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CONTACT: Cynthia Avery
(312) 664-3575
cavery@acpe-accredit.org

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ACPE Releases Standards 2016

Chicago, IL – The Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education (ACPE) Board of Directors approved the new **Accreditation Standards and Key Elements for the Professional Program in Pharmacy Leading to the Doctor of Pharmacy Degree** (“*Standards 2016*”) at its January 21–25, 2015 meeting. **Guidance for the Accreditation Standards and Key Elements for the Professional Program in Pharmacy Leading to the Doctor of Pharmacy Degree** (“*Guidance 2016*”) was also approved by the Board. The documents were released on Monday, February 2. Copies are available on the ACPE web site (www.acpe-accredit.org) and can be accessed directly by clicking on the links below:

- *Standards 2016*: [Click Here](#)
- *Guidance for Standards 2016*: [Click Here](#)

Standards 2016 are employed for quality assurance so graduates of pharmacy education programs are practice-ready and team-ready and therefore, prepared to directly provide patient care in collaboration with other healthcare providers. *Standards 2016* articulate the expectations of ACPE, the academy, the practice community, and the U.S. Department of Education and are solidly based on evidence and experience.

According to Jeffrey W. Wadelin, PhD, ACPE Associate Executive Director and Co-chair of the Standards Revision Subcommittee (SRS), “The ACPE standards revision process has engaged all elements of the profession over the last three years and allowed numerous opportunities for input and feedback. The feedback from our stakeholders has been invaluable and served to improve and refine the final Standards.” ACPE President Bruce R. Canaday, PharmD, who also served on the SRS, notes “Accreditation reviews based on *Standards 2016* will enable ACPE to continue its long history of assuring and advancing the quality of pharmacy education.”

The approval of *Standards 2016* and *Guidance 2016* represents the culmination of a development and approval process that was initiated at the Board’s January 2013 meeting, following broad profession-wide input through an invitational stakeholder conference in September 2012. *Standards 2016* and *Guidance 2016* will become effective July 1, 2016 and will be used in accreditation reviews beginning September 2016, thus providing accredited programs adequate lead time to prepare for implementation. In the interim, ACPE will be working collaboratively to develop and provide supporting materials, self-study tools (i.e., Assessment and Accreditation Management System update, a facilitative software collaboration with the American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy), and resources to accompany the

implementation of the new accreditation standards. ACPE will also be conducting informational and educational programming to support the transition.

About the Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education

ACPE is the national agency for the accreditation of professional degree programs in pharmacy and providers of continuing pharmacy education. In collaboration with the American Society of Health-System Pharmacists, ACPE accredits pharmacy technician education and training programs. ACPE also offers evaluation and certification of professional degree programs internationally. The mission of ACPE is to assure and advance excellence in education for the profession of pharmacy. ACPE is an autonomous and independent agency whose Board of Directors is derived through the American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy (AACCP), the American Pharmacists Association (APhA), the National Association of Boards of Pharmacy (NABP), and the American Council on Education (ACE). To learn more about ACPE, visit www.acpe-accredit.org or follow us on [Facebook](#), [LinkedIn](#), and [Twitter](#).

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