

21 NCAC 32S .0216 CONTINUING MEDICAL EDUCATION

(a) A physician assistant shall complete at least 50 hours of continuing medical education (CME) every two years. The CME shall be recognized by the National Commission on Certification of Physician Assistants (NCCPA) as Category I CME. A physician assistant shall provide CME documentation for inspection by the board or its agent upon request. The two year period shall begin on the physician assistant's first birthday following initial licensure.

(b) Beginning on July 1, 2017, a physician assistant who prescribes controlled substances shall complete at least two hours of CME, from the required 50 hours, designed specifically to address controlled substance prescribing practices. The controlled substance prescribing CME shall include instruction on controlled substance prescribing practices, recognizing signs of the abuse or misuse of controlled substances, and controlled substance prescribing for chronic pain management.

(c) A physician assistant who possesses a current certification with the NCCPA shall be deemed in compliance with the requirement of Paragraph (a) of this Rule. The physician assistant shall attest on his or her annual renewal that he or she is currently certified by the NCCPA. Physician assistants who attest that they possess a current certificate with the NCCPA shall not be exempt from the controlled substance prescribing CME requirement of Paragraph (b) of this Rule. Physician Assistants shall complete the required two hours of controlled substance CME unless such CME is a component part of their certification activity.

*History Note: Authority G.S. 90-5.1(a)(3); 90-5.1(a)(10); 90-18.1; S.L. 2015-241, 12F.16(b) and 12F.16(c);
Eff. September 1, 2009;
Amended Eff. May 1, 2015; November 1, 2010;
Pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.3A rule is necessary without substantive public interest Eff. March 1,
2016.
Amended Eff. September 1, 2016;*