



Continuing Medical Education Credits (CMEs)

Many online courses from the Yale New Haven Center for Emergency Preparedness and Disaster Response (YNH-CEPDR) offer continuing medical education credits (CMEs).

What are Continuing Medical Education Credits (CMEs)?

According to the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (a national organization that sets the standards for the accreditation of all providers of Continuing Medical Education), CME is defined as “educational activities that serve to maintain, develop, or increase the knowledge, skills, and professional performance and relationships that a physician uses to provide services for patients, the public, or the profession.”

Why is CME important?

Licensed healthcare professionals are required to fulfill a mandated amount of education credits on an annual basis to maintain active licensure and certification to legally practice in their professional field.

Can CMEs be converted to Continuing Education Units (CEUs)?

Yes they can, if the program meets the licensing board’s regulations (244 CMR 5.04 (2)(b)) or if the content contributes directly to the professional competence of the licensed nurse. There is no automatic conversion of CME credits to nursing contact hours, nor does the licensing board possess a formula for converting CME to CEUs. However, general guidelines state that every 50 minutes of continuous learning in a CME program is equal to approximately 1 contact hour of continuing education for nursing license renewal.

Who is the accrediting agency for YNH-CEPDR courses?

The Center for Continuing Medical Education, through Yale University Medical School, is an approved Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education provider of CME credits and YNH-CEPDR is registered through this provider to provide CME for all of its online courses.

How do I obtain CME credit for YNH-CEPDR courses?

Once you have successfully completed a YNH-CEPDR online course, you will see a prompt that asks if you wish to apply for CME credits. Select yes and you will be directed to the Yale University CME portal to register. Additionally users can log into their transcript of previously completed courses and apply for CME credits.

What is the cost?

There is a one-time \$15 charge per course paid directly to Yale University CME office. Payments are processed electronically through PayPal™ which accepts either VISA or MasterCard.

For a list of online courses eligible for CMEs, go to <http://ynhhs.emergencyeducation.org>.