

biennial fee as required in § 41 of this article upon request but without further action on the part of the agent or broker. Upon payment of the prescribed fees prior to the date of renewal, the certificate shall continue in force until renewed by the Commissioner or until such time as the Commissioner has refused for cause to renew that certificate.

(2) As a condition of a certificate renewal, the Commissioner shall require that an agent OR BROKER receive continuing education.

(i) The Commissioner may not require an agent OR BROKER to receive more than 16 clock hours of continuing education per license renewal regardless of the number of certificates the agent OR BROKER may have.

(ii) The continuing education shall promote the education level of agents AND BROKERS in lines or specialties appropriate to the certificate category.

(iii) If continuing education is required, the Commissioner may grant a waiver when:

1. The agent OR BROKER has a limited license;
2. The agent OR BROKER is a retiree; or
3. The Commissioner determines that other circumstances warrant the waiver.

(3) The Commissioner shall adopt such regulations as are necessary for the implementation of this subsection. The Commissioner may approve as continuing education, courses offered by an insurer or an agent's OR BROKER'S employer or an agent's OR BROKER'S association.

(4) IN EACH RENEWAL PERIOD, THE COMMISSIONER:

(I) SHALL PERMIT AN AGENT OR BROKER TO RECEIVE UP TO  $\frac{3}{4}$  THREE-FOURTHS OF THE AGENT'S OR BROKER'S CONTINUING EDUCATION REQUIREMENT FROM A COURSE OR COURSES SPONSORED BY AN INSURANCE COMPANY OR COMPANIES; AND

(II) MAY PERMIT AN AGENT OR BROKER TO RECEIVE ALL OF THE AGENT'S OR BROKER'S CONTINUING EDUCATION REQUIREMENT FROM A COURSE OR COURSES SPONSORED BY AN INSURANCE COMPANY OR COMPANIES.

(c) An agent's certificate of qualification may not be renewed if for a period of 2 years prior to the time of renewal the agent has had no appointments from insurers doing business in this State.