

Breathing Matters

RESPIRATORY CARE BOARD OF CALIFORNIA

FEBRUARY 2024

Taking Care of Business Online Really Is a BREEZE!

In today's fast-paced world, the ability to take care of business online is not only expected, but also preferred—and that includes applying for and maintaining licenses. In recent years, an average of 75% of licensees have utilized the BREEZE system to renew their licenses online, and nearly half of the initial applications received from California's respiratory care program graduates are now filed electronically. As those who have opted to utilize the online features know, there are many benefits to applying or renewing online, such as:

- **Benefits to *renewing* online.** Real-time updates mean your license expiration date will update immediately upon submission. Other benefits include prevention of renewal deficiencies, as mandated fields must be completed before the renewal submission; ability to attach supporting documents; ability to update address of record as part of the renewal process; online payment functionality; and system availability 24/7.
- **Benefits to *applying* online.** Benefits include prevention of application form deficiencies, as all mandated fields are required to be completed before the application can be submitted; ability to attach supporting documents; ability to view and monitor outstanding application requirements, including viewing updates when outstanding items have been fulfilled (this functionality is not available to applicants who submit traditional paper applications); online notification when the application has been approved; online payment functionality; and system availability 24/7.

In addition to applying for or renewing a license, the BREEZE system offers much more functionality right at your fingertips! You can use BREEZE to:

- Subscribe to license status changes (this feature is a great tool for employers to stay apprised of any changes to the license statuses of their employees).
- Submit a request to change a license status to/from active to inactive.

- Submit a request to retire a license.
- Submit a name and/or address change (this includes email address updates).
- Attach documents to your application or licensing record (i.e., ethics or other continuing education certificates, or other completed forms requested by the Board).
- Request a verification of licensure.
- Pay outstanding costs.
- File a complaint.

Next time you need to manage your license, consider giving the BREEZE system a try: www.breeze.ca.gov.



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INTERESTING FACTS ABOUT CALIFORNIA'S RESPIRATORY CARE PRACTITIONERS

- The most common age of California's active licensed respiratory care practitioners (RCP) is **44**.
- The youngest licensed RCP was born in **2004**.
- The oldest RCP with an active license was born in **1932**.
- Of the 9,862 licenses who were issued in 1985, the first year of licensure (certification back then), **904** remain in some type of active status.

NEXT BOARD MEETING

The next meeting is March 28, 2024 in Sacramento. Please visit the Board's website for [meeting details](#) that will be posted by March 18.

As of January 1, 2024, licensees may earn continuing education (CE) credit for attending Respiratory Care Board meetings. This credit may be applied toward the "not directly related to clinical practice" CE category and if applicable the "live" course requirement. See the agenda materials once posted for more information.

NEW CONTINUING EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS

Effective January 1, 2024, all RCPs in California who wish to maintain an active license are required to **meet new CE requirements** and begin completing 30 hours of CE for license renewal as follows:

- A minimum of 15 hours must be directly related to the Clinical Practice of respiratory care.
- A minimum of 10 hours must be directly related to RCP Leadership.

- The remaining five CE hours may be earned through courses that meet the criteria above or courses that are **indirectly related to the clinical practice of respiratory care** including attendance at meetings provided by the Respiratory Care Board, California Society for Respiratory Care (CSRC), or American Association for Respiratory Care (AARC) as designated by and at each provider's discretion.

In addition, a minimum of 15 of the total 30 required CE hours must be earned from **live courses or meetings** which include in-person **and** online platforms where licensees can directly interact with the instructor in real time during the instructional period. Please review the [Implementation Schedule and Information](#) to see how and when the new CE requirements will affect your license renewal.



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Respiratory Care Board of California

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PDE_24-045

