ACCME Proposal to Simplify and Evolve the Accreditation Requirements and Process; Board Meeting Executive Summary

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News

ACCME Announces Proposal for Simplifying and Evolving the Accreditation Requirements and Process

The ACCME is pleased to announce a “Proposal for Simplifying and Evolving the Accreditation Requirements and Process.” The purpose of the proposed changes is to streamline the accreditation process and requirements and to strengthen support for continuing medical education (CME) as a strategic asset to health care improvement initiatives.

The proposal is based on the ACCME Board of Directors’ strategic planning, the ACCME’s experience evaluating providers under the 2006 Accreditation Criteria and analysis of accreditation data, and feedback from stakeholders.

The ACCME is asking stakeholders to review the proposal and submit their feedback through our online survey. The proposal, supporting materials, and a survey have been posted on the Simplification and Evolution Web Page.

Please join our free webinar on May 23, 1–2 PM Central Time, where we will explain the proposal and answer your questions.

Simpler, Smarter Requirements

“This proposal demonstrates the commitment of the ACCME and its stakeholders to continuous improvement. Since its founding in 1981, the ACCME has focused on setting and maintaining accreditation requirements that are relevant to health professionals’ lifelong learning needs and
responsive to changes in the health care environment. The proposed changes build upon this strong foundation and continue the evolution of the ACCME accreditation system,” said James F. Burke, MD, Chair, Board of Directors, ACCME.

“The ACCME and its stakeholders believe that it is important to simplify the accreditation requirements and process while maintaining high standards and continuing to respond to the evolving health care environment. There is a growing momentum in the ACCME accreditation system and we want to foster this evolution of accredited CME. We look forward to stakeholders’ responses and our continued dialogue about shaping the future of our CME system,” said Murray Kopelow, MD, President and CEO, ACCME.

“The proposed simplification of the requirements and process will make a real and positive difference to accredited providers. The changes will facilitate the development of CME that matters to patient care,” said Billie Dalrymple, Director, CME Department, Texas Medical Association (TMA). TMA is an ACCME Recognized Accradiator.

For More Information

A dedicated Simplification and Evolution Web page including links to our survey and resources

Simplifying and Evolving the Accreditation Requirements and Process: A free webinar on May 23, 1–2 PM Central Time, to explain the proposal and answer questions

Simplification Proposal - Revisiting the ACCME Requirements & Process: A video commentary with Murray Kopelow, MD, ACCME President and CEO, explaining the background and rationale for the proposed changes

Proposal for Simplifying and Evolving the Accreditation Requirements and Process: A printable PDF document that includes the current full text of the ACCME accreditation requirements, with the proposed changes highlighted, accompanied by explanations

News Release: Accreditation Council for CME Announces Proposal for Simplifying and Evolving the Accreditation Requirements and Process

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Executive Summary of April 2013 ACCME Board of Directors Meeting Now Available

The Accreditation Council for CME has released the executive summary of its Board of Directors meeting, held April 4–5, 2013 at its Chicago offices. The ACCME ratified 50 accreditation and reaccreditation decisions. This included 14 providers that received Accreditation with Commendation (28%), which confers a 6-year term of accreditation. The list of accredited providers on our Web site has been updated to reflect the April 2013 accreditation decisions.

The Board of Directors heard a report about the progress of Maintenance of Recognition. Recognized Accreditors continue to submit compliance grids to the ACCME, demonstrating the accreditation decisions they have made for their CME providers. The grids show the compliance and noncompliance findings by criterion and the accreditation and progress report decisions for each CME provider. The grids are a quality assurance tool to support equivalency of accreditation decision-making. The Board adopted Maintenance of Recognition in 2011 in order to improve the quality, value, and efficiency of the recognition process and to enable the ACCME and Recognized Accreditors to identify areas for improvement on an ongoing basis.

Download the executive summary.

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ACCME Board of Directors Convenes Guest Discussions Regarding the Role of CME in Improving the Health of the Public
During its April 2013 meeting, the ACCME Board of Directors convened discussions with invited
guests about the role of accredited CME and accreditation standards in improving health. The
discussions explored opportunities for the ACCME to support health care professionals’ roles in
promoting health, whether they work in education, research, administration, or clinical care. ACCME
member organization liaisons joined the discussion.

The invited guests were Peter Angood, MD, Chief Executive Officer, American College of Physician
Executives; Ana Pujols McKee, MD, Executive Vice-President and Chief Medical Officer, The Joint
Commission; John Santa, MD, MPH, Director, Health Ratings Center for Consumer Reports; and Daniel
B. Wolfson, MHSA Executive Vice-President and Chief Operating Officer, American Board of Internal
Medicine Foundation. The guests discussed their perspectives on the importance of physician
leadership in improving health care and health; the public’s trust in physicians and in health care
institutions; the need for professional education to continue to address the misuse, underuse, and
overuse of health care products and services; and the importance of education that facilitates
effective interprofessional collaborative practice.

The discussions are part of an ongoing series convened by the Board to support the strategic
imperatives to foster ACCME leadership and engagement and to contribute to a more efficient,
effective, and simplified system.

Education and Outreach

Registration Open for Summer CME as a Bridge to Quality™ Accreditation Workshop

Registration is now open for the ACCME's 2013 CME as a Bridge to Quality™ Accreditation Workshop
scheduled for July 31-August 2. As we have done in previous years, we will hold a “Self-Study for
Accreditation” session in conjunction with the workshop. We have invited providers whose next
accreditation decisions are scheduled for July 2014, November 2014, and March 2015. If you are in
one of those decision cohorts and you have not received information about the self-study sessions,
please contact Saifra Khan, Coordinator, Education and Outreach, at skhan@accme.org.

Designed for all levels, from CME novices to masters, the Accreditation Workshops offer participants
the opportunity to work closely with ACCME staff, national CME leaders, and colleagues to learn
practical strategies for complying with accreditation requirements and positioning CME as a Bridge
to Quality within their organizations.

Click here for more workshop information or to register.

For Your Reference

- “Commentary: The benefits of accrediting institutions and organizations as providers of
continuing medical education,” by Murray Kopelow, MD, President and CEO, ACCME; and Craig Campbell, MD, Executive Director, Professional Affairs, Royal College of
Physicians and Surgeons of Canada, appears in the Journal of European CME, March 2013 issue. Drs. Kopelow and Campbell describe how continuing education systems based
on provider accreditation foster the development of communities of practice and produce an amplification effect, where one accreditation decision can result in the development of multiple activities.

- The American Hospital Association’s Physician Leadership Forum is holding a free webinar “Using CME for Delivery System
Improvement” on June 11, 2013, at 12 PM Central Time. James F. Burke, MD, Chair, ACCME Board of Directors, and Senior Vice President and Chief Physician Executive, Scottsdale Healthcare; and Charles
Finch, DO, Chief Academic Officer, Scottsdale Healthcare, will share their efforts to use CME offerings to align physicians across the health care system and to drive performance

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