



November 14, 2022

Policy 2022-1

CONTINUING EDUCATION OBTAINED BY INTERNET OR ONLINE PARTICIPATION FOR 2023

Background

The Board of Examiners of Water Well Construction and Pump Installation Contractors (“Board”) was created under section 37-91-103, C.R.S., and is tasked with examining for, denying, approving, revoking, suspending, and renewing the licenses of well construction and pump installation contractors as provided in article 91, title 37, C.R.S. In particular, licensed contractors are required under section 37-91-105(7), C.R.S., to complete eight hours of continuing education training annually as approved by the Board to maintain or renew their licenses, and the Board is required to develop a continuing education program under section 37-91-107(6), C.R.S.

Rule 8.1 of the Board’s Rules and Regulations for Administration of Licensing, Financial Responsibility, Continuing Education and Remedial Action for Well Construction and Pump Installation Contractors, 2 CCR 402-14 (“Administration Rules”), restates the statutory requirement that every licensed contractor must complete eight (8) hours of continuing education (“CE”) each year. Rule 8.1.b historically stated that no more than four (4) out of the eight (8) hours of approved CE can be obtained by internet or online participation.

The COVID-19 pandemic and resulting social distancing restrictions made it unsafe and impractical for licensed contractors to attend CE classes in-person, and for the foreseeable future, CE classes are generally limited to those that can be taken online or by internet participation. The Board initially adopted, on a temporary emergency basis, rule amendments to allow licensed contractors to obtain all required hours of continuing education by internet or online participation.

Rule 8.1.b was amended (effective January 1, 2021) to authorize the Board, in conjunction with the CE Committee¹, to determine through Board policy the required hours of approved CE that can be obtained by online or internet participation. Allowing the Board to make this determination through policy will give the Board flexibility in the future to assess whether in-person attendance has once again become feasible, and subsequently the total number of hours to allow by internet or online participation for that year.

¹ Continuing Education (CE) Committee means a group formed for the purpose of evaluation of continuing education courses and appropriate hours accredited for each course and professional activity. The CE Committee will consist of a designee from the Colorado Water Well Contractors Association (“CWWCA”), a member of the Board, and a member of Board Staff. The CE Committee must make decisions by consensus. (Rule 4.2.7, 2 CCR 402-14)



Objective

This policy will set the number of hours of continuing education that can be obtained by internet or online participation for the calendar year as determined by the Board and CE Committee.

Policy

For the 2023 calendar year, no more than four (4) out of eight (8) hours of accredited continuing education taken by internet or online participation may be used to obtain the required hours of continuing education.

Approval

This policy may only be modified or revoked in writing by the Board of Examiners of Water Well Construction and Pump Installation Contractors. The policy will be reviewed during the fourth quarterly meeting of each calendar year.

Approved November 14, 2022


Chris Sanchez, Chairperson
Board of Examiners of Water Well Construction
and Pump Installation Contractors