



National Healthcare Certification Organization (NHCO)
Continuing Education for Certified Phlebotomy Technician (CPT)

All continuing education must be from a verifiable and approved site to be accepted by the National Healthcare Certification Organization (NHCO). It is the responsibility of certificants to meet any mandated specific continuing education (CE) requirements to renew licensure in their current state of residence. Phlebotomists should look for CEs that are accredited by reputable organizations, like state departments of public health or groups like ASCLS. This ensures CE hours can be used for state requirements and any individual circumstances.

Purpose of Continuing Education:

Continuing education assists certificants in delivering the highest level of patient care in public and private healthcare settings. Maintaining certification and complying with CE requirements contribute to career and personal growth. It is recommended that CE selection align with the certified phlebotomy technician (CPT) exam focus areas, cover mandated topics, and/or explore recent industry changes that impact the duties of a phlebotomist. Phlebotomists should seek course topics that are directly relevant to their occupation and select those that both review essential knowledge and offer opportunities for continued learning in their chosen field.

The National Healthcare Certification Organization (NHCO) will review completed CEs and communicate with certificants if submitted hours do not align with the phlebotomist's role.

Continuing education to consider may include topics such as:

Order & Patient Verification:

- * Medical Terminology
- * Preventing Common Errors
- * Interpreting Requisition Forms

Safety Protocols:

- * Minimizing Workplace Injuries
- * Quality Assurance
- * Infectious Diseases and Infection Prevention
- * Patient Confidentiality and HIPAA Regulations
- * Bloodborne Pathogens
- * Personal Safety

Communication:

- * Soft Skills
- * Culture, Race, Gender, and Ethnicity
- * Global Healthcare Needs

Phlebotomy Procedures:

- * Phlebotomy Basics
- * Understanding the Circulatory System
- * Standard Lab Tests
- * Newborn and Pediatric Screenings
- * Order of Draw
- * Routine Blood Collections
- * Understanding Coagulation
- * Point-of-Care Testing
- * Lab Values
- * Protecting Specimen Quality
- * Blood Donation Trends and Standards
- * Nonblood Specimens and Analysis