

AUSTRALIAN CUSTOMS AND BORDER PROTECTION NOTICE 2014/20

Review of Continuing Professional Development Scheme for Licensed Customs Brokers

On 1 July 2012, the Australian Customs and Border Protection Service (ACBPS) introduced the Continuing Professional Development (CPD) Scheme for licensed customs brokers. Information on the CPD Scheme is provided in

[Australian Customs and Border Protection Notice 2013/09](http://www.customs.gov.au/webdata/resources/files/ACN2013-09-AccreditedCPDActivities_000.pdf).

When the CPD Scheme was introduced, the ACBPS undertook to conduct a review before the end of the 2012-2015 triennium.

The ACBPS is now inviting submissions on the CPD Scheme from interested parties.

To assist interested parties to prepare a submission, the ACBPS has developed a list of issues for possible comment (at Attachment A to this Notice). Please note that the issues are not intended to be exhaustive; they are provided as a guide only.

Submissions should be provided, in writing, to [brokers.licensing@customs.gov.au](mailto:brokers.licensing@customs.gov.au) or to:

Broker Licensing Section

Australian Customs and Border Protection Service Customs House

5 Constitution Avenue CANBERRA CITY ACT 2601

Submissions should be lodged by no later than **30 June 2014**.

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Acting National Manager Customs Branch

May 2014

Attachment A

# STRUCTURE AND CONTENT OF SUBMISSIONS

Your submission can be made in any format and on any aspect(s) of the Continuing Professional Development (CPD) Scheme.

# Suggested Structure

It would be helpful if your submission could include commentary on the following:

1. The success of the CPD Scheme.
2. The current structure of the CPD Scheme.
3. Possible refinement of the CPD Scheme.

# Possible Content

To assist with the preparation of a submission, the ACBPS has developed a list of issues for possible comment. Please note that the issues are not intended to be exhaustive; they are provided as a guide only.

*Success of the CPD Scheme*

In relation to the success of the CPD Scheme, you may wish to include in your comments reference to some, or all, of the following:

* The extent to which the aims of the CPD Scheme have been met, particularly the aim of providing an opportunity and motivation to all licensed customs brokers to maintain and update their professional knowledge and skills.
* The quality and relevance of CPD activities, and the extent to which CPD activities offer value for money.
* The number of CPD points you completed in the 2013-14 CPD year (if applicable). If you completed more than 30 CPD points, the reason(s) for completing additional CPD activities.

*Structure of the CPD Scheme*

In relation to the current structure of the CPD Scheme, you may wish to include in your comments reference to some, or all, of the following:

* The appropriateness of completing 30 CPD points each CPD year.
* The relevance of the three CPD ‘streams’.
* The requirement to complete a minimum number of CPD points from particular ‘streams’, i.e. the ‘customs broker obligations, risks and ethics stream’ and the ‘professional brokerage skills stream’.
* The CPD activities currently available from each ‘stream’.

*Refinement of the CPD Scheme*

In relation to the refinement of the CPD Scheme, you may wish to include in your comments reference to some, or all, of the following suggestions:

* Introducing a validity period for a CPD activity. At present, a CPD activity has no expiry date. There is the potential, over time, for the material in CPD activities to become out of date.
* Restricting the time (e.g. 12 months) before a completed CPD activity can be repeated. At present, there is no restriction on how often, or how many times, a CPD activity can be repeated.
* Changing who is responsible for accrediting CPD activities. At present, the CEO of Customs (or his delegate) accredits activities and awards CPD points after receiving a recommendation from the National Customs Brokers Licensing Advisory Committee.
* Changing the factors that are taken into account when accrediting a CPD activity. At present, the factors that are taken into account when deciding whether to accredit a CPD activity are: the duration of the activity; the quality, currency and relevance of the activity; and the qualifications of the activity proponent.
* Specifying a particular format(s) for CPD activity. At present, there is no fixed format that a CPD activity must take. From your experience with the different formats (if applicable), outline those formats that you prefer.
* Changing the way that CPD points are awarded to industry conferences. At present, CPD points are awarded to individual presentations being made at an industry conference.
* Allowing a course of study (e.g. a degree or diploma), or particular subjects of a course of study, to be accredited as a CPD activity. If such activity should be accredited, outline the basis on which CPD points could be awarded.