

CHILD ABUSE

[County Children and Youth Agencies](#)

To locate resources for your county, click the link above. Choose "County Children and Youth Agencies" near the bottom of the Service Code drop-down menu and enter your county in the appropriate field.

Pertinent Laws and Regulations

[Pennsylvania Child Protective Services Law](#)

[Child Abuse Recognition and Reporting Act \(126 of 2012\)](#)

This Act requires schools to provide training to all employees who have direct contact with children. This training shall consist of a minimum of 3 hours every 5 years. Professional employees requiring continuing education shall receive credit hours toward this requirement. Providers are approved by the Departments of Education and Human Service.

[Department of Education, Office of Safe Schools, Act 126](#) Approved courses and additional resources regarding changes to the Child Protective Services Law.

[Child Abuse Education and Training \(Act 31 of 2014\)](#) All professional licensees identified as mandated reporters are required to have completed child abuse recognition training. Three hours are required for initial licensing and two hours for each licensure cycle (every two years). Licensees may be exempt from this requirement if they meet the following criteria:

1. Submit documentation that this training has been completed
 2. Training was required under the Public School Code and was approved by the Departments of Education and Human Services
 3. Amount of training received equals or exceeds amount required by this law
- School nurses and school dental hygienists meeting all 3 criteria may submit documentation of training and an exemption form to the Boards of Nursing and Dentistry, respectively.

Licensure Renewals:

There are two options for licensure renewal:

1. Complete the free on-line training from the University of Pittsburgh (as recommended by the Department of State). This training can be found [here](#). Proof of completion is automatically submitted to the Department of State.
2. *Complete the request for exemption form. Under "Reason for Requesting Exemption", choose the first option, that training was completed as required by the Public School Code of 1949. Return the exemption form and documentation of proof of the training to the Department of State address or fax number at the top of the form. ([Current list of PDE and HHS approved courses](#))

NEW- March 16, 2016. Clarification from the Board of Nursing (BON) on licensure renewal and child abuse training:

1. The training must have taken place within the 2 year licensure period.

2. The training must be on either the PDE or BON list of approved courses.
3. The certificate must be from the approved provider, not the school district.

*Approval of exemption requests is at the discretion of the Department of State. Any questions regarding this process should be directed to 717-787-8503.

Department of State, Board of Nursing

[Exemption Form](#)

[Approved Courses](#)

Updated June 17, 2016