Agency Name: Building Codes Council - Labor, Licensing and Regulation

Statutory Authority: 6-8-20 and 40-1-70

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Subject: Continuing Education for Code Enforcement Officers

History: 5306

By Date Action Description Jt. Res. No. Expiration Date

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- 01/14/2025 Received President of the Senate & Speaker 01/18/2026

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S 03/26/2025 Resolution Introduced to Approve 495

Document No. 5306

**DEPARTMENT OF LABOR, LICENSING AND REGULATION**

**BUILDING CODES COUNCIL**

CHAPTER8

Statutory Authority: 1976 Code Sections 6‑8‑20 and 40‑1‑70

8‑150. Continuing Education.

**Synopsis:**

 The South Carolina Building Codes Council proposes to amend R.8‑150(6)(F) regarding the limitation on reimbursement for continuing education to 12 hours per year for building code enforcement officers.

 A Notice of Drafting was published in the *State Register* on July 26, 2024.

**Instructions:**

 Print the regulation as shown below. All other items remain unchanged.

~~Indicates Matter Stricken~~

Indicates New Matter

**Text:**

8‑150. Continuing Education.

 (1) To qualify for registration renewal, a registrant must accumulate a minimum of twenty‑four (24) hours per registration cycle of continuing education. The reporting period is from July 1 to June 30 of each odd numbered year and hours cannot be carried over to the next registration cycle.

 (2) One (1) hour of continuing education shall be awarded for each hour of active participation in any course, seminar, workshop, session or other training medium approved by Council. One (1) hour of continuing education credit shall also be awarded for each ICC examination passed during the licensing cycle.

 (3) For each registration cycle, a minimum of eighteen continuing education hours must be earned in technical topics. For each registration cycle, a maximum number of six hours may be earned in management, ethics, or other professional development type training.

 (4) If the first period of registration is less than twenty‑four (24) months, continuing education required for the first registration renewal must be based on the following:

 A. For registrations issued one (1) to four (4) months before expiration, no hours.

 B. For registrations issued four (4) to eight (8) months before expiration, four (4) hours.

 C. For registrations issued eight (8) to twelve (12) months before expiration, eight (8) hours.

 D. For registrations issued twelve (12) to sixteen (16) months before expiration, twelve (12) hours.

 E. For registrations issued sixteen (16) to twenty (20) months before expiration, sixteen (16) hours.

 F. For registrations issued twenty (20) to twenty‑four (24) months before expiration, twenty (20) hours.

 G. For each subsequent registration, a minimum of twenty‑four (24) hours will be required.

 (5) Continuing education accrued to qualify for registration reinstatement shall not count towards the required continuing education for the new registration cycle.

 (6) In order to receive reimbursement of continuing education costs from the Council, the registrant must submit by June 30 of each year a reimbursement request on a Council‑approved form and meet the following requirements:

 A. Registrant must have an active registration.

 B. The continuing education must be selected from a list of courses approved by the Council.

 C. Registrant’s participation in the continuing education must be approved by the Council prior to the course registration date.

 1. For approval requests received after the course registration date, the Council will only pay the advance registration fee. Registrant or jurisdiction shall be responsible for any additional or late fees.

 2. If the approval request exceeds the maximum payment per credit hour as established by the Council, registrant or jurisdiction shall be responsible for any costs in excess of the per‑hour maximum.

 D. The pre‑approved continuing education course must be successfully completed by the registrant. If the course is not successfully completed by the registrant and was prepaid by the Council, then registrant or the jurisdiction must reimburse the Council for the prepaid fee.

 E. The continuing education shall not exceed six credit and/or training hours per one calendar day.

 F. The number of hours claimed for reimbursement ~~for each year~~ shall not exceed ~~12~~ a total of 24 credit hours per registration cycle, and the Council may limit reimbursement of continuing education to a maximum of 12 hours per year.

 G. If credit is claimed for passing an ICC examination(s), registrant must submit proof of the examination results.

 (7) For each registration cycle, a registrant may earn up to twelve (12) continuing education hours through Council approved self‑pace courses.

 (8) Proof of continuing education compliance will be conducted by audit at the discretion of the Council.

 (9) The Council, by majority vote, may alter or waive any continuing education requirements during a state of emergency.

 (10) A registrant experiencing physical disability, illness or other extenuating circumstances may apply for waiver of continuing education requirements on a Council‑approved form with supporting documentation. Such request for a waiver is subject to review and approval by the Council or its designated representative.

**Fiscal Impact Statement:**

 There will be no cost incurred by the State or any of its political subdivisions for these regulations.

**Statement of Rationale:**

 The South Carolina Building Codes Council proposes to amend R.8‑150(6)(F) regarding the limitation on reimbursement for continuing education to 12 hours per year for building code enforcement officers. Specifically, the regulation, as written, limits access to funding for training that exceeds 12 hours per year. The amendment is anticipated to modify the language to allow reimbursement in excess of 12 hours under certain circumstances.