State of Vermont
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CONTINUING EDUCATION GUIDANCE FOR ACUPUNCTURISTS

Continuing education for acupuncturists is governed by Rules 3.2 & 3.3 of *the Administrative Rules Relating to Acupuncturists*. Please review the applicable rules carefully, together with the following guidance:

- NCCAOM-approved programs are strongly preferred. The Office recognizes NCCAOM-approved continuing education programs at par, without need of prior approval.

- Please apply directly to the Office for program approval <u>only</u> if:
  - you have sought NCCAOM approval;
  - that approval has been denied; and
  - there is a compelling reason to believe the program should be approved under Rule 3.3 despite non-conformity to NCCAOM standards.

- The Rules define *continuing education* as "the direct participation of a licensed acupuncturist as a learner in a structured educational program directly related to competency in acupuncture and oriental medicine or protection of clients from harm, or both." Rule 3.2(A). Acceptable continuing education must "directly enhance an acupuncturist's knowledge and/or practice of acupuncture and oriental medicine." Rule 3.2(F)(3). The Office cannot approve programs that focus on activities outside an acupuncturist's scope of practice or that are related only tangentially to competence in acupuncture.

- "An application for advance approval must be filed 90 days before the educational activity has commenced." Rule 3.3(B). Licensees seeking late approval are not entitled to accelerated review and must assume the risk that a training may be disapproved after it has been completed.

- Continuing-education approval is determined by the Office and must be obtained through the Office. Please do not contact appointed advisors with continuing-education questions.