WAC 181-85-075 Continuing education requirement. Continuing education requirements are as follows:

1) Continuing education credit hours. Each holder of a continuing certificate affected by this chapter shall be required to complete during a five-year period one hundred continuing education credit hours, as defined in WAC 181-85-025 and 181-85-030, prior to the lapse date of the first issue of the continuing certificate and during each five-year period between subsequent lapse dates as calculated in WAC 181-85-100. Beginning September 1, 2020, each holder of an initial educational staff associate certificate affected by this chapter shall be required to complete during a five-year period one hundred continuing education credit hours, as defined in this chapter, to renew.

2) Professional growth plans. Individuals holding a valid continuing certificate in subsection (1) of this section may choose to renew the certificate via annual professional growth plans developed since the certificate was issued. Professional growth plans are defined in WAC 181-79A-030. Completion of four annual professional growth plans during each five-year period between subsequent lapse dates meets the requirement for renewal. Individuals completing fewer than four annual professional growth plans must complete the necessary continuing education credit hours needed to be the equivalent of one hundred hours to meet the requirements of subsection (1) of this section. For educators holding multiple certificates in chapter 181-85 or 181-79A WAC, a professional growth plan for teacher, administrator, or educational staff associate shall meet the requirement for all certificates held by an individual which is affected by this section.

3) National Board for Professional Teaching Standards certification. Each holder of a certificate affected by this chapter may present a copy of a valid certificate issued by the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards in lieu of the completion of the continuing education credit hours required by this chapter.

4) National Association of School Psychologists credential. Each holder of a certificate affected by this chapter may present a copy of a valid Nationally Certified School Psychologist credential issued by the National Association of School Psychologists in lieu of the completion of the continuing education credit hours required by this chapter.

5) American Speech-Language Hearing Association certificate. Each holder of a certificate affected by this chapter may present a copy of a valid certificate of clinical competence (CCC) issued by the American Speech-Language Hearing Association (ASHA) in lieu of the completion of the continuing education credit hours required by this chapter.

6) Science, technology, engineering, math (STEM) integration. Applications for certificate renewal dated September 1, 2019, and beyond must demonstrate completion of at least fifteen continuing education credit hours, or at least one goal from an annual professional growth plan, emphasizing the integration of science, technology, engineering, and/or mathematics instruction per RCW 28A.410.2212. This renewal requirement applies to teachers in the following areas: Elementary education; early childhood education; middle level mathematics and science; secondary mathematics; secondary science; the designated sciences; and career and technical education. Specific endorsements in these endorsement areas are as published by the professional educator standards board. This requirement is considered to be met by holders of a valid National Board Certificate issued by the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards (NBPTS).
Suicide prevention training requirement. Renewal of continuing and professional certificates for school counselors, school psychologists, school nurses, and school social workers requires completion of suicide prevention training per RCW 28A.410.226.

Beginning September 1, 2020, renewal of initial and residency certificates for school counselors, school psychologists, school nurses, and school social workers will require completion of suicide prevention training per RCW 28A.410.226.

Approved trainings meeting this suicide prevention training requirement will be as published by the professional educator standards board. The training program must be at least three hours in length. The professional educator standards board will consider these training programs as continuing education credit hours.

Behavior analyst certificate. Hours used to maintain a valid Board Certified Behavior Analyst (BCBA) certificate from the Behavior Analyst Certification Board (BACB), or other national certificate as approved by the professional educator standards board, will be considered by the professional education standards board as continuing education credit hours, and may be used towards the continuing education credit hour requirement for renewal.

Holding a valid Board Certified Behavior Analyst (BCBA) certificate from the Behavior Analyst Certification Board (BACB), or other national certificate as approved by the professional educator standards board, is required for renewal of initial and continuing behavior analyst certificates.

Washington state licenses. Holding a valid department of health license as a physical therapist in Washington state is required for renewal of an initial or continuing physical therapist certificate. Holding a valid department of health license as an occupational therapist in Washington state is required for renewal of an initial or continuing occupational therapist certificate. Holding a valid department of health license as a registered nurse (RN) in Washington state is required for renewal of an initial or continuing school nurse certificate.
1/23/99. Statutory Authority: RCW 28A.70.005. WSR 89-01-043 (Order 28-88), § 180-85-075, filed 12/14/88; WSR 86-13-018 (Order 8-86), § 180-85-075, filed 6/10/86.]