

## 2022-2023 CLE Reporting Year

The Distance Learning Cap is **NOT** Waived

### Annual Maximum Number of Online and Telephone CLE Credits

The South Carolina Supreme Court's Order 2021-03-31-01 dated March 31, 2021, waiving the distance learning cap for the previous 2021-2022 CLE reporting year has expired. Similarly, the Court's Order 2021-05-05-01 waiving the requirement that newly admitted attorneys who must attend one of the Bar's Essentials Series seminars may fulfill that requirement online has also expired.

In light of the expiration of the Supreme Court's Order, CLE credit earned through distance learning (online, or telephone courses), **shall not exceed eight (8) hour of credit for the current 2022-2023 CLE reporting (March 1, 2022 – February 28, 2023)**. Credit earned from "alternatively delivered" distance learning courses in excess of eight (8) hours is not carried forward.

### Essentials Series CLE Requirement

Regarding the Essentials Series requirement, newly admitted attorneys who are required to attend one of the SC Bar's Essentials Series seminars, **must attend the seminar in-person unless they live and practice outside of South Carolina (see Rule 408, SCACR, below)**.

### Which CLE Courses are Considered "Alternatively Delivered"

Essentially, the difference between "live" and "alternatively delivered" programming for SC CLE purposes is that **live courses are attended in-person, in a group setting, in a location**

administered by the CLE sponsor. Video replays of live courses and satellite broadcasts, such as the SC Bar-CLE Division's broadcasts to remote site locations around the state, are considered "live" courses. These courses are held in group classroom-like settings.

Alternatively delivered programming is delivered via the Internet or via the telephone to individuals in a solo setting. You can attend alternatively delivered programming in your office, home, or anywhere you have access to the Internet or telephone. Alternatively delivered programming includes the following types of courses delivered over the Internet: 1) online and on-demand courses; 2) live webcasts (live seminars delivered online) and webinars. Please be aware that

*Webcasts of live seminars, which are received over the Internet, are considered to be alternatively delivered courses, the same as other online and on-demand courses.*

Alternatively delivered programming also includes individual live and replay teleseminars and teleconferences that are delivered via the telephone.

#### Listing of Accredited Alternatively Delivered and Live CLE Courses

A current list of accredited live courses can be found on the Commission's website at [https://www.commcle.org/avail\\_course10.asp](https://www.commcle.org/avail_course10.asp).

The Commission designates pre-approved "alternatively delivered," courses with an ADO or ADT suffix after the SC CLE course number.

Online and on-demand courses can be accredited for a maximum of eight (8) hours per course. Telephone courses, including teleseminars and teleconferences, are also defined as alternatively delivered programming, and can be accredited for a maximum of 90 minutes.

### **Rule 408, SCACR (Essentials Series Requirement)**

**(3) Continuing Legal Education Requirements for the First Reporting Year after Admission.** Newly admitted members are exempt from CLE requirements during the reporting year in which they are admitted to the South Carolina Bar. The first required reporting year for newly admitted members begins on March 1 after the date of admission. Before the end of the first required reporting year, newly admitted members admitted pursuant to Rule 402, SCACR, unless exempt as set forth below, must complete an Essentials Series course administered by the South Carolina Bar, in addition to satisfying the CLE requirements in (a)(2) above. Hours earned by attendance at an Essentials Series course will be applied to the member's first required reporting year. **Members who live and practice outside of South Carolina may take an Essentials Series course online.** The following newly admitted members shall be exempt from completing an Essentials Series course:

- (A)** members called to active military duty and who elect to become Military Members under 410(h)(1)(E), SCACR;
- (B)** inactive members who remain inactive through the end of the first required reporting year;
- (C)** members who have been admitted to practice law in another jurisdiction for at least two (2) years prior to admission in South Carolina;
- (D)** members who took the South Carolina Bar's Bridge the Gap Program prior to March 2013.