License Expiration Date Extension for Licensees with a 3/9/3030 through 4/1/2021 Renewal Date

On November 23, 2020, Governor DeWine signed into law HB 404. The legislation applies to “any license, permit, certificate, commission, charter, registration, card, or other similar authority that is issued or conferred by a state agency, a political subdivision of this state, or an official of a political subdivision of this state”. The legislation stipulates that no license or registration with an expiration date between **March 9, 2020** and **April 1, 2021** can be considered expired prior to **July 1, 2021**.

On December 2 the license expiration date will be extended for all licensees with a renewal date falling between 3/9/3030-4/1/2021 until July 1, 2021. *The extended renewal date is not permanent.* Whether you renew now or later your next license renewal date will not change. For example, if your license is due to expire on January 1, 2021, your next renewal date will be on January 1, 2023, regardless of when you renew during this extension period.

Licensees should plan to renew their license as soon as possible, as maintenance of your license is an important professional responsibility. There are some benefits to renewing now:

1. There is no risk of forgetting to do so later resulting in an expired license and having to pay an additional late renewal fee;
2. By renewing now, licensees can be sure the Board will be able to assist them with any renewal questions and review of post-program approval continuing education requests in a timely manner; and
3. Renewing now will also ensure you are not unduly reducing the time between your renewals which can make it seem like you are renewing earlier than you expect.

Remember, you can complete all CE courses online. This applies to all license types. Once a licensee renews, their renewal date will return to its original date. In two years, renewal notices will then be sent starting 90 days before the license is due to be renewed.

To renew, you must submit your completed continuing education (CE) to CE Broker (Note: many CE providers upload your attendance information to CE Broker).  You can access your CE Broker account at <https://cebroker.com/oh/account/basic/> .  Once completed CEs have been submitted,  log into your eLicense account at [https://elicense.ohio.gov/oh\_communitieslogin](http://list.em.ohio.gov/t/927934/42621420/5598/3/).  Select “Renew” under options to complete a renewal application. More information can be found at [https://cswmft.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/cswmft/license-renewal/renewal-resources](http://list.em.ohio.gov/t/927934/42621420/6333/5/).

You can find eLicense support information at [https://elicense.ohio.gov/OH\_SupportPage](http://list.em.ohio.gov/t/927934/42621420/6334/6/).

Information for Trainees

While the expiration date for Trainee registrations has been extended, Trainees should not wait to complete the process for applying for an LPC, LSW, or MFT. Starting the licensure process now will help you secure a seat to take the appropriate exam. Also, completing the licensure process now will help you find permanent, full-time employment.

Please note the same rules and requirements apply to the extended Trainee registration as applied during the initial registration.  The extended trainee status is not a temporary license and cannot be treated as such. The Trainee status is awarded based on an approved internship site. If the Trainee can continue at that internship site, they should do so. If it is no longer possible for the Trainee to continue at their current internship site, they may identify a new internship site and submit that information to the Board by email to the License Examiner with whom they have been working. Confirmation from the site or program is not required.

If you have questions regarding your Trainee registration, you can find more details by following the links below.

Counselor Trainee - [https://cswmft.ohio.gov/Counselors/Counselor-Trainee](http://list.em.ohio.gov/t/876996/24250344/5838/3/)

MFT Trainee - [https://cswmft.ohio.gov/MFTs/MFT-Trainee](http://list.em.ohio.gov/t/876996/24250344/5839/5/)

Social Worker Trainee - [https://cswmft.ohio.gov/Social-Workers/Social-Work-Trainee](http://list.em.ohio.gov/t/876996/24250344/5840/6/)