

Generic Document

Minnesota General Webinar Guidelines - Continuing Education

Please note that when we use the term (webinar), we mean Internet-Synchronous, which is a virtual, webinar, Zoom type method of instruction.

1. These guidelines are intended to apply to courses conducted and viewed in real time (live) in all locations and are not intended to apply when courses have been recorded and are viewed at a later time or to other online courses.
2. Each student must be required to log in to the webinar using a distinct username, password, and/or email.

[Note: multiple students in one remote location, without an online individual process to authenticate student's identity and technology to guarantee seat time, requires proctor certifications. Two page proctor forms are located at the end of each course application or at <http://mn.gov/commerce-stat/pdfs/exam-proctor-affidavit.pdf>]
3. The provider must verify the identity and license number of all students.
4. A provider representative, using computer-based attendance-monitoring technology, must monitor 100% attendance throughout the course.
5. The provider must have a process to determine when a participant is inactive or not fully participating, such as when the screen is minimized, or the participant does not answer the polling questions and/or verification codes.
6. The provider must maintain an electronic roster to include records for each participant's log-in/log-out times. Chat history and polling responses must be captured as part of the electronic record.
7. *No less than two polling questions and/or attendance verification codes must be asked, with appropriate response provided, at unannounced intervals during each one-hour webinar session to determine participant attentiveness.
8. *When a student is deemed inactive or not fully participating in the course by the course monitor of failure to enter appropriate polling question response or verification codes, continuing education (CE) credit is denied.
9. Students in all locations must be able to interact in real time with the instructor. Students must be able to submit questions or comments at any point during the webinar session.
10. The course pace must be set by the instructor and does not allow for independent completion.
11. Instruction time is considered the amount of time devoted to the actual course instruction and does not include breaks, lunch, dinner or introductions of speakers.
12. One credit will be awarded for each 50 minutes of webinar/webcast instruction, and the minimum number of Continuing Education credits that will be awarded for webinar courses is one credit. **Note#1: Appraiser** Continuing Education courses cannot be less than **two**, 50-minute hours. **Note#2: Pre-License Education** courses cannot be less than the statutorily required number of 50-minute hours for each specific license type.
13. The provider must have a procedure that informs each student in advance of course participation requirements and consequences for failing to actively participate in the course.
14. An end of course exam is not required for *Continuing Education* if the course is live and meets the requirements in Minn.Statutes.Chap.45.25. Subd. 2a. (1), (2), and (3).
 - ▶ **However**, a closed-book, proctored, end of course exam is ALWAYS required for **Pre-License Education** regardless of the method of instruction.
15. Compliance with the procedures outlined above are subject to audit by the Commerce Department.

*Regarding #7 & #8 above: Minnesota, like the NAIC guidelines, requires at least 2 questions per one-hour of webinar. However, if the education provider asks more than 2 questions, *ALL questions must be responded to for a Minnesota licensee to receive any CE credit*. Otherwise students are not attending or paying attention throughout 100% of the course.

45.30 CONTINUING EDUCATION.

Subd. 4. Credit earned.

(a) Upon completion of approved courses, students must earn one hour of continuing education credit for each hour approved by the commissioner. Continuing education courses must be attended in their entirety in order to receive credit for the number of approved hours.

Additionally, Minnesota does not allow partial course credits. Courses must be attended in their entirety (including responding to all random poll questions) to obtain any credit.