



Maintaining Texas State Board of Pharmacy Licensure with Employer-Driven Continuing Education

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Introduction

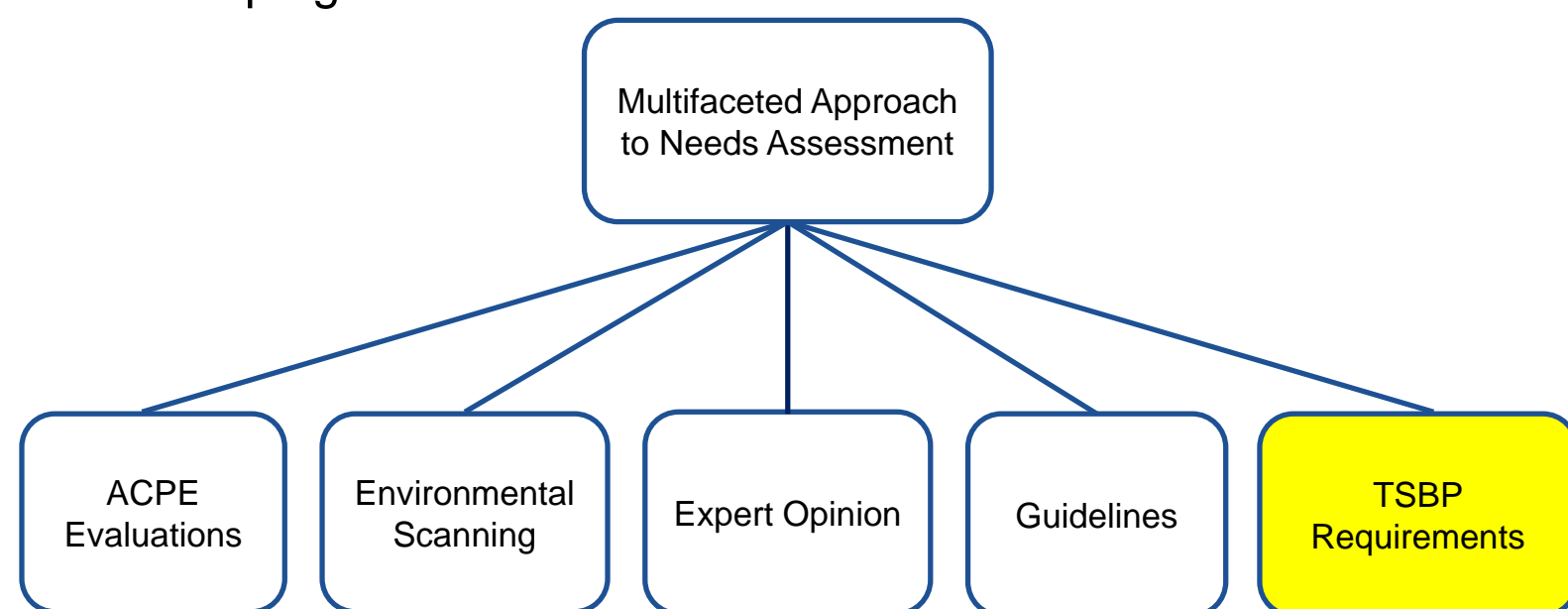
A key performance indicator (KPI) of the Pharmacy Continuing Education Program is the percent of educational activities that meet specific Texas re-licensure requirements. The purpose of this KPI is to measure the program's ability to meet the needs of pharmacy staff.

The Texas State Board of Pharmacy (TSBP) requires all pharmacists to complete at least 30 hours of continuing education (CE) for license renewal every 2 years.

All pharmacists must complete CE regarding Texas-specific pharmacy laws. Further, pharmacists that have certain job responsibilities (i.e., drug therapy management, preceptorship, sterile products preparation) are also required to complete education related to those topics. At times, the TSBP and/or the Texas legislature also requires CE on specific topics based on population healthcare needs.

Educational Activity Development

Every two years, a needs assessment is developed, distributed, and analyzed to prioritize the educational needs of pharmacists. Review of the TSBP subject requirements for license renewal is one part of a multifaceted approach to developing the needs assessment.



ACPE: Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education

In 2019, CE requirements for pain management, and prescribing and monitoring controlled substances were mandated by the 86th Texas Legislature, Regular Session, House Bill 2174. Then, in May 2020, the TSBP announced a requirement for CE on mental health awareness.

Specific Topics Required by TSBP and/or Texas Legislature	Previous CE Requirements	Current CE Requirements (added in 2019 and 2020)
Any subject including any special certification CE requirements, if applicable (e.g., sterile compounding, preceptorship, etc.)	29 hours	24 hours
Texas-specific pharmacy laws and/or rules	1 hour	1 hour
Pain management		2 hours (1 hour annually)
Prescribing and monitoring controlled substances		2 hours
Mental Health		1 hour
Total Hours Required	30 hours	30 hours

Methods

A needs assessment was conducted in 2020. Educational activities eligible for CE credit from January 1, 2019, through December 31, 2021, were analyzed to measure the effect of the change in CE requirements on the ability of the Pharmacy Continuing Education Program to meet the needs of the pharmacists. Activities were categorized according to whether they met a specific TSBP requirement for all pharmacists or for pharmacists based on job duties (Tables 1 and 2). Participants were only able to claim CE credit for either the live or home-study (home) activity with the same title.

Activity Topic	2019			2020			2021		
	Home	Live	Both	Home	Live	Both	Home	Live	Both
Mental Health					1		1		
Pain management								1	
Prescribing and monitoring controlled substances		1		2	1		2		
Texas pharmacy law or rules				1			1	1	
Total		1			5			6	

Both: activity includes live and home-study component

Activity Topic	2019			2020			2021		
	Home	Live	Both	Home	Live	Both	Home	Live	Both
Drug therapy management	1	13		5	6		2	5	
Sterile products preparation	4			2		1	2		
Preceptorship	1								
Total		19			14			9	

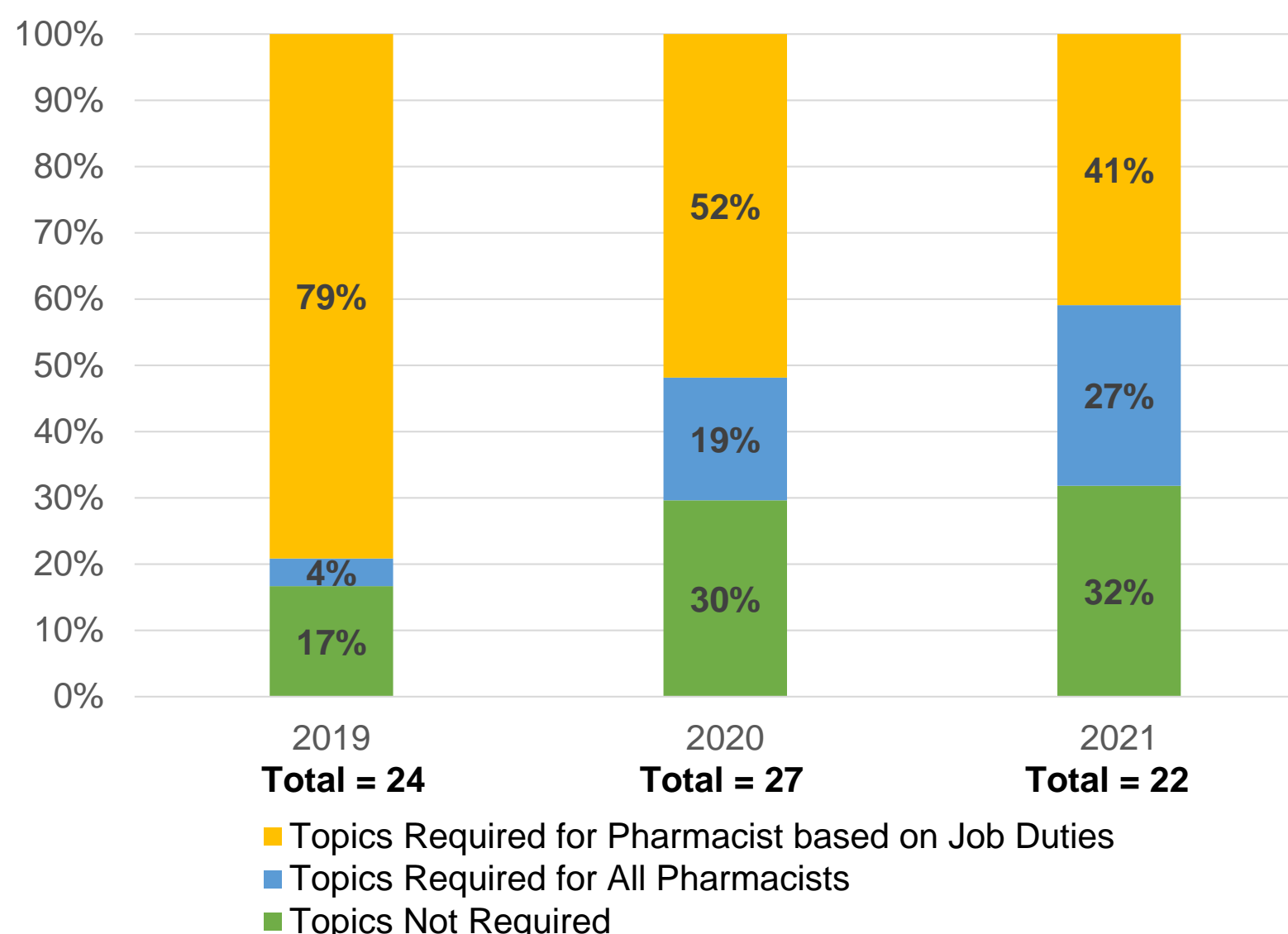
Both: activity includes live and home-study component

Results

The total number of annual CE activities remained consistent over the three-year period (Figure 1). The topics selected for development changed based on the requirements mandated by the Texas Legislature and the TSBP. In 2019, 19 of 24 activities (79%) focused on topics required for pharmacists based on job duties while only one activity (4%) was developed on a topic required for all pharmacists. By 2021, the number of activities developed that met a specific TSBP requirement for all pharmacists increased to 6 (27%).

Furthermore, the overall number of home study activities increased in 2020 (52%) and 2021 (41%) compared to 2019 (33%).

Figure 1. Percent of Pharmacist CE Activities Developed per Year



Conclusions

The Pharmacy Continuing Education Program was able to provide at least one hour of CE that met each TSBP subject requirement for all pharmacists over the three-year period reviewed.

Without using additional resources, the team was able to remain current with the CE requirement changes and meet the pharmacists' needs despite limitations (i.e., COVID-19, staffing, etc.).

Home study activities were developed in order to increase availability of CE that met TSBP subject requirements for staff that could not attend the live activities.

Pharmacists benefited by completing TSBP specific CE requirements free of charge through their employer.

Development of future educational activities will continue to consider TSBP CE requirements.

References

- Continuing Education – Pharmacists [Internet]. Austin (TX): The Texas State Board of Pharmacy; c2014 [cited 2022 Mar 13]. Available from: <https://www.pharmacy.texas.gov/licensees/ce-pharmacist-faq.asp>