

Revalidation using enhanced CET scheme – the facts

From the next cycle starting in January 2013 we will be making some changes to our CET Scheme. This factsheet describes those changes and how they will affect you.

What will the requirements be for me?

General principles which will apply to **ALL** registrants from 1 January 2013:

1. three year cycle
2. 36 general points requirement for all dispensing opticians and optometrists per cycle.
3. minimum annual requirement to obtain six points per year
4. number of points awarded will reflect the level of interaction required for each type of CET activity e.g. peer review and clinical skills CET to carry greater points than attendance at lectures or article-based CET
5. no automatic shortfall period – replaced by shortfall period only for those who have satisfied the Registrar that their CET failure was as a result of exceptional circumstances
6. maximum of 50% of the 36 points per cycle can be obtained via text-based distance learning.
7. CETOptics will have enhanced functionality to include:
 - a) a progress bar to enable registrants to track which competencies have been covered by their CET activities and which still need to be met
 - b) facility to provide feedback on CET attended when accepting pending points
 - c) optional features which allow registrants to make reflective comments and link CET activity to their scope of practice

Requirements for optometrists

36 general points which **must include**:

1. One point obtained in Peer Review activity involving patient records and decision making
2. All optometry competency units, specifically:
 - communication
 - professional conduct
 - ocular examination
 - optical appliances
 - contact lens
 - ocular disease
 - assessment of visual function
 - assessment and management of binocular vision

Requirements for dispensing opticians

36 general points which **must include**:

1. All dispensing competency units, specifically:
 - communication
 - professional conduct
 - ocular examination
 - optical appliances
 - contact lens
 - low vision
 - refractive management
 - ocular abnormalities
 - paediatric dispensing

Requirements for contact lens opticians

36 general points which **must include**:

1. 18 of the 36 points to be obtained in contact lens specialist CET (obtained at a rate of six per year)
2. One Peer Review CET activity involving patient records and decision making
3. All dispensing competency units, specifically:
 - communication
 - professional conduct
 - ocular examination
 - optical appliances
 - contact lens
 - low vision
 - refractive management
 - ocular abnormalities
 - paediatric dispensing

Requirements for therapeutic specialist optometrists

36 general points which **must include**:

1. One point obtained in Peer Review activity involving patient records and decision making
2. All optometry competency units, specifically:
 - communication
 - professional conduct
 - ocular examination
 - optical appliances
 - contact lens
 - ocular disease
 - assessment of visual function
 - assessment and management of binocular vision

Plus:

- 18 additional therapeutic specialty CET points (obtained at a rate of six per year)

Will the GOC make sure there is enough CET available in my area to enable me to meet the requirements?

Between now and next cycle (2013) we will be working with CET providers to ensure that all registrants, regardless of geographical location, will have access to sufficient CET to meet our requirement.

We are also reviewing the criteria for approving activities as suitable for Peer Review CET points with a view to making this type of CET more accessible to all registrants.

Do I have to do a separate CET activity for each competency unit?

No. Many CET activities will be approved for more than one competency area.

From 2013 CET events will be advertised according to the number of points available, the target group (e.g. optometrist, DO, contact lens optician or therapeutic specialist) and the competencies covered. This will mean that by attending one CET event you may be able to meet two or three competency targets.

When will these changes come into effect?

From next cycle starting on 1 January 2013 registrants will be expected to comply with these new requirements.

At the end of each year within the cycle, registrants who are not on target, having failed to obtain at least six points per year, will be contacted and asked to explain the reasons for their failure to comply.

If you wish to apply to have exceptional circumstances taken into account you must let us know as soon as they occur and not wait until the end of the cycle. Failure to declare exceptional circumstances before the end of the cycle may result in you being removed from the register at the end of the cycle.