



The ACCME Accreditation System

Continuing medical education accredited within the ACCME system is of, by, and for the profession of medicine. Accredited CME supports health professionals' commitment to lifelong learning and practice improvement. It helps health professionals solve problems in practice, advance team-based care, and achieve their institutions' quality and safety improvement goals.

There are approximately 2,000 accredited CME providers within the ACCME accreditation system. These CME providers include organizations accredited by the ACCME as well as those accredited by the 42 state and territory medical societies recognized as accreditors by the ACCME.

Each year accredited providers offer more than 138,000 activities educating more than 24 million learners including physicians and other healthcare professionals. (This number of learners represents aggregate participant totals and not the number of unique participants. Participants attending multiple activities are counted multiple times.)

The ACCME Accreditation Criteria were designed to position the CME enterprise as a strategic asset to healthcare quality improvement imperatives, to align with the FSMB Maintenance of Licensure (MOL) initiative and the ABMS Maintenance of Certification (MOC) initiative, and to support physicians' practice-based learning and change.

The 2006 Accreditation Criteria foster leadership, collaboration, and system-wide change by rewarding CME providers with Accreditation with Commendation, if, among other requirements, they act as a strategic partner in quality initiatives within their institution, health system, or community through collaborative alliances. The ACCME facilitates collaboration with government agencies to support public health priorities. Federal agencies have recognized the value of accredited CME as a strategic partner in their public health initiatives.

In 2009, the ACCME, along with the American Nurses Credentialing Center and the Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education, launched the Joint Accreditation™ program to streamline the process of accreditation and promote interprofessional education by and for the healthcare team.

The ACCME supports continuous improvement in CME by offering a range of face-to-face and online educational and professional development opportunities. The ACCME participates in national and international events to advance CME's contributions to improving healthcare delivery and public health.

For more information, visit www.accme.org.