



Continuing Pharmacy Education Program – State Board of Pharmacy e-Update

State Board of Pharmacy Executives and Members,

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.

1. COVID-19 Resources and *LearnToVaccinate* Program
2. Application of ACPE CPE Standards for Continuing Pharmacy Education, Policies, and Procedures based on HHS Guidance under PREP Act for Administration of COVID-19 and Childhood Vaccines
3. CPE Monitor®: Interprofessional Continuing Education (IPCE) credits
4. CPE Monitor®: Statements of Credit
5. CPE Monitor®: Certificate Programs
6. CPE Monitor®: P/T submissions
7. New! Standards for Integrity and Independence in Accredited Continuing Education

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

1. COVID-19 Resources 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. A list of coronavirus-related content available for pharmacists and pharmacy technicians can be found [here](#) (please click on top the page).

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. Application of ACPE CPE Standards for Continuing Pharmacy Education, Policies, and Procedures based on HHS Guidance under PREP Act for Administration of COVID-19 and Childhood Vaccines

In order to be recognized as a qualified pharmacist, pharmacy technician or state-qualified pharmacy intern for purposes of COVID-19 vaccines, HHS references completion of practical training programs approved by ACPE. ACPE accredits providers of continuing education whose programs are, in turn, deemed to comply with continuing education criteria as part of state-based licensure renewal. Accredited ACPE Providers of Continuing Education must understand and comply with the practical training program requirements of the HHS guidance in order for technicians and interns to be recognized as having met the qualifications for administering COVID-19 vaccines under the PREP Act.

Initial Qualifications for Pharmacist:

- **HHS Guidance:** “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.”
 - **ACPE application of HHS Guidance:** Click [here](#) for a list of ACPE-accredited CE activities (this list will be continuously refreshed to reflect the most recent CE activities).

Initial Qualifications for Pharmacy Technician or State-authorized Pharmacy Intern:

- **HHS Guidance:** “The qualified pharmacy technician or State-authorized pharmacy intern must complete a practical training program that is approved by the Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education (ACPE). This training program must include hands-on injection technique and the recognition and treatment of emergency reactions to vaccines.”
 - **ACPE application of HHS Guidance:** Click [here](#) for a list of ACPE-accredited CE activities (this list will be continuously refreshed to reflect the most recent CE activities).

Maintain Qualifications to be Qualified Pharmacist and Pharmacy Technician:

- **HHS Guidance:** “The licensed pharmacist and pharmacy technician must complete a minimum of two hours of ACPE-accredited, immunization-related continuing pharmacy education during each state licensing period.”
 - **ACPE Application of HHS Guidance:** This requirement may be met by taking one 2-hour CE activity or it may be addressed by taking CE activities of various time increments totaling 2 hours. The pharmacy technician must take a minimum of 2

hours of CE credit. For a list of ACPE-accredited, immunization-related CE activities, please click below (this list will be continuously refreshed to reflect the most recent CE activities)

- For pharmacist CE activities: click [here](#).
- For pharmacy technician CE activities: click [here](#).

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

3. CPE Monitor®: Interprofessional Continuing Education (IPCE) credits

Joint Accreditation for Interprofessional Continuing Education™ is pleased to announce that the IPCE credit is being awarded to pharmacists and pharmacy technicians via CPE Monitor.

IPCE credits for learning and change can be used by jointly accredited providers to identify activities that have been planned by and for the healthcare team. Research has shown that IPCE makes a substantial difference to healthcare teams and the patients they serve. The IPCE credit for learning and change will enable healthcare leaders; educators; team members; certifying, licensing, and regulatory bodies; and other healthcare stakeholders to identify activities specifically designed to improve team collaboration and patient care.



The IPCE credit mark designates activities that are:

- Offered by an organization that is jointly accredited by the accreditation leaders in medicine, pharmacy, and nursing: Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME), Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education, (ACPE) and American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC)
- Planned by the interprofessional team for the interprofessional team of learners
- Based on professional practice gaps of the healthcare team
- Independent of commercial interests
- Based on valid content
- Designed and evaluated for changes in skills, performance, or patient outcomes of the healthcare team

The goal of IPCE credits is to create an additional benefit for educators, healthcare professionals, and the patients they serve. IPCE credits will identify team-based CE activities—not replace education or credits for individual professions. Activities that offer IPCE credits may also offer credits for individual professions. The IPCE credit is intended to complement other healthcare credit and metric systems. Use of the IPCE credit is optional for jointly accredited providers.

4. CPE Monitor®: Statements of Credit

ACPE-accredited providers award and upload ACPE credit to U.S. licensed pharmacists and pharmacy technicians to CPE Monitor®. If the participant would like a paper statement of credit, they may print the official statement of credit from their NABP e-profile. If providers elect to distribute statements of participation, either paper or electronically, the provider must include a disclaimer to inform the participants that it is not the official record. The official record of credit will be the information in CPE Monitor®.

The disclaimer statement should read:

“This statement contains information provided to NABP from the Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education (ACPE) via CPE Monitor®. ACPE policy states paper and/or electronic statements of credit may no longer be distributed directly to learners as proof of ACPE credit. The official record of credit may be located in the learner’s e-profile in CPE Monitor®.”

Pharmacists and pharmacy technicians should obtain a unique identification number (e-profile ID) from NABP (www.nabp.pharmacy) to be used when registering for a CPE activity or claiming CPE credit from an ACPE-accredited provider.

5. CPE Monitor® Updates: Certificate Programs

A Certificate Program, as defined by ACPE, is an activity that includes a didactic component (live and/or home study) and a practice experience component (designed to evaluate the skill or application) and is a minimum of 15 hours. Certificate Programs may include one module (one UAN) or multiple modules (multiple UANs). 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 a CE activity:

Each CE activity is assigned a Universal Activity Number (UAN). The provider is offered a variety of mechanisms to 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 successfully completing the CE activity via CPE Monitor®.

Upload credit for completion of Certificate Programs:

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®. Thus in the e-profile, the transcript will include two sections: 1. completed ACPE or IPCE credit, and 2. completed Certificate Programs.

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.

6. CPE Monitor® Updates: P/T Designations

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

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. Learners may 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 would 'Not Pass' to their NABP e-profile transcript.

7. 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.

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.