

Certification Standards for Continuing Education

Continuing Education (CE) is an important part of advanced practice. ABE requires that BCD candidates have received **40 clock hours of clinical CE in the past three years; amassed fifteen (15) clock hours of CE related to clinical supervision, achieved over any time span, post-graduate.** This continuing education may be *formal or informal*, as related below. (Note: if licensed in a state not requiring CE or working in a setting not requiring licensure, you are exempt from this CE standard for application purposes. However once board certified, you must amass twenty (20) clock hours of CE annually, of which five hours must relate to clinical supervision.)



Formal Activities

Formal CE activities are: verifiable courses, practice-oriented seminars, work-shops, staff-development activities, "home-study" or "distance learning", accredited or offered by state licensing boards, professional societies and associations, and graduate schools.

Informal Activities

Informal CE activities include clinical learning at structured social work meetings and discussions, including the following:

- Staff meetings focused on clinical social work methods or theory but not on specific administrative matters;
- Speaker presentations (at professional society meetings) addressing clinical social work methods, theories, or issues;
- Peer-group meetings, panel discussions, and study groups, in which practitioners discuss clinical social work methods, theories, or issues.

Teaching

ABE extends time-and-a-half credit to BCD clinicians who, in the past two years, taught/teach a college-level clinical social work course or an advanced clinical social work workshop for the first time (verifiable by the sponsoring organization).

Documentation of Activities

A certain percentage of applicants must document their CE activities. If you are among that group, you will receive a separate notification from ABE.

For formal activities, ABE requires photocopies of a certificate or a letter from the event's sponsor or instructor (including your name, date, hours of continuing education attained, and, if needed, the course syllabus or conference brochure), or a written description of the activity (with participants, date, topics, and duration) signed by the coordinator or group leader.

For informal activities, provide a document that summarizes the activity and its clinical social work content, with date, duration, name/title of leader/coordinator, mention of participants (e.g. clinical staff of Acme Hospital), indication of your attendance, and signature of person responsible.

Do not submit documentation of continuing education to ABE unless requested.