

## POSITION PAPER ON CPD

### A. COMMENTS ON THE SENATE BILLS 1817 and 1853

PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO CPD LAW	CPD COUNCILS
<p>(SB No. 1817) Section 10. CPD as Mandatory Requirement in the Renewal of Professional License and Accreditation System for the Practice of the Professions. – The CPD is hereby made as the mandatory requirement in the renewal of the PICs of all registered and licensed professionals under the regulation of the PRC; Provided, that: Registered and Licensed Professionals are exempted from compliance within the first five years after first obtaining their licenses; Provided, further, that: Failure to comply with CPD shall only be basis to the compliance period provided in this Act.</p> <p>Section 13-A.- In no case shall professionals be required to obtain CPD Credit units more often than once every five years, which shall be deemed one compliance period.</p> <p>(SB 1853) Section 10. <i>CPD as Mandatory Requirement in the Renewal of Professional License and Accreditation System for the Practice of Professions.</i> – The CPD is hereby made as a mandatory requirement in the renewal of the PICs of all registered and licensed professionals under the regulation of the PRC.</p> <p>HOWEVER, NO MORE THAT THIRTY SIX (36) CREDIT UNITS PER PROFESSION MAY BE REQUIRED EVERY THREE YEAR COMPLIANCE PERIOD.</p>	<p>The PRC supports the proposal to exempt professionals from CPD compliance at the first renewal after obtaining their license. However, the CPD Councils unanimously proposed to maintain the three (3) year cycle of PIC renewal. Some PRLs provide a 3-year renewal cycle.</p> <p>The PRC proposes that professionals are required to comply with the CPD credit units within the compliance period of three (3) years, considering there are different modes of obtaining credit units such as formal, informal, non-formal, self-directed, online and professional work experience.</p>
<p>(SB No. 1817) Section 13-B. – In no case shall professionals be required to obtain more than thirty six (36) CPD credit units within each five-year compliance period.</p>	<p>The PRC is proposing that the required CPD Credit Units per profession be left to the discretion of the respective PRBs and CPD Councils because of their peculiar concerns<sup>1</sup>. Some PRLs have specified CPD as a requirement for the renewal of PIC.</p>

<sup>1</sup> The PRB of Accountancy manifested that as part of their Mutual Recognition Arrangement with the ten (10) member states of ASEAN and a member of International Federation of Accountants (IFAC), the CPD credit units required for their compliance period of three (3) years is 120 units. On the other hand the PRB of Master Plumber is requiring 30 CPD credit units in a compliance period of three (3) years.

## UPDATES ON CPD IMPLEMENTATION

**On Conflict of Interest.** The Commission issued Resolution No. 1106, Series of 2018 entitled Clarification of Section 7.5 of Resolution No. 1032, Series of 2017 or the “Implementing Rules and Regulations of Republic Act No. 10912, otherwise known as the “Continuing Professional Development Act of 2016” to Avoid Conflict of Interest.

It is clarified in the said Resolution that conflict of interest in the chairperson and members of the CPD Council arises when he/she directly or indirectly has any financial, material or pecuniary interest with the CPD provider as either the owner, officer, or a holder of any position therein, in whatever capacity or is related within the fourth (4<sup>th</sup>) civil degree of consanguinity or affinity to any of the foregoing. Hence, he/she shall be disqualified to sit as member in the council.

However, affiliation of the CPD Council members with APO/AIPO and with academic institutions is not a disqualification. But they will be required to inhibit in the evaluation of the applications for CPD Providers/Programs when the subject thereof is the application for accreditation of APO/AIPO or academic institution as CPD Provider and of CPD programs where they are affiliated.

**On Quality Assurance.** CPD Councils carefully evaluate the instructional design that includes learning outcomes, content and assessment tools. Further, CPD provider is required to submit a Completion Report that includes a post-evaluation of learning. Furthermore, the CPD Monitor submits a report on the conduct of the program.

CPDC now requires that programs should incorporate an evaluation component.

**On Credit Units.** The CPD Councils are currently using the Matrix as prescribed in the IRR. A Committee was formed to standardize the assignment of credit units. The deadline to submit the report is on September 30, 2018.

**On Fees.** A Committee on the Review of the Providers' Seminar/Registration Fees was created to control (to keep from exceeding an affordable degree or level of charges) and standardize the registration fees. The deadline to submit the report is on September 30, 2018.

**On Self-Directed Learning.** The PRC is now in the process of developing a uniform mechanism for recognition, validation, accreditation and assigning credit units through evidences submitted for self-directed learning, informal learning, online learning and professional work experience.<sup>2</sup>

**On Proposed Classification with Reference to CPD Compliance.** Reclassify issuance of PICs for professionals under **ACTIVE** and **INACTIVE** in relation to the practice of profession.

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<sup>2</sup>Informal learning refers to the learning that occurs in a daily life assessed, through the recognition, validation and accreditation process, and which can contribute to a qualification. Online learning activities refer to structured or unstructured learning initiatives, which make use of the internet and other web-based Information and Communications Technology solutions. Professional Work Experience refers to any participation that a professional gains while working in a specific field.

**ACTIVE** professionals are those practicing their respective professions pursuant to the scope of practice as defined in their respective Professional Regulatory Law and thus comply with the CPD requirement before renewal of PIC.

**INACTIVE** professionals no longer in practice of the profession and may not be required to comply with CPD requirement since they do not pose a risk to clients or patients (health professions). However, they will still be subject to other rules like the Code of ethics, unethical/dishonorable conduct/immorality etc. (e.g. Retirees and the like)

**B. Maximum flexibility will be extended to the end of 2019 to provide PRC the time to develop these sources of credit units and to conduct capacity-building for PRBs, CPD Council members and alternates, Evaluators, Monitors, APOs, CPD providers, and stakeholders. Continue the capacity building activities being conducted by PRC nationwide. All these may require one to two years to fully accomplish the desired outcomes.**

**C. PRC has fully developed the 1st phase of electronic submission of providers. 2nd phase will include submission of participants of programs.**

**D. OTHER COMMITTEES FORMED** – The following committees are required to submit reports on September 30, 2018:

- Committee on Self-Directed Learning Creditable Activities
- Committee on the Review of CPD Providers' Seminar/Registration Fees
- Committee on Online Activities and other Internet-Based Platforms.

**E. PROFESSIONALS BENEFITTED UNDER THE CPD PROGRAM**

Indicator	2016	2017	TOTAL January to July 2018	2018		
				1 <sup>ST</sup> QUARTER	2 <sup>ND</sup> QUARTER	July
No. of CPD Providers Accredited	218	758	467	219	203	45
No. of CPD programs accredited	3,739	7,881	9,426	3,206	4,173	2,047
No. of professionals benefited	143,650	503,524	435,219	144,590	196,651	93,978

**F. FUNDING** – PRC's request for CPD implementation funding has not been approved despite numerous request.

- Funding is needed for the operational expenses and honoraria/per diem for CPD Council members, evaluators / monitors, etc.

- That the proposed Thirty Million One Hundred Fifty Six Thousand Four Hundred pesos (₱30,156,400.00) funding for CPD that was not included in the National Expenditure Program (NEP) be reverted back for necessary and urgent needs such as the creation of the CPD Secretariat provided for under the CPD law as well as to provide technical, administrative and operational support to the CPD Councils, and for the full computerization of the CPD program.

Submitted by:

**Professional Regulation Commission**  
September 3, 2018