



National Board of Diving & Hyperbaric Medical Technology

Announcement:

Effective July 1, 2020, the NBDHMT has approved the use of livestreaming (combination live audio-live video) of designated *Introductory Courses in Hyperbaric Medicine* in accordance with the following information and guidelines.

Information:

1. Livestreaming time parameters and content must match those of an in-person live Introductory Course.
2. It is common to conduct an in-person live course throughout five, eight-hour consecutive days. However, livestreaming approval allows for other options regarding course timing as long as the following conditions are met:
 - a. The course must be completed within a two-week period.
 - b. Course content is limited to ten hours per day
3. A lecture of 50-minutes with a 10-minute break counts as one hour of content. A 60-minute lecture with a 10-minute break counts as one hour of content.
4. Lunch breaks are not included within the 40-hour minimum of content requirement.

a. Example:

8 am to 12 pm = 4 hours of content	12 pm to 1 pm = 1 hour for lunch	1 pm to 5 pm = 4 content hours	9 Total hours 8 Total content hours
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5. Livestreaming course approval will be in force until February 28, 2021. A decision to continue with or terminate livestreaming will occur no later than January 1, 2021. A two-month notice of termination will occur if Board selects this option.
 - a. If Board reviewers find issues with a particular livestreaming course, the course director in question must make necessary adjustments before subsequent courses are given, or risk loss of approval.

Guidelines:

1. The Board must be in receipt of a video conference link at least one week prior to each course offering.
 - a. A Board member or administrative assistant will randomly audit each course to ensure it remains compliant with these guidelines.
2. Live video demonstrations are acceptable to complete practicum requirements, vs. in-person training.
3. Course directors must describe, in writing, the following requirements before initiating an approved video streaming course:
 - a. Their method to confirm and document attendance each hour. Hourly attendance checks verify those who remain online and actively participating. They also serve as an audiovisual check for any problems, such as a student not being able to ask a question due to poor audio or other connectivity issue.



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Guidelines continued -

- b. Their method(s) to confirm student attendance when a course is paused and then resumed; for or example, start of each morning, returning from lunch and returning from breaks; and
- c. Contingency plans that address technical difficulties. For example, if the instructor's laptop fails to operate or connection is lost, or the student's connection to livestreaming is lost.
- d. Their method to undertake post-course testing of attendees.
4. The course must utilize concurrent livestreaming audio and video.
 - a. The use of a conference phone line, with no live visual component, does not meet the Board's requirements for livestreaming.
5. Post-course student evaluations must include at least one question regarding course delivery; for example (but not limited to), *"Do you have any comments specific to your online/web-based/livestreaming course experience?"*
6. The Board must be in receipt of post-course evaluations within two-weeks of course completion.
7. The livestreaming platform must be one of quality with the following minimum features:
 - a. The student must be able to clearly see and hear the instructor.
 - b. The student must be able to ask the instructor a question by typing in a chat box or by audio.
 1. Acceptable platform examples: (The Board does not endorse nor recommend a specific web-based learning management system. The following platforms are for informational purposes only, and the Board appreciates that other suitable platforms may exist.)
 - a. Zoom™
 - b. Cisco Webex™
 - c. Microsoft® Teams
 - d. GoToMeeting™
 - e. Blackboard™
 - f. Moodle

Forms – New Applications: Use the *Application for Hyperbaric Medicine Training Course Approval*, but in the location block, type 'Livestreaming'. Complete the remaining items as indicated and provide the elements described within this document.

Forms – Existing Applications: Provide the elements described in this document.