

CPD FAQs

Please advise if Students IN S/Community Service are required to attend and submit CPD?

Health practitioners in community service do not have to comply with CPD during community service but are encouraged to attend and may accrue CEUs, which will be to their credit for the full 24 months from date of accrual

What is an Accreditor?

A group or institution that is appointed by a Professional Board once it has met the criteria set out by the HPCSA CPD Committee. The role of the Accreditor is to review and approve applications for the provision of CPD activities (within its profession's ambit) by organizations and individuals without accredited service provider status; to monitor these activities; and to revise continuing education units (CEUs) allocated in the event that the provider fails to comply with the rules and regulations of the CPD guidelines. Professional Boards may delegate their responsibility for accrediting service providers to Accreditors. The criteria and processes to be followed as well as the procedures for record keeping are contained in the Criteria and Guidelines for Accreditors document. Accreditors can also provide their own activities if they were approved as an accredited service provider.

What is an Accredited Service Provider?

Profession specific higher education institutions and departments, professional associations or formally constituted professional interest groups who meet the specified criteria and have been accredited by the board and/ or its designated accreditor to present learning activities for Continuing Professional Development.

Who is eligible to apply to be a CPD service provider?

- Tertiary training institutions.
- Professional associations.
- Formally constituted professional interest groups that have a professional identity and are aligned with a training institution, a professional association or an international institution.

How do I apply to be a CPD service provider?

Submit an application on Form CPD 2A (A list of Accreditors are available on the website)

What are Continuing Education Units (CEUs)?

The value attached to a learning activity for CPD.

When is a practitioner non-compliant?

Failure of an individual to annually obtain thirty CEUs (or the required CEUs for their register as determined by their professional board), which include at least five CEUs for Ethics, Human Rights or Health Law. There are various penalties, which will be applied in the event of non-compliance, by individual professional boards in collaboration with the HPCSA CPD Committee.

How do I check my compliance status?

Practitioners should check their compliance status on the CPD portal.

I am not practicing in South Africa, I am currently based overseas, will the learning activities which I engage in internationally be recognised?

When health practitioners who are actively practising in South Africa attend an accredited professional or academic meeting or activity internationally, it will be recognised for CPD purposes. An accreditor in South Africa should accredit the activity attended internationally if not accredited/recognised for CEUs equivalent in the country where it was held.

I am currently studying, will my learning activity accepted as a CPD activity?

Postgraduate degrees, diplomas and certificates that are recognised as additional qualifications by the relevant professional board – at the end of each year of study (not exceeding the normal duration of the degree); thirty CEUs may be claimed upon submitting an academic report on progress, and additional thirty CEUs may be claimed on successful completion of the qualification.

I have retired, do I still have to be CPD compliant?

Retired health practitioners who are active on the register should be compliant with CPD.

I have not practiced in a long time and I am unemployed?

In terms of Section 26 of the Health Professions Act 56 of 1974 you are obligated to comply with the CPD requirements as you are a registered practitioner in terms of the Act. Please note that the Act states that;

‘Compliance with certain conditions relating to continuing professional development as prerequisite for continued registration’.

Has the random CPD audits been stopped?

The practice of random sampling practitioners from HPCSA database to verify compliance to CPD requirements is discontinued, all practitioners can upload their CEU certificates as and when they become available on CPD portal on the HPCSA website.

What Is the CPD self-service portal used for?

The Self-Service Platform on the HPCSA Website for Practitioners to submit queries and upload necessary evidence of compliance to CPD programme (e.g. CPD certificates) in order to meet requirements in terms of Section 26 of the Health Professions Act (Act No 56 of 1974).