



August 7, 2020

INFORMATION

COUNCIL ON SEX OFFENDER TREATMENT

Notice of publication of proposed rule change in *Texas Register* with call for public comment.

On August 7, 2020: the Council on Sex Offender Treatment's proposed rule change was published in the *Texas Register* ([45 TexReg 5501](#)). The proposed amendment to §810.4(7) increases the maximum number of online continuing education hours for license renewal from six hours to 12 hours.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Comments on the proposed rule may be submitted to Sarah Faszholz, Interim Executive Director, Council on Sex Offender Treatment, Mail Code 1982, P.O. Box 149347, Austin, Texas 78714-9347 or by email to csot@hhsc.state.tx.us. When emailing comments, please indicate "Comments on Proposed Rule" in the subject line. To be considered, comments must be submitted no later than 31 days following publication of the proposal in the *Texas Register*. If the last day to submit comments falls on a weekend or a holiday, comments must be postmarked, shipped, or emailed before midnight on the following business day to be considered.

22 TAC §810.4. License Issuance and/or Renewal.

All new initial licenses shall expire on the last day of the licensee's birth month. The initial licensing period shall be at least 13 months and no more than 24 months. Subsequent licensing periods will be 24 months. In order to maintain eligibility for the licensure as a sex offender treatment provider, the mental health or medical license of each renewal shall be current and active. All renewal applicants shall comply with the following:

(1) -(6) (No change.)

(7) Licensees shall request pre-approval from the council for all online courses and courses taken at an institution of higher learning. All renewal applicants may count a maximum of 12 [~~6~~] online hours per biennial renewal period, not including ethics [~~ethic~~] hours.

(8) -(11) (No change.)

The Council on Sex Offender Treatment is an independent licensing board administratively attached to the Texas Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC). The Council, as an independent entity, maintains a management structure and decision-making authority separate from HHSC. This message is an official communication from the Council on Sex Offender Treatment.