

Pennsylvania Municipal Planning Education Institute (PMPEI)®

2026 ONLINE Fall/Winter

PMPEI ONLINE LEARNING: (each class is 1.5 hours with several dates to choose from)

Building a Strong Planning Commission- \$25 (6:30-8pm)

Thursday, September 17

Wednesday, November 4

A strong and well-organized planning commission is the key to a successful planning program. While MPC Article II provides the authority to have a planning commission it offers no guidance for how to be an effective unit serving the elected governing body and the community. Using hands-on activities and interactive discussions this course explores the full range of a planning commission's work, how it can be organized to accomplish more of its goals, and what is needed to prepare members to get involved in the group's work.

The Limits to Zoning- \$25 (6:30-8pm)

Wednesday, October 14

Tuesday, December 8

Zoning is a powerful tool of local government used in over 2000 Pennsylvania municipalities, but its power is not unlimited. Community expectations for zoning are high but ordinance drafters and administrators must know what the limitations are and the effect they have on a municipality's zoning program. This course will explore these limitations such as those in the MPC itself, the Police Power, non-conforming use property rights, and state and federal laws impacting local zoning. This is not a zoning case law update, but it is an interactive discussion of common zoning issues with an opportunity to look at them in the context of the course.

Managing the Subdivision Review Process- \$25 (6:30-8pm)

Tuesday, September 29

Thursday, December 17

Subdivision and Land Development ordinances are the most common land use regulations in the commonwealth. For many local planning commissions reviewing development applications takes up most of their meeting time. This course looks at the important work of a commission in managing the review process. The review process is tightly structured by the Municipalities Planning Code and many procedures can easily be misunderstood and create problems for municipal planners and officials. This course examines the complex review process and points out problem areas and how to avoid them. It describes how planning commissions, with project applicants, are engaged in a collaborative process to build the future community. Included in the course are hands-on discussions of problem situations.

The Zoning Officer & Zoning Hearing Board- \$25 (6:30-8pm)

Tuesday, October 6

Wednesday, November 18

The MPC states that every municipality that enacts a zoning ordinance shall create a zoning hearing board and it must have an official who handles the day-to-day work of administering the ordinance. This online class will review the job each is responsible for, along with the basic terms used in zoning, special exceptions, variances, nonconformities, notice of violation of the ordinance, plus the basic of the zoning hearing process.



**Each online class has been approved by the PA Continuing Legal Education Board for 1.5 hours of distant learning substantive law, practice, and procedure CLE credit. *(\$15 additional fee is required)*

Each session qualifies for 2.5 Certified Borough Official (CBO) credits towards Part D/RDS of the program requirements.