

ACCREDITATION COUNCIL FOR PHARMACY EDUCATION



GUIDANCE DOCUMENT FOR PRACTICE-BASED ACTIVITIES
(Adapted from ACPE *Standards and Quality Assurance Procedures for ACPE-accredited providers of Continuing Pharmacy Education offering Certificate Programs in Pharmacy*)

The provider is encouraged to contact the ACPE office
if there are any questions or if further clarification is needed:
e-mail: ceinfo@acpe-accredit.org or telephone: 312-664-3575.

GUIDANCE DOCUMENT FOR PRACTICE-BASED ACTIVITIES

Introduction:

Continuing pharmacy education (CPE) activities are categorized into three types: knowledge, application, and practice. The CPE activity type(s) conducted should be consistent with the provider's mission and appropriate to meet the identified pharmacist and/or pharmacy technician needs.

Types of CPE activities:

- Knowledge-based CPE activity: These CPE activities are primarily constructed to transmit knowledge (i.e., facts). The facts must be based on evidence as accepted in the literature by the health care professions. The minimum amount of credit for these activities is 15 minutes or 0.25 contact hour.
- Application-based CPE activity. These CPE activities are primarily constructed to apply the information learned in the time frame allotted. The information must be based on evidence as accepted in the literature by the health care professions. The minimum amount of credit for these activities is 60 minutes or one contact hour.
- Practice-based CPE activity. [Previously named Certificate Programs in Pharmacy] These CPE activities are primarily constructed to instill, expand, or enhance practice competencies through the systematic achievement of specified knowledge, skills, attitudes, and performance behaviors. The information within the practice-based CPE activity must be based on evidence as accepted in the literature by the health care professions. The formats of these CPE activities should include a didactic component (live and/or home study) and a practice experience component (designed to evaluate the skill or application). The provider should employ an instructional design that is rationally sequenced, curricular based, and supportive of achievement of the stated professional competencies. The minimum amount of credit for these activities is 15 contact hours.

Providers are encouraged to guide pharmacists and/or pharmacy technicians to the best combination of CPE activity types to meet their learning, professional development, and practice needs. Providers are not required to conduct all three activity types.

Practice-Based Activities:

The following procedures must be practiced in order to conduct practice-based activities [Previously named Certificate Programs in Pharmacy]. These procedures will supplement the 2009 ***Policies and Procedure Manual: A Guide for ACPE-accredited Providers.***

As noted above, practice-based activities are intended to enhance one's practice by demonstration of a skill or implementation of a program. Examples of practice based activities include Establishment of a Diabetes Monitoring Program in a Pharmacy, Administration of Immunizations, Implementation of a Medication Therapy Management Program, etc.

Guidance 1.0. Practice-based Planning Document

Each provider should plan for the development, delivery, and evaluation of each practice-based activity. Due to the multiple components of a practice activity, a Planning Document should be completed by the provider for each CPE activity. This written plan should include the following core elements:

- (A) title of the activity;
- (B) description of the targeted audience(s);
- (C) description of the educational needs assessment;
- (D) goals of the activity;
- (E) professional competencies to be addressed and outcome expectations with expected levels of performance (may refer to *ACPE's Definition of Continuing Pharmacy Education for the Profession of Pharmacy*);
- (F) requisites for learner participation;
- (G) instructional design to be used (see Guidance 2.0 Instructional Design below);
- (H) activity length stated in contact hours and/or continuing education units (CEUs);
- (I) faculty, practice, technological, financial and other resources required for development, delivery and evaluation, commensurate with enrollment;
- (J) means by which the expertise of faculty and others will be utilized to develop, present and evaluate the content and materials;
- (K) schedule for periodic review of content and materials;
- (L) means by which the activity will be evaluated;
- (M) means by which the participants will be evaluated and the minimum level of achievement required for successful completion; and
- (N) determination of the manner for awarding continuing education credit upon completion, or, where feasible, partial completion of the activity.

Guidance 2.0 Instructional Design

Providers who conduct practice-based activities should employ an instructional design that is rationally sequenced, curricular based, and supportive of achievement of the outcome expectations for the stated professional competencies. The length of the practice-based activity should be determined, primarily, by its stated goals, professional competencies, and outcome expectations. In keeping with the definition of practice-based activities, a minimum amount of credit for these activities is 15 contact hours. Each practice-based activity must include a minimum of two components:

1. A didactic component such as live seminars, home study Internet-based materials, etc. and,
2. A hands-on component such as practice experiences, simulations, and/or such activities so as to assure demonstration of the skill or application of the stated professional competency.

Guidance 3.0 Evaluation of Participant Achievement

The provider should evaluate the achievement of each participant in the practice-based activity. This evaluation process should include both formative and summative evaluation, and should require demonstration of the predetermined minimum level of performance on the outcome expectations for the stated professional competencies. Participants should also be provided opportunities to engage in organized self-assessment activities. Feedback from the evaluations should be provided to the participant in a timely manner.

Guidance 4.0 Documentation of Completion

At the discretion of the provider, additional documentation of successful completion of the practice-based activity, such as a certificate to place in one's workplace, may be provided to participants who have demonstrated the predetermined minimum level of performance. ACPE does not have requirements for the items to be included on such a certificate.