-related book;
     OR
  - 3) Development of a technical/scientific exhibit displayed at a national scientific meeting. Credit may be claimed only once for the scientific information presented.

- c. **Non-Supervised CEU Activities:** Credit may be claimed on an hour-for-hour basis and at least one-hour in duration.
  - 1) Self-instruction: Any audiovisual materials used individually and without supervision, such as computer-assisted activities and current scientific or career-related publication.
  - 2) Consultation: Learning from consultation from peers and experts, and the use of electronic databases in patient care.
  - 3) Self-assessment: Taking self-assessment examinations by any sponsoring agency. The examinations must be scored and the results made known to the Certificant so that the CEU credits can be assigned.
  - 4) Non-educational activities such as service on a professional society committee cannot be claimed.
  - 5) Passing examinations for licensure or certification is not accepted toward CEU. However, the study completed in preparation for these examinations is accepted under the non-supervised CEU activities.

Questions, comments, or requests for CEU credit program should be directed to:

STATE OF NEVADA
BUREAU OF HEALTH CARE QUALITY
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