

NOTICE OF NEW LEGAL SPECIALIZATION EDUCATION REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

The State Bar Board of Legal Specialization has announced new reporting requirements for educational compliance. [For the full text of the announcement, click here.](#)

Effective immediately, specialists will be required to report their specialization education credits on the same cycle as their MCLE credits. Thus, specialists in MCLE Group 2 (H-M), must have completed 36 hours of specialization credit within the last 3 years and must report by February 2, 2015 using a paper form that will be provided to all in that group in December. In the future, electronic reporting will be permitted.

There is a one-time allowance for members to claim credit toward the 36 hour total for courses completed more than three, and less than five, years ago. The Board has not provided any guidance on how this "flexible choice" will occur. Likewise, there will be no requirement to have completed the 6 psychological and counseling credits during this reporting period.

The [underlying educational rules](#) have not been changed, thus upon recertification, applicants must still show that "during the current five-year certification period, he or she has completed not less than 60 hours of educational activities specifically approved for family law, of which not less than six nor more than 10 hours shall be in psychological and counseling aspects of family law."

So, what we have appears to be both a change in how the educational requirements are reported and how they are accumulated. Before, the entire 60 hours could theoretically be accumulated in the year prior to recertification. Now they must be accumulated at a minimum in two tranches. You must report your credits every 3 years and again upon applying for recertification.

If you are in MCLE Group 2 and recently recertified, you must still report your 36 educational credits through January 31, 2015 by February 2, 2015. This will not change your recertification date or ultimate educational requirements.

How this affects MyLegalEducationLog™:

We will modify the site to provide two columns for tracking legal specialization credits. One will mirror the MCLE time period and the other will still track the 60 hours from your last recertification. These two columns will likely not match.

Please give us your feedback.

Attorney's Briefcase, Inc.