



Continuing Pharmacy Education Program e-Update

Hello ACPE CPE-accredited providers!

Happy 2021! We hope you and your families are well during the continuing pandemic of COVID-19. Our thoughts and prayers are with you all.

ACPE would like to share a few updates from our recent Commission and Board meetings. The content of this e-update is as follows:

1. COVID-19 Resources, Waived Provider Web Tool Policies, and *LearnToVaccinate* Program
2. Practice Gap and Opportunity for ACPE-Accredited Providers During the Pandemic
3. New! ACPE CPE Commendation Criteria for ACPE-Accredited Providers
4. New! Standards for Integrity and Independence in Accredited Continuing Education
5. ACPE Guidance for ACPE-Accredited Providers to Incorporate Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion in CE Activities
6. CPE Monitor Procedural Updates: Upload Credit for Certificate Programs
7. CPE Monitor Procedural Updates: P/T submissions
8. CPE Administrator Educational Opportunities

Please [click here](#) for the CPE Provider e-Update.

1. COVID-19 Resources, Waived Provider Web Tool Policies, and LearnToVaccinate Program

ACPE is closely monitoring the information emerging regarding the spread and new variants of the COVID-19 virus and its potential impact on ACPE accredited and ACPE certified pharmacy degree programs and students, accredited continuing pharmacy education providers, and accredited technician education and training programs.

ACPE understands that information related to the coronavirus and vaccine is changing on more than a daily basis and that the latest information must be delivered to pharmacists and pharmacy technicians. Therefore, ACPE is continuing to waive the policy of submission of CPE activities in the Provider Web Tool 14 days prior to the initial release date until further notice. ACPE requests that the CE activities are input into the Provider Web Tool prior to the release date of the activity. We have added Coronavirus and COVID-19 as available keywords to consider. Other keywords, if applicable, that may be used are Infectious Disease, Viral Infections, Antivirals. A list of coronavirus-related content available for pharmacists and pharmacy technicians can be found [here](#).

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In addition, in coordination with national healthcare leadership, the continuing education accrediting bodies in medicine, nursing, and pharmacy are collaborating to support your efforts to find vaccine-related education. This site provides links to accredited education as well as links to other relevant, timely materials that will address questions about getting and giving the vaccines. ACPE-accredited providers may use the [LearnToVaccinate.org Resource Submission Form](#) to submit CE activities for posting on www.LearnToVaccinate.org website.

2. Practice Gap and Opportunity for ACPE-Accredited Providers During the Pandemic

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), through the Assistant Secretary for Health, issued guidance under the Public Readiness and Emergency Preparedness Act (PREP Act) to expand access to safe and effective COVID-19 vaccines when they are made available. This guidance authorizes state-licensed pharmacists to order and administer, and state-licensed or registered pharmacy interns and pharmacy technicians acting under the supervision of the qualified pharmacist to administer, COVID-19 vaccinations to persons ages 3 or older, subject to certain requirements.

To qualify as "covered persons" under 42 U.S.C. § 247d-6d((i)(8)(B) when administering COVID-19 vaccines authorized or licensed by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) to persons ages 3 or older, state-licensed pharmacists, pharmacy technicians and pharmacy interns licensed or registered by their state board of pharmacy must satisfy the following requirements:

- The vaccine must be FDA-authorized or FDA-licensed.
- The vaccination must be ordered and administered according to the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices' (ACIP) COVID-19 vaccine recommendation.
- The licensed pharmacist must complete an **ACPE-accredited practical training program of at least 20 hours**. This training program must include hands-on injection technique, clinical evaluation of indications and contraindications of vaccines, and the recognition and treatment of emergency reactions to vaccines. Click [here](#) for a list of ACPE-accredited CE activities for pharmacists (this list will be continuously refreshed to reflect the most recent CE activities)
- The licensed or registered pharmacy intern must complete an **ACPE-accredited practical training program**. This training program must include hands-on injection technique and the recognition and treatment of emergency reactions to vaccines.” Click [here](#) for a list of ACPE-accredited CE activities for pharmacy technicians (this list will be continuously refreshed to reflect the most recent CE activities).
- The licensed pharmacist, pharmacy technician, and licensed or registered pharmacy intern must have a current certificate in basic CPR.
- The licensed pharmacist must complete a minimum of **two hours of ACPE-accredited, immunization-related continuing pharmacy education** during each state licensing period.
 - For pharmacist CE activities: click [here](#).
 - For pharmacy technician CE activities: click [here](#)

- The licensed pharmacist must comply with recordkeeping and reporting requirements of the jurisdiction in which he or she administers vaccines, including reviewing the vaccine registry or other vaccination records prior to administering a vaccine.
- The licensed pharmacist must, if the patient is 18 years of age or younger, inform the patient and the adult caregiver accompanying the patient of the importance of a well-child visit with a pediatrician or other licensed primary-care provider and refer patients as appropriate.
- The licensed pharmacist, pharmacy technician, and the licensed or registered pharmacy intern must comply with any applicable requirements (or conditions of use) as set forth in the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention COVID-19 vaccination provider agreement and any other federal requirements that apply to the administration of COVID-19 vaccine(s).

The authorization preempts any state and local laws that prohibit or effectively prohibits those who satisfy these requirements from ordering or administering COVID-19 vaccines as set forth above. The authorization does not preempt state and local laws that permit additional individuals to administer COVID-19 vaccines to additional persons.

Access a copy of the [guidance - PDF*](#)

3. ACPE CPE Commendation Criteria for ACPE-Accredited Providers

Beginning January 1, 2021, accredited CPE providers have the option to demonstrate that they surpass the minimum requirements of accreditation by applying for commendation. It is ACPE's expectations that providers applying for commendation will outline within their mission and vision the desire to advance practice, knowledge and skills of their learners and the profession. ACPE's goal is to encourage and reward accredited CPE providers for implementing best practices in pedagogy and assessment and for focusing on generating meaningful outcomes for learners.

Within ACPE's continuing pharmacy education accreditation process providers must demonstrate compliance with 11 standards representing four sections including: 1) content; 2) delivery; 3) learning assessment; and 4) evaluation. Providers have the option to use a menu approach for recognition of Accreditation with Commendation in an effort to promote flexibility, reflect the diversity of accredited providers and offer a pathway for all providers to pursue Accreditation with Commendation. The Commendation criteria, rubric, and the process to pursue Accreditation with Commendation may be found on the ACPE website: [Commendation Criteria](#).

ACPE-accredited providers who were evaluated with a Comprehensive Review during the period of 2017-2020 and awarded an accreditation term of six (6) years with no additional reporting will be notified via email as to next steps to be evaluated for Commendation, if interested.

4. New! Standards for Integrity and Independence in Accredited Continuing Education

ACPE-accredited providers will be expected to implement the new [Standards for Integrity and Independence in Accredited Continuing Education](#) by **January 1, 2022**. The Standards are designed to ensure that accredited continuing education provides healthcare professionals with accurate, balanced, evidence-based information that supports safe and effective patient care. ACPE-accredited providers are welcome to participate and review the following ACCME resources listed below. ACPE will be providing additional education and resources throughout 2021.

- [New Standards Info Package](#): This PDF includes an overview and full text of the new Standards, transition timeline, and links to resources.
- [New Standards Implementation Toolkit](#): This PDF includes sample forms, templates, and checklists.

The ACPE CPE Staff look forward to working with you to implement these Standards. Again, we will be in touch throughout 2021 with additional education/resources. Please feel free to send any questions to ceinfo@acpe-accredit.org.

5. ACPE Guidance for ACPE-Accredited Providers to Incorporate Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion in CE Activities

The ACPE Board of Directors adopted a document developed by the ACPE Continuing Pharmacy Education Commission entitled, “ACPE Guidance to ACPE-accredited CE Providers to Incorporate Diversity, Equity and Inclusion in CE Activities”. This document may be found on the ACPE website by clicking [here](#). Providers are encouraged to send examples of how they incorporated principles of diversity, equity, and inclusion in their CE activities. Submitted examples will be posted to ACPE’s website with the goal of sharing practices with ACPE-accredited providers. Please send a description and/or tool to ceinfo@acpe-accredit.org.

In addition, the ACPE Board of Directors appointed an Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Subcommittee of the Board. One of the charges of the Subcommittee is to review and update “Guidance for the Accreditation Standards and Key Elements for the Professional Program in Pharmacy Leading to the Doctor of Pharmacy Degree” (“Guidance for Standards 2016”) document with regard to equity, diversity and inclusion. This will be done ahead of the revision to Standards 2016.

6. CPE Monitor Procedural Updates: Upload Credit for Certificate Programs

If you plan and conduct Certificate Programs, please note that one Certificate Program may include one module (one UAN) or multiple modules (multiple UANs). The provider should first input the modules of the Certificate Program in the Provider Web Tool. Then complete

the Certificate Program form to designate which UANs are included in the Certificate Program.

Once the activity is conducted and upon completion of the requirements for credit of the Certificate Program, the provider should:

1. Award ACPE CE credit to the pharmacist and/or pharmacy technician for the UANs (modules) completed via CPE Monitor®, and, if applicable.
2. Award completion of the ACPE Certificate Program (CPN) via CPE Monitor® as noted below.

Upload credit for completion of Certificate Programs:

For a given Universal Activity Number (UAN) that is part of a Certificate Program, the provider will upload each participant's NABP e-profile ID number, month and day of birth (MMDD), UAN, and date of participation within 60 days of the learner engaging in the CE activity via CPE Monitor®.

If all components of a Certificate Program are completed, the provider will upload each participant's NABP e-profile ID number, month and day of birth (MMDD), Certificate Program Number (CPN), and date of participation within 60 days of the learner completing the Certificate Program via CPE Monitor®. The existing Microsoft Excel and CSV templates may be used to award certificate program completion. In the ACPE UAN column please provide the Certificate Program Number (CPN) and in the Date of Participation column, enter the date the certificate was awarded to the learner. The same process may be used if submitting via the web form or via web services. Please note: the learner must have at least one ACPE UAN component (ACPE credit) of the certificate submitted and accepted by NABP prior to the submission of the certificate program completion.

After CPE and Certificate Program units are processed by ACPE and NABP, pharmacists and pharmacy technicians will be able to login to their NABP e-profile to access information about their completed CPE and Certificate Programs as well as print a completed statement of credit and certificate of completion.

7. CPE Monitor Procedural Updates: P/T submissions

Upload credit for completion of P/T designated CE activities:

Within the ACPE Provider Web Tool (PWT), a CPE activity may be defined such that it is offered to multiple target audiences. If a CPE activity's target audience is exclusively for pharmacists, the designation, 'P' will be used and shown in the Universal Activity Number (UAN). If a CPE activity's target audience is exclusively for pharmacy technicians, the designation, 'T', will be used and shown in the UAN. There are cases where a CPE activity may be offered to both pharmacists and pharmacy technicians. Effective 2/1/2021, a new validation rule was implemented such that learners may only receive credit for either a 'P' or 'T' designated activity, not both. If a provider attempts to award a learner credit for both

a 'P' and 'T'–based UAN, the credit will 'Not Pass' to their NABP e-profile transcript and a validation error will be returned to the provider attempting to submit the invalid credit.. Please ensure that the appropriately designated target audience UAN and credit is uploaded for the pharmacist and pharmacy technician.

8. CPE Administrator Educational Opportunities

CPE Monitor for ACPE-Accredited Providers Webinar

At the end of last year, ACPE hosted a CPE Monitor update webinar that many of you attended. We then sent a survey to assess what types of questions/issues you face in uploading pharmacist and pharmacy technician credit into CPE Monitor so we can make the continuing education and credit submission process more efficient.

After reviewing the results of the survey, we concluded it would be beneficial to host a Zoom session specifically for ACPE-accredited providers where we will discuss the survey results and answer any questions that you might have. The session will be on **Monday, March 8, 2021 from 10:00 am – 12:00 pm Central Time**. The first 30 minutes we will discuss the workflow of CPE Monitor and the remainder of the time we will answer your specific questions.

Please register in advance for this meeting by clicking here: [Register first please](#). After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting. If you have questions, please contact cpemonitor@acpe-accredit.org.

Getting Started with Joint Accreditation for Interprofessional Continuing Education™

[Joint Accreditation for Interprofessional Continuing Education™](#) is hosting a *virtual* “Getting Started” workshop on **Friday, March 19, 2021** from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm (CT). This workshop will explain the basics and benefits of Joint Accreditation as well as answer questions about the Joint Accreditation process and is designed primarily for both organizations in the initial stages of the application process as well as organizations that are considering applying for Joint Accreditation. By engaging in this workshop, you will learn about: Value & benefits of Joint Accreditation, Eligibility criteria, Application process and timeline, and Joint Accreditation Criteria.

There is a registration fee of \$75 per person for this workshop. For more information or to register for the workshop, please click [here](#). If you have questions about the **Getting Started with Joint Accreditation for Interprofessional Continuing Education™** workshop, please email info@jointaccreditation.org.

Joint Accreditation for Interprofessional Continuing Education offers organizations the opportunity to be simultaneously accredited to provide continuing education for athletic trainers, dentists, dietitians, nurses, optometrists, PAs (physician assistants), pharmacists, physicians, psychologists, and social workers through a single, unified application process,

fee structure, and set of accreditation standards. Joint Accreditation for Interprofessional Continuing Education™ is the first and only process in the world offering this benefit.

ACPE CPE Administrator On-Demand Webinars

ACPE is pleased to offer on-demand webinars on the following standards:

- [Standard 1 – Achievement of Mission and Goals – \\$50](#)
- [Standard 2 – Gap Analysis – \\$50](#)
- [Standards 3 and 4 – Continuing Pharmacy Education Activities and Objectives – \\$50](#)
- [Standards 6, 7 and 8 – Delivery of CPE Activities – \\$50](#)
- [Standards 9 and 10 – Assessment of Learning and Assessment Feedback – \\$50](#)
- [Standard 11 – Evaluation of CPE Activities – \\$50](#)

The webinar fees may be purchased by credit card. All webinar fees are non-refundable. An updated webinar for the Standards for Integrity and Independence in Accredited CE will be coming in September 2021.

Life Long Learning in Pharmacy (LLP)

The Life Long Learning in Pharmacy (LLP) International Conference 2021, “The Journey of Learning”, will be a virtual conference taking place from **Sunday, June 27th to Wednesday 30th 2021**, hosted from Dublin. The Life Long Learning in Pharmacy conference facilitates participant access to high quality educational programs, internationally significant research and development, and world-renowned leaders in the field. The 2021 program considers advancing pharmacy practice through continuous professional development (CPD) and understanding lifelong learning as a journey. For more information, please go to <https://lllpharm2021.com/>.

If you have questions or are in need of additional information, please feel free to contact ACPE staff at 312-664-3575 or ceinfo@acpe-accredit.org.