

# Memorandum

**To: CPNS Membership**  
**From: Karl Kowalczyk, ED/Registrar**  
**CC: CPNS Membership**  
**Date: May 5, 2022**  
**Re: Continuing Competency Program & Annual License Renewal during 2022 - 2023**

Hello everyone:

At their April 29, 2022, Session 33 meeting the Council for the College of Paramedics of Nova Scotia (the College) discussed the ongoing impact the COVID-19 Pandemic may continue to have on a Registrants ability to access continuing education opportunities.

Council acknowledged this continues to be an unprecedented time where the citizens of Nova Scotia are counting upon all regulatory bodies to continue supporting the healthcare system, while ensuring they meet the public's expectation to protect their interests.

Therefore, recognizing the challenges a registrant had in obtaining learning opportunities over the past two years due to COVID-19 and its' variants the Council has made two key decisions. Those decisions include advising Registrants:

- 1) On April 1, 2023, the College will return to requiring a registrant to obtain continuing competency point based upon the document titled, "Continuing Competency Program & Annual Licence Renewal, College of Paramedics of Nova Scotia Information Guide/Logbook, last revised on October 17, 2019.
- 2) The modifications Council approved for the College's continuing competency program over the past two-years will remain in effect between April 1, 2022, to March 31, 2023. Those modifications are detailed further on in this memorandum.

**In summary, a Registrant will have this year (April 1, 2022, to March 31, 2023) to obtain continuing competency points based upon the modification detailed in this memorandum and then on April 1, 2023, return to the pre-COVID-19 continuing competency program requirements.**

For a Registrant to renew their license by **March 31, 2023**, they will be expected to accumulate an overall **total of 70 points**, as opposed to the normal 80 points. Points will be based upon:

- Section 1 – Self-Learning Activities - Each hour of activity is valued at 1 point and a Paramedic may accumulate **an unlimited number of points** for this section, but between April 1, 2022, and March 31, 2023.
- Section 2 – Group-Learning Activities - Each hour of activity is valued at 2 points and a Paramedic must accumulate **a minimum of 6 points** under this category for this section between April 1, 2022, and March 31, 2023.

- Section 3 – Certifications/Short Courses - Each hour of activity is valued at 2 points; **however, it is not mandatory for a Paramedic to obtain any points** under this section between April 1, 2022, and March 31, 2023.
- Section 4 – Interactive-Learning Activities/other than Certifications/Short Courses – Each hour of activity is valued at 2 points, while a Paramedic Competency Evaluation equals 4 points and M & M session equals 6 points. A Paramedic must accumulate a **minimum of 12 points** under this category, however, **a paramedic simulated competency evaluation is not mandatory** for this section between April 1, 2022, and March 31, 2023.
- Section 5 – Professional Development - Each hour of activity is valued at 2 points and there is no minimum or maximum number of points required under this category for this section between April 1, 2022, and March 31, 2023.

The Continuing Competency Program & Annual License Renewal CPNS Information Guide/Logbook contains the detail for identifying and tracking the continuing competency points a Registrant requires but does not outline the changes described above; therefore, please ensure you have access to this memo for future reference as you work on obtaining your continuing competency points.

If you have any questions regarding this process, please feel free to contact Karl Kowalczyk at 902-223-8797 or [karl.kowalczyk@cpns.ca](mailto:karl.kowalczyk@cpns.ca).