

## **Continuing Education Rules Effective October 1, 2009**

### **Background**

Certified appointed assessors, certified sole elected assessors and certified county directors must successfully complete an average of 24 continuing education credits each year. Continuing education credit means the number of contact hours awarded for attendance at approved conference, courses and seminars.

Prior to October 1, 2009, assessors and county directors could “bank” three years worth of continuing education credit for future use in satisfying their annual requirement of 24 credit hours. They were also able to receive reimbursement for attending an approved conference even if they received no continuing education credit at that conference.

Given the current budgetary situation, a change in this process was necessary. Under the rules effective October 1, 2009, assessors and directors are limited in the “banking” of continuing education credit to twenty-four credit hours, i.e., one year’s worth of credits.

For example, if an assessor or county director has satisfied his or her continuing education requirement for the 2010/2011 and 2011/2012 continuing education year, he or she is at the maximum allowed and will not be eligible for continuing education credit and reimbursement for training taken until October 1, 2011. This individual is not eligible for CE credit or reimbursement in the 2010/2011 continuing education year.

### **Continuing Education Rule Amendments**

Sections 188-2.8 and 188-4.8 of 9 NYCRR 188 (Rules for Real Property Tax Administration) have been amended for training taken on and after October 1, 2009. If an assessor or county director completes more than 24 credits in any given year, as many as 24 of the excess credits may be applied to the requirement for the following year. In the past, 72 credits were allowed to be applied to future requirements.

In addition, the awarding of continuing education credit and reimbursement for one assessor or county director conference each fiscal year has been repealed. As of October 1, 2009, assessors and county directors must have continuing education credit available to use, in order to receive credit and reimbursement for an approved conference.

It is important to note that officials will not be losing any continuing education credits that have been awarded to satisfy prior and future requirements.

If you have a question regarding your eligibility for a particular class, please contact Educational Services at [edservices@tax.ny.gov](mailto:edservices@tax.ny.gov) or call (518) 474-1764 before you enroll.