

Dear Registrant,

This is to inform you that in light of COVID-19 there has been a change in the Continuing Professional Development (CPD) requirement for the current 2021 CPD cycle that is coming due on October 31, 2021. Under normal circumstances, all practicing registrants of the College are required to report a minimum of 40 hours of CPD activities each year from at least three of the six categories of CPD activities listed below (the following list and more details of different categories of activity are available [HERE](#)).

Maximum Qualifying Hours for Each Category of CPD Activity

- Self-directed: 15 hours
- Work-based: 15 hours
- Professional: 15 hours
- Formal/Educational: 15 hours
- Other: 15 hours
- Degree/Diploma/Licensure Exam: 40 hours

As you can see above, the maximum qualifying hours for five of the six categories of activity have been set at 15, meaning that registrants will only receive credit for 15 hours even if they claim more than 15 hours in one of those five categories. Based on this rule, registrants have been required to record 40 hours of CPD using activities from at least three different categories (unless they have completed a degree, diploma, or licensure exam).

**However, for the current 2021 CPD cycle, the College has decided to set the maximum qualifying hours at 40 for *all* categories of activity.** This change in the rule will allow registrants to be credited for up to 40 hours in any of the six categories, meaning they will be able to meet the yearly 40-hour requirement using activities from as little as one category. This decision to provide registrants with

more flexibility in choosing types of CPD activities is due to the challenge in completing activities in categories involving face-to-face interactions such as Work-based, Professional and Formal/Educational. The College understands that many trainings, seminars and conferences have been cancelled due to COVID-19 physical distancing and anticipates that registrants have taken/will be taking on more activities in the Self-directed category such as independent learning or attending webinars. Therefore, this change in the maximum qualifying hours will alleviate the burden for registrants having difficulty accumulating CPD hours in categories other than the Self-directed category.

Keep in mind that this change only applies to categories of activity. The requirement that a minimum of three hours of CPD activity be related to ethical conduct remains the same.

Please note that this change in the rule applies to the current 2021 CPD cycle only. The College will continue to monitor the development of the COVID-19 situation and the fast-changing professional environment to assess whether this change needs to be maintained for the future CPD cycles.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the College at [info@bccsw.ca](mailto:info@bccsw.ca).

Sincerely,

BC College of Social Workers