

Dear Licensee,

DC Health is happy to announce that renewals for **Board of Professional Counseling** is now [LIVE!](#)

The licensure renewal for the Board of Professional Counseling is scheduled to start on the **first week of October** and will end on **December 31, 2024**. **Please note that the Criminal Background Check (via Name Search, Not fingerprinting) portion of the renewal process may take longer than expected.** Therefore, it is **highly recommended** that you renew your license early to avoid delays in the renewal process and ensure that you can continue practicing without interruptions. If your license is not renewed by the close of business on **December 31, 2024**, you will not be allowed to practice in the District of Columbia.

It is important to remember that practicing with an expired license is illegal and could lead to disciplinary action by the Board of Professional Counseling. Licensees can renew within the 60-day grace period (January 1, 2025, to February 28, 2025) with an \$85 late fee assessment. Additionally, please be aware that the renewal fees for the Board of Professional Counseling are \$145.00 for licensed professional counselors and professional art therapists, \$177 for licensed marriage and family therapists, and \$75 for Certified Addiction Counselors I and II.

Please note the license will expire on the last day of your birthday month. If your birthday falls on an odd year your next expiration date will be on an odd year and same for even year birthdays. This will apply to all new applicants and renewal applicants.

RENEWAL OPTIONS

1. Online Only.

HELPFUL TIPS TO REMEMBER

1. **The deadline for renewal is December 31, 2024.**
2. CAREFULLY read all renewal screening questions.
3. If you respond “yes” to a screening question(s) you **MUST** provide complete documentation before your license will be renewed.
4. If you respond “no” to the continuing Education completion question, you **MUST** provide complete documentation before your license will be renewed.
5. To place your license on PAID INACTIVE Status, please complete the renewal portal online and select the paid inactive status option.

INFORMATION ABOUT CONTINUING EDUCATION AUDITS:

After the renewal is complete, you may be randomly selected for an audit and be required to submit continuing education (CE) documents to the Board.

- **Licensed Graduate Professional Counselors: LGPCs are not required to complete CE for this renewal.**

- **Licensed Professional Counselors:** Forty (40) CEs which shall include six (6) CEs in ethics, four (4) CEs in trauma counseling, two (2) CEs in LGBTQ, and 10% (4 hours) of [Public Health Priorities](#)
- **Certified Addiction Counselors I & II:** Forty (40) CEs which shall include six (6) CEs in ethics, four (4) CEs in trauma counseling, two (2) CEs in LGBTQ, and 10% (4 hours) of [Public Health Priorities](#)
- **Professional Art Therapist:** are not required to complete CE due to first time renewal
- **Marriage and Family Therapists:** At least ten percent (10%) or three (3) hours of the 30 required CEUs shall be in the subjects related to public health: [Policy Statement on Identifying Public Health Issues for Continuing Education](#).
 - Six (6) hours of the thirty (30), must be in ethics.
 - Fifteen (15) hours of the thirty (30), must be completed face to face. **Please note, for this 2024 renewal period, continuing education requirements may be satisfied through approved online continuing education courses.** [Modification Policy To Face-to-Face Requirement](#)
 - Two (2) hours of the thirty (30) required CEUs shall be in cultural competence and appropriate clinical treatment specifically for individuals who are lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, gender non-conforming, queer, or questioning their sexual orientation or gender identity and expression.

CE's must be taken between **January 1, 2023**, and **December 31, 2024**.

ALL First Time Renewal Applicants: If you are renewing for the **first time**, CEs are not required.

Once you are ready, you may begin the renewal process by going to the DC Health Licensing Portal Page. On that page you will select **the “Apply for License Renewal” tab on the left side of the page:**

- <https://doh.force.com/dchealthrenewals/s/portal-page>

If you are experiencing issues with your renewal that is not identified below, please submit a “case” to our Customer Support site: <https://dohlicenseinfo.secure.force.com/support/>. We are asking users to be patient as we respond to all inquiries and cases on a first come, first serve basis.

Please read the FAQs below before you renew.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQ)

Below are a series of frequently asked questions from the licensees:

RENEWAL FEES

- **How much does it cost to renew?**
 - \$145 for Licensed Professional Counselors
 - \$145 for Licensed Graduate Professional Counselors
 - \$145 for Professional Art Therapists
 - \$75 for Certified Addiction Counselors I and II
 - \$85 late fee after December 31, 2024 (This fee is in addition to the renewal fee)
 - \$177 Marriage and family Therapy
 - \$85 late fee after December 31, 2024 (This fee is in addition to the renewal fee)

CRIMINAL BACKGROUND CHECK (CBC) FEE

- **Do I need a Criminal Background Check?**

All licensees are required to pay a mandatory fee of \$50 for the CBC which is a name-based search. Licensees are not required to get fingerprinted again at this time.

CONTINUING EDUCATION (CE)

- **How come I am not able to upload my CE documents?**

Several users have stated they are unable to upload proof of having completed their CE. Our IT department has identified certain issues with document uploads on browsers **OTHER** than Google Chrome or Firefox. If you are not using the most up-to-date versions of Google Chrome or Firefox, first try uploading your CE document using these web browsers {Google Chrome/Firefox}. To submit your uploaded CEs, you must **WRITE** something in the continuing education **DESCRIPTION BOX**. For example, you may write "*I have uploaded all my CEs or CEs are attached*".

Finally, if you still have upload issues, you can submit your renewal application by selecting the "*I will have completed my CE by December 31, 2024*" option in the CE category of the renewal application. By selecting this, you can skip the document uploads and proceed with the rest of your application so you may renew your license on time.

- **What are my CE requirements?**

CEUs must be taken between **January 1, 2023**, and **December 31, 2024**.

- **Licensed Graduate Professional Counselors: LGPCs are not required to complete CE for this renewal.**
- **Licensed Professional Counselors: Forty (40) CEs which shall include six (6) CEs in ethics, four (4) CEs in trauma counseling, two (2) CEs in LGBTQ, and 10% (4 hours) of [Public Health Priorities](#)**

Health Regulation &
Licensing Administration

- **Certified Addiction Counselors I & II:** Forty (40) CEs which shall include six (6) CEs in ethics, four (4) CEs in trauma counseling, two (2) CEs in LGBTQ , and 10% (4 hours) of [Public Health Priorities](#).
- **Professional Art Therapist:** Forty (40) CEs which shall include six (6) CEs in ethics, two (2) CEs in LGBTQ, and 10% (4 hours) of [Public Health Priorities](#).
- **Marriage and Family Therapists:** Thirty (30) CEs which shall include six (6) CEs in ethics, two (2) CEs in LGBTQ, fifteen (15) of the 30 must be face to face, and 10% (3 hours) of [Public Health Priorities](#). . Please note, for this 2024 renewal period, continuing education requirements may be satisfied through approved online continuing education courses ([Modification Policy To Face-to-Face Requirement](#)).

ALL First Time Renewal Applicants: If you are renewing for the **first time**, CEs are not required.

INFORMATION ABOUT CONTINUING EDUCATION AUDITS

- ***Will I be audited?***

After the renewal you may be audited and required to submit continuing education (CE) documents to the Board. CEs must be taken between **January 1, 2023**, and **December 31, 2024**. The required continuing education units are listed above.

If you are renewing for the **first time**, CEs are not required.

RENEWAL CONFIRMATION

- ***How can I get confirmation of my renewal?***

All licensees who submit a renewal application will receive a confirmation email that either states your license has been approved, and include a digital copy of your new license, or that your renewal application has been sent to staff for further review. (*Note: Users who place their license in Paid Inactive Status will not receive a digital license.*) DC Health is not currently issuing hard copies of the renewed license.

For users who've not received any such email, you should log back into the system and check to ensure you entered the correct email address as any typos will result in the confirmation email not being sent to you correctly. Licensees should also check their spam filters to ensure the confirmation email did not accidentally go to their spam junk or trash folders.

If you've checked all of the above, but still have not received either a confirmation email or a copy of your license, you should submit a "case" to our Customer Support site: <https://dohlicenseinfo.secure.force.com/support>. Our IT department will review any and all reported errors, and we will update our licensees as more information becomes available.

PAYMENT ISSUE

- ***Why isn't my credit card being accepted?***

The renewal system will only accept **Visa or MasterCard credit cards for payment**. Please ensure you entered the correct information for your payment. Once the payment has been received, a receipt will be sent to your email of record.

If you are using a Visa or MasterCard, but are still having issues, you should submit a "case" to our Customer Support site: <https://dohlicenseinfo.secure.force.com/support>. Our IT department is reviewing any and all reported errors, and we will update our licensees as more information becomes available.

HELPFUL TIPS TO REMEMBER

1. **The deadline for renewal is December 31, 2024.**
2. CAREFULLY read all renewal screening questions.
3. If you respond "yes" to a screening question(s) you **MUST** provide complete documentation before your license will be renewed.
4. If you respond "no" to the continuing Education completion question, you **MUST** provide complete documentation before your license will be renewed.
5. To place your license on PAID INACTIVE Status, please complete the renewal portal online and select the paid inactive status option.

Refer to the District of Columbia Municipal Regulations for [Board of Professional Counseling](#) for any additional questions regarding Professional Counselors, Graduate Professional Counselors, Professional Art Therapists, and Certified Addiction Counselors requirements.

DC Health greatly appreciates your patience during the implementation of the new renewal system and look forward to your feedback.

Sincerely,
DC the Board of Professional Counseling