

Commission on Minimum Continuing Legal Education (MCLE)

State of Connecticut Judicial Branch

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Opinion 16

Whether Reading Course Materials Only Qualifies for Minimum Continuing Legal Education (MCLE)

The Commission on Minimum Continuing Legal Education (Commission) has received several requests from attorneys whether reading course materials only and in lieu of attending a course in person or via self-study qualifies for MCLE credit. The opinion of the Commission is that the activity does not qualify for MCLE credit unless the materials reviewed are a transcript or exact replica of the continuing legal education presentation.

Practice Book Section 2-27(b)(1) provides that attorneys may receive MCLE credit "[b]y attending legal education courses" Practice Book Section 2-27(b)(2) provides that attorneys may receive MCLE credit through self-study of legal education courses. Self-study is described as "viewing and listening to all manner of communication, including, but not limited to, video or audio recordings or taking online legal courses." Neither section provides that reading course materials in lieu of in-person attendance or self-study is sufficient for MCLE credit. The Commission determined that the only exception is if the written materials are a transcript or exact written replica of the legal education presentation.

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