

24 Hours of Required Professional Development Frequently Asked Questions and Answers

The 2009-2010 Collective Bargaining Agreement for Certificated Non- Supervisory staff now has a requirement for 24 hours of professional development. Below are some frequently asked questions and answers. The specific contract language can be found in Article II, Section C. at www.seattlewea.org. The Professional Development Catalog can be found at <https://inside.seattleschools.org/area/pdtraining/index.xml>.

Q – Do the 24 hours apply to paraprofessionals and SAEOP members?

A – No, they are only required for certificated non-supervisory staff, classroom teachers, nurses, SLP and etc.

Q – If I have taken classes on the required list, either through the District or a college/university, do they count towards fulfilling the requirement for a specific class?

A – YES, you can show clock hours or transcripts to your principal to show you have met the requirement. The classes would have to be those that are listed. Any classes taken outside of the school district would need to clearly align with the concepts, skills, and strategies taught within district courses. (i.e. You took Writer’s Workshop at a university during the summer and it happens to be one of the required courses listed for you.)

Q – Are there any other ways to show I fulfilled the requirement for required classes?

A – YES, you can demonstrate the skill learned in a required class during an observation, or your principal can accept your word that you have taken the class.

Q – I just finished my Pro Cert or my 150 credits to renew my State teaching certificate, does that fulfill the requirement for 24 hours of Professional Development?

A – NO, State teaching certification and the District Professional Development requirement are not connected. Each year, you are required to take 24 hours of professional development off the required list until you have completed all required courses. (Those offered for clock hours or credit can be used towards your certification requirements.)

Q – Can the classes I took in August 2009 qualify as part of my 24 hours if they are on the “required” list?

A – Yes, the calendar year for the required hours is from September 1 to August 31. The District will allow classes taken during August, however, to count towards this year’s required courses since most courses in August are taken to prepare for the school year.

Q - Do I get paid the required rate for all PD that is listed as “required” in the PD catalog?

A – YES, if you take the PD during the summer or after school; but if you take it during the school day and have a guest teacher, you will not receive additional pay for the time unless it goes beyond the contract day. You can be paid for up to 42 hours of required PD each year. Beyond that limit, you would either need your supervisors approval that she/he supports an excess of that amount, or you will receive the voluntary PD rate (again with supervisor approval that it's appropriate for your position).

Q - Do PD waiver workdays count towards 24 hours of PD if on the “required” list?

A – YES, but there will not be any pay because you are already being paid for that work day.

Q - If there is no PD required for my job, do I have to take anything?

A - If your group/assignment/program does not have any required PD then you are exempt from the requirement this year.

Q – Can I take “required” classes related to my assignment if there are no required classes for my group/assignment/program?

A - YES, you can take “required” classes if it enhances your work in your assignment. You will be paid at the required rate of pay.

Q – What is the rate of pay for required classes; for voluntary recommended classes?

A - \$36.05 for required and \$16.71 for voluntary