

Continuing Pharmacy Education



Provider eUpdate

Dear Providers,

The CPE Commission met in Chicago May 5 – 7th, 2009 with a full agenda of accreditation and strategic items. The meeting went well and the Commission recommendations will be presented to the ACPE Board of Directors at their June 2009 meeting.



ACPE CPE Commission Members

Front (left to right):

Judy Filip, Jeannine Dickerhofe **, Jennifer Moulton, Janet Cline *, Donna Wall (ACPE Board Liaison)

Back (left to right):

Steve Caiola, Tim Welty, John Kirtley, Kristin Janke, Scott Meyers

Absent: Mary-Anne Benedict

*Chair **Vice Chair

The following topics are addressed in this issue:

1. CPE Standards
2. Standards for Commercial Support (SCS)

Q. My organization does not accept commercial support; therefore we do not need to comply with Standard 5 – Standards for Commercial Support (SCS).

3. Administrative Items

For a short-cut to the prior versions of the CPE Provider eUpdate, please <[click here](#)>.

As always, please do not hesitate to contact ACPE staff for questions related to CPE activities (ceinfo@acpe-accredit.org | (312) 664-3575).

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Assistant Executive Director, Accreditation Evaluation and Research
Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education (ACPE)

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1. CPE Standards

Evaluation process – ACPE initiated a new evaluation process for comprehensive reviews beginning Spring cycle 2009 ([Vol 2 | No 2](#)). A total of 16 providers participated in a teleconference with a CPE Commissioner, Field Reviewer and ACPE Staff to review the submitted report prior to Commission Review and ACPE Board Action. In general, the calls were well received and served as both an opportunity for clarification and education. ACPE will make minor logistical changes to the process prior to the Fall cycle reviews.

Some quotes from a evaluation process feedback survey:

“The conference call was very helpful, low key and non-confrontational. The suggestions made by the commissioner help our office take our program to an even higher level.”

“It was wonderful to be able to have everyone on the phone together to discuss any issues or answer any questions regarding our self report...I think it is a tremendous benefit to the evaluation process and I am thrilled to have been able to be a part of it.”

“The person-to-person aspect was very valuable. The calls allowed for clarification and education.”

Guidance

Verbs not to use – in addition to posting suggested verbs to use in establishing objectives for CPE activities, a list of verbs to avoid are also posted for your reference ([Suggested Verbs to Avoid](#))

Interprofessional objectives – as you plan your CPE/CE activity, consider the target audiences as you define your activity objectives. If the activity is for an interprofessional audience, there may be different expectations as to what a nurse, physician, pharmacist or others should accomplish through the activity, which could be reflected in learning objectives.

P/T based on content – as a reminder ([Vol 1 | No 2](#)), the designation of P (pharmacist) and T (pharmacy technician) is based on the appropriateness of the content for each respective participant type. If the content is at the level / scope of practice for a pharmacist, then only a ‘P’ designation should be offered. It is OK for a pharmacy technician to attend this activity; however, a statement of credit with a ‘P’ should be issued. Pharmacy technicians should contact their State Boards, relicensure / recertification organizations regarding their specific policies on accepting ‘P vs. T’ designations for credit.

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3. Standards for Commercial Support (SCS)

A. False – the SCS are part of the ACPE Accreditation Standards for Continuing Pharmacy Education and therefore applicable to all providers. Certain aspects of the SCS may be not applicable if no commercial support is received (e.g. part of Use/Management of Commercial Support or Promotion). However, other aspects (Independence, Conflict of Interest Resolution, Lack of Commercial Bias, and Relevant Disclosures) is required of all providers for all activities. Please ensure your policies and procedures are reflective of the SCS requirements. This Standard went into effect January 1, 2008.

Disclosure – Are your forms, policies and procedures in compliance with the Standards? Disclosure is required for everyone who is in a position to control content [speaker, author, planner, reviewers (content and conflict of interest resolution members), advisors, etc.] because ACPE considers financial relationships to create actual conflicts of interest in CPE when individuals have both a financial relationship with a commercial interest **and** the opportunity to affect the content of CPE about the products or services of that commercial interest. [[Guideline Document 5.2.a - #4](#)]

[Guideline 5.2.a](#)

The provider must be able to show that everyone who is in a position to control the content of an education activity has disclosed to the provider all relevant financial relationships with any commercial interest. The ACPE defines “relevant financial relationships” as financial relationships in any amount occurring within the past 12 months that create a conflict of interest.

[Questions Related to SCS 5.2a](#)

3. What financial relationships need to be disclosed to the accredited provider?
...ACPE considers relationships of the person involved in the CPE activity to include financial relationships of a spouse or partner.

Commercial Interest Survey – the CPE Commission reviewed recommendations from a subcommittee regarding the follow-up survey requested from ~100 CPE providers. The Commission is recommending that the majority of providers who submitted the initial survey and those who submitted the follow-up survey maintain their accredited status (not commercial interests). A subset of providers with more complex or pharmacy/ pharmacist-related business structures will be recommended for additional follow-up during the Fall review cycle. All providers will be notified of Board action in July 2009 following the June ACPE Board of Directors Meeting in Chicago.

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National Faculty Initiative – ACPE has endorsed this collaborative project to educate faculty as well as providers regarding the difference between certified/accredited CE and promotional education activities. Please review the website content (~45 minutes) and share this with your faculty. If your faculty have completed the training, they can enter their name to be listed in a searchable database. This could be a form of faculty guidance / training on aspects of the Standards for Commercial Support. The website and training activity is at: <http://www.nfeinitiative.org>

3. Administrative Items

Annual Activity Update (AAU)

Please access the provider web tool to ensure accuracy of submitted activities. You can also update the number of participants who received a statement of credit on an ongoing basis. If an activity is listed (because it is active based on release/expiration date) and no participants have completed, please enter 0 (zero) for participants and no fee will be applied. You **DO NOT** need to delete the activity from the AAU if there were no participants. You will be notified in a separate email regarding the due dates for AAU submission, but participant numbers must be updated by August 2009.

Provider Verification Form

This form accessed from the provider web tool is the source of information for ACPE communications to providers as well as the public information on the ACPE provider listing on the website ([link](#)). Please review your organization, CEA and Supervisor information for accuracy. Changes should be made via the provider verification form accessed through the web tool. If you need access to the web tool, please email ceinfo@acpe-accredit.org with the subject title of web tool access.

Listserve

ACPE maintains two list serves based on information in the database for CE Administrators (CEAs) and Supervisors. If you would like to add additional CE Staff to a separate listserve, please submit an email to ceinfo@acpe-accredit.org with the subject line of 'Listserve – Other' and provide the individual(s) name and email address.