BPS Revises Recertification Policies

July 27, 2018

Washington, D.C. – The Board of Pharmacy Specialties (BPS) announces the following revised requirements for recertification credit earned from BPS-approved continuing education programs.

1. For Board-Certified Ambulatory Care Pharmacists (BCACP) and Board-Certified Pharmacotherapy Specialists (BCPS), there is no longer a limit to the amount of recertification credit that may be earned at any point during the seven-year certification cycle. The previous restriction prohibiting individuals from earning more than a specified number of hours in the first three or four years of the certification cycle (i.e., no more than 50 hours for BCACP or 60 hours for BCPS) has been lifted. This change is effective immediately.

2. For pharmacist specialists actively maintaining more than one BPS certification, up to 42 hours of dual recertification credit may now be earned at any point during the seven-year certification cycle, depending on the availability of BPS-approved dual recertification activities. The previous restriction prohibiting individuals from earning more than six hours of dual purposed recertification credits in a calendar year has been lifted. This change was effective as of February 1, 2018.

BPS Executive Director, William Ellis, stated: “BPS is committed to being responsive to certificant needs while supporting the concept of self-directed learning among offerings developed by BPS-approved professional development program providers.”

“Since there are more than 2,500 Pharmacotherapy and Ambulatory Care Pharmacist Specialists who actively maintain more than one BPS certification, we recognize there is more efficiency and flexibility for certificants when requirements are harmonized,” commented Brian Lawson, BPS Director, Professional Affairs. “This should help alleviate some of the complexity caused by overlap of the certification cycles.”

About the Board of Pharmacy Specialties
The Board of Pharmacy Specialties (BPS) was established in 1976 as an autonomous division of the American Pharmacists Association (APhA). The mission of BPS is to improve patient care by positioning BPS Board-Certified Pharmacist Specialists as integral members of multidisciplinary healthcare teams, through recognition and promotion of specialized training, knowledge, and skills for pharmacists in the United States and internationally. Board certification is a recognized credential for determining which pharmacists are qualified to contribute at advanced practice levels given the rigorous standards mandated by BPS board certification and recertification. BPS currently recognizes more than 38,000 active pharmacist certifications in nine specialties.

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