

CARRY-OVER CREDIT: Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

FOR EXPERIENCED ATTORNEYS

I stopped practicing law in New York before the end of my current cycle and have a prorated CLE requirement. If I earn more credits than my prorated requirement in the current reporting cycle, may I carry over the excess credits into my next reporting cycle? Yes. You may carry over up to six (6) excess CLE credit hours, in any category of credit, into your next biennial reporting cycle.

I was granted an extension of time to complete some outstanding credits. If I complete excess credit hours during my extension of time, may I apply the excess credit hours to my current CLE reporting cycle? Yes. Any extra credits earned during the “extension” may be applied to your CLE requirement for your current cycle.

FOR NEWLY ADMITTED ATTORNEYS

If I apply post-graduation/pre-admission credits to my first-year CLE requirement and then earn more credit hours during my first year, may I carry over the excess credit hours to my second-year CLE requirement? Yes. So long as you have satisfied your first-year CLE requirement (6 in Skills, 3 in Ethics & Professionalism and 7 in Law Practice Management and/or Areas of Professional Practice) and you earn the excess credit hours during your first year after admission, you may carry over up to eight (8) excess credits to your second-year CLE requirement (except for Ethics & Professionalism credits).

My birthday falls before my admission date. If I satisfy my CLE requirement for my newly admitted cycle before the second anniversary of my admission date and then earn more credits, may I carry over the excess credit hours into my experienced attorney reporting cycle? Yes. Provided that you have satisfied your newly admitted attorney CLE requirement completely, you may carry over up to six (6) excess credit hours into your experienced attorney reporting cycle (except for Ethics & Professionalism credits). You may also apply twelve (12) of the sixteen (16) credits earned during your second year to your experienced attorney cycle CLE requirement.

I have a prorated CLE requirement. If I earn more credits than my prorated requirement in my newly admitted cycle, may I carry over the excess credits into my next biennial reporting cycle? Yes. With the exception of Ethics & Professionalism credits, you may carry over up to six (6) excess CLE credit hours into your next biennial reporting cycle.

I have a prorated CLE requirement and I earned more than that number of credits before I was admitted. May I carry over the excess credit hours into my next biennial reporting cycle? No. You may only apply post-graduation/pre-admission credits to your prorated CLE requirement for your newly admitted cycle. You may not carry over any excess post-graduation/pre-admission credits into your experienced attorney cycle.

If I carry over six (6) pro bono credits earned during my newly admitted cycle, may I also carry over six (6) excess credit hours earned during my newly admitted cycle into my experienced attorney cycle? No. Newly admitted attorneys may only carry over a maximum of six (6) CLE credit hours, including pro bono CLE credit, into the following biennial reporting cycle.

If I carry over six (6) pro bono credits from my newly admitted cycle, may I also earn an additional ten (10) pro bono credits during my first experienced attorney cycle? Yes. Attorneys may carry over into their experienced attorney cycle a maximum of six (6) pro bono credits earned during their newly admitted cycle. They may also earn a maximum of ten (10) pro bono credits during each subsequent biennial reporting period. Therefore, sixteen (16) of the twenty-four (24) credits required in the first experienced attorney reporting cycle may be pro bono credits (six (6) carried over from the newly admitted cycle and another ten (10) earned during the first experienced attorney cycle).