

New Education Requirements for Builders

The State Legislature passed a series of three bills which will require builders attend education programs in an effort to increase professionalism in the industry. As association members we all realize the positive effect of education seminars and conferences and accept this as a way to elevate the industry. This type of requirement is seen in many state licensed professions (building trades, educators, CPA's, etc) and is common in many other states in the nation.

The actual requirements are in the process of being developed and as more information is available the HBAGGR will pass it through to you. The bills were specific on the number of hours of professional development that will be required, however it was quite vague on which classes, seminars and conferences will be endorsed. The information on the extent of the requirements is below, more information will be forthcoming regarding endorsed classes when it is available.

The requirements break out into two categories: Pre-Licensure Requirements and Continuing Competency for Licensed Builders

Pre-Licensure Requirements (effective 6-1-2008)

Requires the successful completion of a 60-hour pre-licensure course of study by applicants for an initial residential builder or contractor license prior to licensing. This course would consist of at least six hours in each of the following areas:

- Business management, estimating and job costing
- Design and building science
- Contracts, liability and risk management
- Marketing & sales
- Project management & scheduling
- Michigan Residential Code
- Construction safety standards (MiOSHA)

Continuing Competency for Licensed Builders (effective 1-1-2009)

If you have held your license for 0-6 years: Successfully complete at least 3 hours of activities (classes, seminars, conferences, etc) per calendar year, and a total of 21 hours per three year license renewal period.

If you have held your license for 6 years or more (and have not been disciplined by the state): Successfully complete three hours of activities (classes, seminars, conferences, etc) per license cycle (three years) including one each of: codes, safety and legal issues.

To read the bills in their entirety visit the State of Michigan Website (link to: [http://www.legislature.mi.gov/\(S\(q1vpmp45ttklqm455forkz2e\)\)/mileg.aspx?page=home](http://www.legislature.mi.gov/(S(q1vpmp45ttklqm455forkz2e))/mileg.aspx?page=home)) and enter 450-453 in the "Bill Number" search box.