



# Oregon

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**Board of Medical Imaging**  
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**December 2013**

## ***BOARD OF MEDICAL IMAGING*** ***\*\*\* DECEMBER 2013 UPDATE \*\*\****

### ***NEW BOARD RULES AND POLICIES...***

#### **STARTING 2014 – CAN'T CLAIM MULTIPLE CE CREDIT FOR TAKING THE SAME COURSE**

At the October 2013 meeting of the Oregon Board of Medical Imaging (OBMI), the Board endorsed a change in the approval process for continuing education courses. (Under agreement with the ARRT, the OBMI is authorized to designate Category “A” courses for CE credit.) The purpose of this change is to add value to the educational experience of licensees and also to make it easier for CE sponsors to offer CE credit in a way that maintains educational standards.

Two-year lifespan for CE courses that are approved through OBMI: Beginning January 1, 2014, OBMI-approved continuing education courses will be valid for a two-year period, to roughly coincide with the OBMI’s licensure cycle. The Board’s CE biennium will be based upon calendar year; for example all courses approved in 2014 will be valid through December 31, 2015. Courses with the same content will retain the same course number throughout the CE biennium. If you are required to submit verification of CE credit as part of your license renewal application (e.g. grandfathered RTs; limited permits), note that OBMI will only allow you to claim CE credit for the *same* course – as identified by CE approval number – *one* time during the CE biennium.

#### **LIMITED PERMITS EXPIRED FOR 24 MONTHS – NEED TO PASS ARRT EXAM AGAIN!**

Beginning January 1, 2014, any limited permit holder whose permit *has been expired for 24 continuous months* will need to confirm competency by passing the ARRT examination again, as a pre-condition of permit renewal. This new Board regulation, adopted at the July 22 meeting of the Oregon Board of Medical Imaging (OBMI), will employ the same application process and fee structure as a first-time limited permit applicant. In these cases, the applicant will need to pass CORE (except for bone densitometry permit holders) plus whatever radiographic position(s) the person wishes to be re-permitted in. Under this provision, persons who initially received their limited permits prior to 2007 will only be able to re-take an examination and be re-permitted in radiographic positions that were authorized beginning in 2007, as follows:

<u>Pre-2007 Radiographic Positions</u>	<u>Can only re-test and be permitted in:</u>
Head	→ Skull/Sinus
Upper Extremities	→ Extremities
Pelvis/Lower Extremities	→ Extremities
Chest/ribs	→ Chest
Spine	→ Spine
Podiatry	→ Podiatric
Abdomen	→ None
Bone Densitometry	→ Bone Densitometry

## **BOARD ADOPTS NEW TEMPORARY POST-PRIMARY LICENSE (PPL)—EFFECTIVE JAN. 1**

The OBMI approved a new program to allow a current medical imaging licensee to obtain a temporary “post-primary license” (PPL) in a separate licensure modality, for the purpose of completing clinical requirements to sit for a post-primary registry examination. This new temporary license category, available beginning on January 1, is somewhat similar to the OBMI’s “provisional” licensure category that is set to expire on December 31, 2013. Under the PPL regulations, the Board will be able to require confirmation of an applicant’s clinical supervision while practicing under the post-primary license, as well as the applicant’s eligibility for a post-primary registry credential. An OBMI-issued PPL will be valid for six months, with one six-month renewal allowed, for a maximum of 12 months. There is a \$30 license fee for each six month PPL. Applicants will be required to show completion of 16 category “A” content-related credit hours prior to applying. As part of the application process, the supervising institution must provide an educational plan for the applicant, including an outline of the training to be provided to the PPL applicant. During the initial six months of a PPL, direct (in-the-room) supervision will be required. A PPL may be extended beyond the 12-month maximum upon demonstrating that the credentialing registry’s clinical requirements cannot be completed within 12 months, due to limitations of the clinical practice site.

## **LIMITED PERMIT HOLDERS CANNOT OPERATE COMPUTED TOMOGRAPHY (CT)**

In the course of conducting inspections of health facilities, Radiation Protection Services (RPS) inspectors have recently come across computed tomography (CT) dexta scanners. Accordingly, RPS asked if the Board would rule on whether limited bone densitometry permit holders could operate these CT devices. Board discussion noted that, even though these devices emit a substantially lower dosage than conventional CT machines, the dosage is still significantly higher than conventional X-ray. In response to RPS’ inquiry, the Board stood by its current administrative rules (OAR 337-010-0011) which state that only fully-licensed technologists with appropriate CT training are authorized to operate CT equipment for diagnosis. In this regard, limited permit holders are not authorized to operate any type of CT equipment.

## **NATIONAL CREDENTIAL REQUIRED BEGINNING IN 2014**

Beginning January 1, 2014, to have an initial license issued or an existing license renewed, you will need to have a valid credential from a Board-recognized national credentialing organization<sup>1</sup>. This requirement does not apply to limited X-ray machine operators, grandfathered or state-sponsored radiographers, and persons who were initially licensed through reciprocity with another state.

**CONTACT US:** Main number is 971-673-0215 or email to [OBMI.Info@state.or.us](mailto:OBMI.Info@state.or.us).

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### **QUESTIONS/COMMENTS:**

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<p><b>2014 Board Meeting Dates:</b></p>
<p>January 17, 2014 April 25, 2014 July 18, 2014 October 17, 2014</p>

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<sup>1</sup> Board-recognized credentialing registries: ARRT=American Registry of Radiologic Technologists; ARDMS=American Registry of Diagnostic Medical Sonographers; ARMRI=American Registry of Magnetic Resonance Imaging Technologists; CCI=Cardiac Credentialing International; NMTCB=Nuclear Medicine Technology Certification Board.