



Commission on Minimum Continuing Legal Education (MCLE)

State of Connecticut Judicial Branch

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Opinion 6

Whether Providing Legal Training to Employees as Part of a Job Responsibility Qualifies as Minimum Continuing Legal Education (MCLE)

The Commission on Minimum Continuing Legal Education (Commission) received a request from an attorney employed by a Connecticut state agency. Among the attorney's job responsibilities is the requirement to provide legal training to non-attorneys. The attorney seeks an opinion about whether this training qualifies for MCLE credit. The opinion of the Commission is that the activity does not qualify for MCLE credit.

To receive credit for complying with Practice Book §2-27A, attorneys must satisfy the delivery and content requirements of the rule. The Commission concludes that a job requirement that requires an attorney to provide legal training to employees does not satisfy the delivery requirement of the rule. The delivery requirement allows in-person attendance at "legal education courses" offered by certain providers (§2-27A(b)(1)); self-study of "appropriate programs or courses . . . prepared by those continuing legal education providers in subsection (b)(1)" (§2-27A(b)(2)); by publishing legal articles (§2-27A(b)(3)); by "teaching legal seminars and courses" (§2-27A(b)(4)); and by serving as a full-time, part-time, or adjunct faculty member at a law school accredited by the American Bar Association (§2-27A(b)(4)-(6)). While facially it

could be argued that providing legal training to employees would be the equivalent of “teaching legal seminars and courses” in accordance with §2-27A(b)(4), the Commission concludes that because this activity is required by the attorney’s job responsibilities and is not performed in addition to them, it does not qualify for MCLE credit.¹

Accordingly, because providing legal training to employees as part of an attorney’s job responsibility does not qualify as MCLE, no amount of time to complete that activity can be counted towards MCLE compliance.



Michael P. Bowler
Counsel to the Commission

¹ The attorney asked four follow up questions assuming the Commission concluded that the activity qualified for MCLE credit. Because the Commission concluded that the activity does not qualify for MCLE credit, it did not address the additional questions.