

INSURANCE COUNCIL OF BRITISH COLUMBIA
(“Council”)

CONTINUING EDUCATION REQUIREMENT FOR NEW LICENSEES
INTRODUCTION OF A COUNCIL RULES COURSE

Effective March 1, 2016, Council is amending its continuing education (“CE”) requirements for all new licensees.

In accordance with Council Rule 7(5), Council can establish, and from time to time amend, its CE program for licensees. Council’s CE program applies to all categories of licence (general insurance; life and accident and sickness insurance; accident and sickness insurance; and insurance adjusters), and requires that all licensees complete a minimum amount of CE during each licence period.

Council’s CE program includes specific definitions as to what qualifies for CE. It is the responsibility of every licensee to be familiar with and in compliance with their CE requirements. For more details on Council’s CE program, please visit Council’s website: insurancecouncilofbc.com, and click on *Continuing Education*.

The change to Council’s CE program relates only to individuals who obtain an insurance licence on or after March 1, 2016, and involves the introduction of a mandatory course on the regulatory responsibilities of insurance licensees in British Columbia.

The new mandatory course (the “Council Rules Course”) provides instruction on a licensee’s responsibilities under Council Rules; provincial legislation; and other regulatory responsibilities. Council has developed the Council Rules Course after finding that licensees are failing to make themselves aware of their regulatory responsibilities.

The Council Rules Course is only mandatory for individuals who obtain an insurance licence on or after March 1, 2016. However, Council recommends that existing licensees consider taking the Council Rules Course, which qualifies for CE credit.

New licensees must complete the Council Rules Course during their first licence period. Failure to do so will mean a licensee has failed to comply with his or her CE requirements, and, therefore, will be ineligible to make their first annual filing.

The Council Rules Course has been developed in partnership with the Insurance Brokers Association of British Columbia (“IBABC”), which will provide a Council Rules Course tailored for general insurance agents and salespersons and insurance adjusters; and with Advocis (The Financial Advisors Association of Canada), which will provide a Council Rules Course tailored for life and accident and sickness insurance agents and accident and sickness insurance agents.

NOTICE

Details regarding how to enroll in and complete the Council Rules Course are available online at:

Provider	Licence Type	Website
Advocis	Life and Accident and Sickness and Accident and Sickness	advocis.ca/ALC/licensing-ICBC.aspx
IBABC	General Insurance and Insurance Adjusters	advance.captus.com/ib/ibabc/default.aspx

Complete contact details for the above course providers are available on Council's website at insurancecouncilofbc.com, click on *Handy Links and Contacts*, and then select the class of licence.

The Council Rules Course is only available as an online course, and qualifies for four (4) CE credits.

Council selected March 1, 2016 to implement this change as individuals who obtain an insurance licence in March, April, or May are not required to demonstrate that they have completed their first year's CE requirements until May 31st of the following year. (As an example: an individual who is issued a new licence on March 15, 2016 has until May 31, 2017 to complete both their 2016 and 2017 CE requirements.)

Council believes the Council Rules Course will help new licensees to better understand their regulatory responsibilities, and will reduce the number of infractions that Council must investigate each year due to non-compliance.

If you have any questions about CE requirements, the new Council Rules Course, or this Notice, please contact Regulatory Services by emailing info@insurancecouncilofbc.com or calling Council's main number and at the prompt press "2".

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