

Applications and Guidelines for Organizations producing Judicial Education events
not sponsored by the County Judges Education Committee

The sponsorship of Judicial Education events by the County Judges Education Committee has evolved over the years from a volunteer undertaking financed solely by registration fees to its current state of a mandated system largely financed by grants administered by the Court of Criminal Appeals. The Court of Criminal Appeals has entrusted to the County Judges Education Committee the authority and the funding to oversee training for Constitutional County Judges. It is their obvious intent that this Committee be responsible for the quality, consistency, and relevance of the instruction for which county judges are awarded judicial education credit.

While of the opinion that judges should receive most of their education at events produced by the County Judges Education Committee, the Committee has in the past recognized credit earned at seminars produced by the regional Judges and Commissioners Conferences, the State Judges and Commissioners Conference, the V.G. Young Institute of County Government, and other groups. To continue awarding outside credit the committee has adopted guidelines to achieve the goals of providing a continuum of education, standardization of education and to eliminate repetition of courses.

These guidelines include the following policies:

- A limit of four (4) hours for events that are not recognized judicial education venues
- Other than recognized judicial education venues, i.e. the National Judicial College, the Texas College of Probate Judges, the Juvenile Probation Commission Annual Conference, judicial education credit will be awarded only for events sponsored by the regional Judges and Commissioners Association Conferences, the State Judges and Commissioners Association Conference, and the V.G. Young Institute Annual Conference
- Courses must be from a list of subjects the Committee has approved for that fiscal year
- The Committee requires scheduling sixty minutes contact time for each hour of credit awarded and requires that classes be at least one hour in length
- Judicial Education classes are not to be used as an attendance draw for other events.
- Applications for judicial credit must be submitted to the Judicial Education committee at least one month in advance of the conference
- The applications for credit must include course objectives, contact time, and speakers
- The standard Committee evaluation and credit forms must be utilized and returned to the Judicial Education office within 10 days of the end of the conference, as well as two copies of all hand-out materials
- The County Judges Education Committee reserves the authority to provide monitors for the conferences
- Submit to: Joyce Francis
Education Department
Texas Association of Counties
P.O. Box 2131
Austin, Texas 78768