



## **Certification Renewal Policy for CPAHA – Tobacco Treatment**

### **I. Overview**

CPAHA Candidates will be notified via email from the American Heart Association of renewal prior to renewal date. Please ensure your email address is up to date in the AHA Professional Education Hub (<https://education.heart.org>). If you have any technical difficulties please contact the American Heart Association Customer Support phone number, 1-877-340-9899, or by email at [education.help@email.education.heart.org](mailto:education.help@email.education.heart.org).

Candidates may renew their certification by either (a) fulfilling continuing education (CE) requirements defined below, or (b) retaking the certification examination. The renewal requirements are as follows:

- A. Receiving 20 approved CE credits over the 3-year certification renewal cycle.
  - 1. At least 10 CE credits must be specific to tobacco treatment.
  - 2. No more than 10 CE credits may include content that is not tobacco-specific, but address topics that are identified in the ATTUD Core Competencies.
- B. CE credits must be earned from the time of certification issuance or most recent certification renewal up until the next expiration date to be applied.
- C. Although the AHA sends communication to candidates who are eligible to renew their certification, it is the candidate’s responsibility to know their deadline.
- D. Initial and renewal certification are valid for 3 years based on the certification issuance date. To renew certification, the required CE credit documents must be tracked and documented on the ‘CE Tobacco Treatment CE Reporting Form’ describing all CE events each time certification is renewed (i.e. every 3 years).
- E. If the candidate misses the due date for certification renewal, AHA may elect the candidate to apply for renewal within 6 months post the due date, although a supplemental fee will be applied, as noted in the table below. After this 6-month ‘grace’ period, the candidate must resubmit an initial application, unless a decision is made to waive this requirement due to the existence of special circumstances on a case-by-case basis.

**Certification Renewal Fee Schedule**

<b>Renewal Option</b>	<b>Fee</b>
Renewal with CE Credits	\$200



Examination Retake	\$400
Late Application Supplemental Fee	\$100

## II. General Requirements

- A. The applicant seeking certification renewal via CE credits must provide all required documentation as follows:
1. Submit all copies of CE credit awards designated by AHA-approved CE credentials if requested. Annually, a percentage of those renewing will be asked to submit full documentation.
  2. Complete the ‘CPAHA – Tobacco Treatment CE Reporting Form’ ([see Appendix A for the Tobacco Treatment CE Reporting Form](#)) describing all CE events each time certification is renewed (i.e. every 3 years).
  3. When requested, submit documentation through your account on the Professional Education Hub.
- B. Presentations eligible for CE credit must be (a) developed and presented, or (b) designated with CE credentials included on the AHA list of approved CE credentials.
1. Please log into your Hub account to view the current list of approved CE credentials (CME, ANCC, APA, etc.). **NOTE: No CE provider or credential that is wholly or in part owned or supported by entities identified as or affiliated with the tobacco, vaping, or recreational nicotine industries or similar will be accepted.**

## III. Content Areas for CE

- A. At least 10 CE credits must include specific tobacco treatment, including but not limited to: (a) tobacco / nicotine products, (b) prevalence / incidence rates, (c) prevention approaches, (d) surveillance, (e) societal and regulatory considerations, (f) health-related or environmental considerations, (g) clinical assessment, (h) evidence-based counseling approaches, (i) motivational factors and interventions, (j) pharmacotherapy, (k) critical review of non-evidence-based approaches, (l) privacy, confidentiality, and ethical considerations, (m) diversity considerations, (n) relapse prevention, (o) treatment / program evaluations and outcomes, (p) relevant healthcare system factors, or (q) insurance billing.
- B. No more than 10 credits may include content that is not tobacco-specific, but address tobacco-relevant topics that are outlined in the ATTUD Core Competencies, including: (a) counseling approaches / skills, (b) assessment approaches / factors, (c) treatment



American Heart Association.

Certified Professional

Tobacco Treatment

planning, (d) pharmacotherapy, (e) relapse prevention, (f) diversity / specific health issues, (g) documentation / evaluation, (h) professional resources, (i) law / ethics, or (j) professional development.

#### **IV. Educational Activities that Qualify for CE Credit**

- A. All CE programs must meet the requirements specified in Sections II and III, as well as be earned during the renewal cycle.
- B. The following are acceptable CE activities for CPAHA – Tobacco Treatment certification renewal:
  - 1. Conferences. Attendance at a professional conference where specific CE credit is NOT awarded or claimed may be submitted for one CE credit per day of attendance, up to a maximum of 3 CE credits. If CE credits are awarded for specific presentations, and are designated by approved CE credentials, these will be accepted.
  - 2. Courses or Education. Courses or educational content related to at least one area included in Section III are accepted as CE credits when accompanied by formal CE credentials.
  - 3. Publications. Formal publication of scientifically based articles or professional books relevant to at least one area included in Section III are accepted for 3 CE credits for each author during each renewal period. Poster presentations at a conference are recognized for 2 CE credits for each author during each renewal period. A maximum of 10 CE credits may be obtained from this category.
  - 4. Manuscript Review. Review of tobacco-related manuscripts will be recognized for one CE credit, to a maximum of 3 CE credits per renewal period.
  - 5. Speaking Engagements and Workshop Presentations on Tobacco Prevention and Treatment Topics. Examples include presentations made by the candidate to a state or local association addressing at least one area in Section III. CE credits are awarded per time spent delivering a unique presentation to a maximum of 5 CE credits per renewal period. Presentations given more than once with the same content may be claimed only once during each renewal period.
  - 6. Webinar, Workshop, and other Professional Development Activities. If no CE credit award is specified, one CE credit may be claimed per day to a maximum of 3 CE credits per renewal period. This can be for both in-person and online attendance. Efforts related to earning a certification cannot be applied towards CPAHA – Tobacco Treatment certification renewal.



American Heart Association®

Certified Professional

Tobacco Treatment

## **Appendix A: CPAHA Tobacco Treatment CE Reporting Form**

The CPAHA Tobacco Treatment CE Reporting Form is available at the following link:

[https://www.heart.org/en/-/media/Files/Professional/Quality-Improvement/Healthcare-Certification/CPAHA/CPAHA-Tobacco-Treatment-CE-Form.pdf?sc\\_lang=en](https://www.heart.org/en/-/media/Files/Professional/Quality-Improvement/Healthcare-Certification/CPAHA/CPAHA-Tobacco-Treatment-CE-Form.pdf?sc_lang=en)