



ACCREDITATION COUNCIL
FOR PHARMACY EDUCATION



2026 UPDATE

The ACPE Continuing Professional Development Program for Joint Accreditation Providers

What CPD Is • Who Needs It • Meeting Commendation Criteria

Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education | acpe-accredit.org



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Defining Continuing Professional Development

How ACPE defines continuing professional development

ACPE Definition of CPD

“A self-directed, ongoing, systematic, and outcomes-focused approach to lifelong learning that is applied into practice.”

It involves active participation in formal and informal learning that helps students, pharmacists, preceptors, and pharmacy technicians develop and maintain competence, enhance practice, and meet career goals.

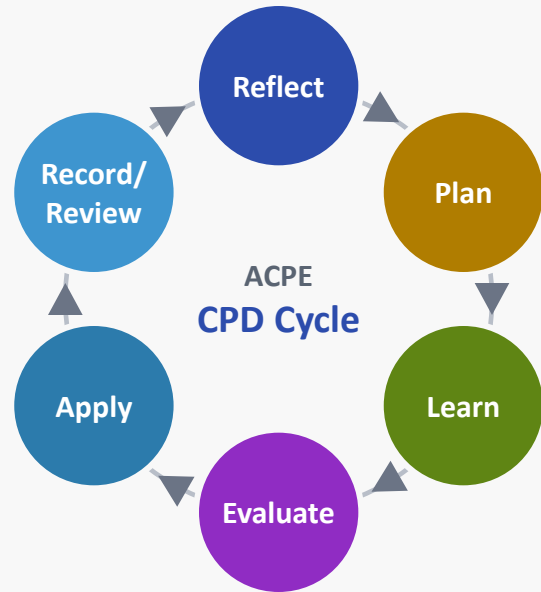
THE CPD CYCLE

Reflect • Plan • Learn • Evaluate • Apply • Record/Review



The ACPE CPD Cycle

A continuous cycle: each review feeds the next round of reflection



1 Reflect

Assess your practice and identify learning needs

2 Plan

Set SMART goals and select learning activities

3 Learn

Complete formal and informal learning, including CPE

4 Evaluate

Measure whether the learning met your goals

5 Apply

Use new knowledge and skills in practice

6 Record/Review

Document each step; carry gaps into the next cycle

CPE and CPD: Related but Not the Same

CPE is an activity; CPD is the practitioner-driven cycle that surrounds it

CPE — Continuing Pharmacy Education

- Activity-based: you attend, complete, earn credit
- Measured in contact hours and CEUs
- Success = participation and a passing assessment
- Documented as credit on a CPE transcript

CPD — Continuing Professional Development

- Process-based: reflect, plan, learn, evaluate, apply, record
- Measured by what changes in practice
- Success = competence maintained and goals met
- Documented in a learning portfolio or plan

THE RELATIONSHIP

CPE activities are one input into CPD. Earning credit does not complete the cycle: the learner still has to apply it in practice and record the outcome.

One Pharmacist Through the CPD Cycle

Illustrative scenario — one goal followed across a single CPD cycle

An ambulatory care pharmacist wants to independently manage patients starting GLP-1 therapy.

1 — Reflect

Annual self-assessment shows she defers GLP-1 dose adjustments to the prescribing physician. She names it as a therapeutics gap.

2 — Plan

SMART goal: within six months, counsel every new GLP-1 start independently, making necessary dose adjustments. Selects a CPE certificate program, a device workshop, and clinic shadowing.

3 — Learn

Completes the CE certificate and injection-technique workshop, shadows endocrinology twice, reads the ADA standards. Documents learning.

4 — Evaluate

Post-test 92%. Self-rated confidence moves from 2/5 to 5/5. Identify additional practice gaps.

5 — Apply

Counsels 24 new starts, runs titration follow-up calls, and writes a patient handout the clinic adopts.

6 — Record/Review

Files everything in her CPD portfolio. At annual review she carries the new gaps/needs into next cycle's plan.

Who Needs CPD

Regulatory (State Boards of Pharmacy) and certification bodies require demonstration of ongoing professional development

Standard-of-Care States

Boards using standard-of-care regulation judge competence in practice, not hours logged.

Board-Certified Pharmacists

BPS certificants can apply CPD units toward recertification.

Residents & New Practitioners

Residents and new graduates use CPD to structure transition-to-practice learning and document progress.

Preceptors

Preceptors set SMART teaching goals, then evidence the practice changes that follow.

Pharmacy Technicians

Certified technicians plan and document the learning that supports advanced and specialized roles.

Your Own Education Team

IPCE and CE staff who maintain their own CPD plans satisfy commendation criteria.

Standard-of-Care States and Documenting Ongoing Development

Standard-of-care regulation replaces prescriptive process rules with a duty to practice competently and to be able to demonstrate how competence is maintained.

01

What Changed

Boards retire prescriptive rules and hold pharmacists to a professional standard of care.

02

What Boards Expect

Judgment exercised in practice, documented and defensible when a board asks.

03

CPD + CPE

Mixture of accredited continuing education and additional learning completed through the CPD process.

04

What CPD Adds

A documented cycle of reflection, planning, learning, and application tied to real practice gaps.

Regulatory models vary by state; confirm current requirements with each board of pharmacy.

Board-Certified Pharmacists Need CPD Records

How CPD supports BPS recertification alongside examination

Specialists already work from self-identified gaps. CPD gives that work a structured, submittable record.

01

The Requirement

Certification renews every seven years, by exam or professional development.

02

CPD in the Mix

BPS-certified pharmacists document CPD units toward recertification under the current pilot.

03

Why It Fits

Specialty practice changes faster than a fixed curriculum; CPD plans follow the practice.

04

What Providers Offer

Accredited CPD programs give certificants planned cycles and evidence they can submit.

Confirm current recertification options with the Board of Pharmacy Specialties.

Commendation Takes JAC 1–12 Plus Any Seven of Thirteen

Menu of Criteria for Joint Accreditation with Commendation

The menu is optional and flexible: providers select the seven criteria that fit the program they already run.

01

Menu Structure

Demonstrate compliance with JAC 1–12 and any seven of the 13 criteria, JAC 13–25.

02

The 10% Standard

Activity-based criteria must be met in at least 10% of activities, including some IPCE.

03

Six-Year Term

Commendation earns a six-year term. Compliance with JAC 1–12 alone earns four.

04

Eligibility

Open to jointly accredited providers and applicants previously accredited by ACCME, ACPE, or ANCC.

Source: Joint Accreditation Framework, updated August 2023.

How the CPD Process aligns with JA Commendation Criteria

Where CPD aligns with commendation criteria

JAC 15 — Education Team

A CPD plan for the IPCE team, built on a needs assessment, with time and resources committed.

JAC 22 — Learning Plans

Cycles track repeated engagement over months and return individualized feedback.

JAC 17 — Practice Data

Learners bring health and practice data into reflection and plan against what it shows.

JAC 23 — Team Performance

Apply-phase evidence measures how team performance changed after the learning.

JAC 24 — Quality Improvement

Plans built around QI work document improvement in processes of care.

JAC 25 — Patient Impact

Recorded outcomes connect completed cycles to patient and community results.

Criteria and compliance standards from the Joint Accreditation Framework, August 2023.

The CPD Provider Accreditation Program

CPD Program: Executive Summary

ACPE officially launched its CPD Provider Accreditation Program in 2024, an important advancement that allows accredited organizations to offer structured, self-directed learning credit to learners globally.



Launched 2024

ACPE CPD Provider Accreditation became an official pathway in 2024, adding to the CPE Provider and Joint Accreditation programs.

Accredited providers may award 2 CPD units for each completed cycle component, up to 10 CPD units.



Early Adopters Nationwide

Four accredited CPD programs to date:

- Clinical Care Options, LLC (Decera Clinical Education)*
- Dana-Farber Cancer Institute
- University of Florida College of Pharmacy
- University of Texas at Austin College of Pharmacy

** Jointly accredited provider for interprofessional continuing education.*

The Four ACPE CPD Principles

Released July 1, 2023 · Effective January 1, 2024

The principles ensure that CPD programs offered by providers have clear processes, design, assessment, and evaluation of the CPD process.

01

Systematic Planning

Systematic planning of resources, learner engagement, CPD assessment, and awarding of credit.

02

CPD Program Design

Design built on the six-stage CPD cycle: Reflect, Plan, Learn, Evaluate, Apply, Record/Review.

03

Assessment of Learner CPD

A process validating learner engagement and performance, with formative and summative feedback.

04

CPD Program Evaluation

Structured evaluation of the program's effectiveness, used for ongoing improvement.

Full principles: acpe-accredit.org/program/continuing-professional-development | cpdinfo@acpe-accredit.org

CPD Units Are Awarded for Completed Cycle Components

Providers award 2 CPD units per completed component, up to 10 units per cycle, posted to CPE Monitor®

Reflect		The learner self-assesses against competencies and names the gaps worth closing.
Plan		The learner sets goals and selects the activities that will close those gaps.
Learn		The learner completes accredited CE and self-directed learning against the plan.
Evaluate		The learner judges what the learning changed; the provider gives feedback on the evidence.
Apply		The learner puts the learning into practice and documents what changed.
Record		The learner keeps the cycle documentation and the provider posts CPD units earned.

International Alignment

The U.S. CPD framework mirrors established lifelong-learning systems abroad

The U.S. CPD framework aligns with established systems in the UK, Canada, Australia, and New Zealand — each built on the same reflect, plan, learn, evaluate, apply, and record cycle.

United Kingdom

Pharmacists record ongoing learning and practice reflection for regulator revalidation, submitting entries on an annual cycle.

Canada

Provincial regulators require a learning portfolio and quality-assurance cycle grounded in self-assessment and reflection.

Australia

Registration renewal requires an annual CPD plan with activities tied to self-identified learning needs.

New Zealand

Recertification runs on a repeating cycle of self-assessment, a written learning plan, and documented outcomes.

A globally recognized model of self-directed, outcomes-focused lifelong learning.



The ACPE CPD Accreditation Framework — As of 2026

The CPD Provider Accreditation program operates alongside, not replacing, ACPE's existing CPE Provider Accreditation.



CPE Provider Accreditation

Traditional continuing pharmacy education. Providers design structured activities and upload completions to CPE Monitor®.



CPD Provider Accreditation

Organizations design programs where learners complete a self-directed Reflect–Plan–Learn–Evaluate–Apply –Record/Review cycle and earn CPD units.



Joint Accreditation (IPCE)

Jointly accredited providers (ACCME, ACPE, ANCC + associate members) offer CE that awards credit simultaneously to physicians, nurses, pharmacists, and associate members for interprofessional learning.

Documentation to Submit

From the ACPE CPD Self-Assessment Evaluation Form — attestation checklist and rubric

Principle 1 — all items required

- CPD plan and systematic planning process
- Learner engagement approach (e.g., “learning contract”)
- Resource list for development, facilitation, evaluation
- Data documenting achievement of mission and goals
- Process for awarding CPD value-based credit

Plus a narrative for each item describing how it is achieved.

If any component of a principle is marked “Needs Improvement,” the whole principle is marked that way — include the rationale and the processes in place to address it.

Attestation Statement

Signed by the CPD Program Administrator, confirming the organization follows ACPE’s CPD Policies and Procedures Manual and awards credit through CPE Monitor.

Principles 2–4 — Rubric

Narrative plus supporting documents showing how program design, learner assessment, and program evaluation are met.

Submit as ONE electronic file (PDF) with all appendices included — no hard copies.

Upload: spaces.hightail.com/uplink/ACPEmaterials Free pre-submission consultation: cpdinfo@acpe-accredit.org

How to Apply for CPD Provider Accreditation

Two documents to work from, and one PDF to submit

1. Start with the guide

The provider application guide on the ACPE website sets out what to expect, what to submit, and how the review runs.

2. Work the self-assessment

Complete the CPD Self-Assessment Evaluation Form, writing a narrative against each of the four principles.

3. Assemble everything as ONE PDF, in this order

- Cover page — organization, CPD program name, administrator and contact, date, and application type
- Signed attestation statement from the CPD Program Administrator
- Principle 1 checklist items, each with its narrative, then Principles 2–4 narratives with labeled exhibits

acpe-accredit.org/program/continuing-professional-development | cpdinfo@acpe-accredit.org

Current Providers & CPD Activities

Who is offering CPD programs and the number of activities available

Current ACPE-Accredited CPD Providers

Four organizations have achieved ACPE CPD Provider accreditation, listed alphabetically:

- **Clinical Care Options, LLC (Decera Clinical Education)***
- **Dana-Farber Cancer Institute**
- **University of Florida College of Pharmacy**
- **University of Texas at Austin College of Pharmacy**

Visit acpe-accredit.org/program-lookup to view the current directory of all accredited CPD providers.

CPD Activity Growth to Date

Since the 2024 launch, the accredited CPD provider network has built a growing catalog of activities and a meaningful volume of CPD units earned by learners:

40+

CPD Activities

Distinct ACPE-accredited CPD activities now offered across the provider network

100+

CPD Units Awarded

Total CPD units earned by learners through completed activities

4

CPD Providers

ACPE-accredited CPD programs delivering these activities nationwide

Momentum Since the 2024 Launch

Across the four accredited providers, learners are completing CPD activities spanning the full Reflect–Plan–Learn–Evaluate –Apply – Record/Review cycle, from self-assessment and personal learning plans through practice-based application and outcomes evaluation. With over 40 activities and more than 100 CPD units already awarded.

Advancements in CPD

Technology Update and What's Next

Inside My CPD: The Platform Behind the Cycle

The web-based portfolio where pharmacists create, record, and maintain their CPD

Build a development plan

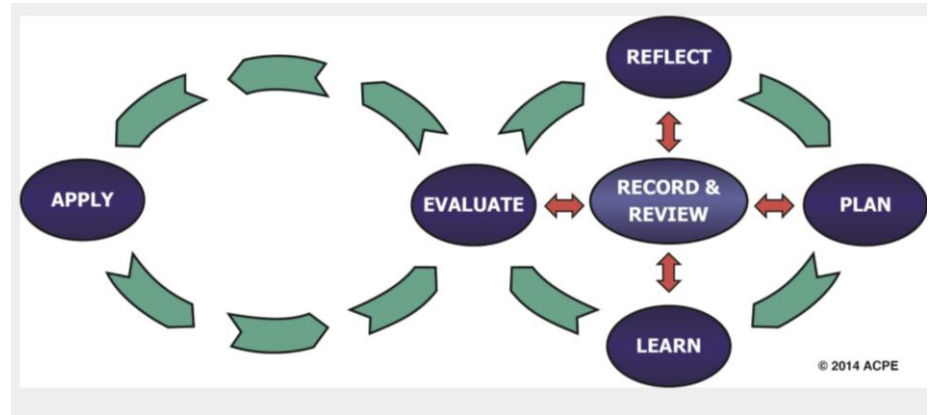
Learners create personal development plans and work through each phase of the cycle in sequence.

Record learning activities

My CPD accounts for accredited CE alongside other self-directed activities that advance competency.

Upload evidence of impact

Supporting documentation attaches at every phase, evidencing both the learning and its use in practice.



The six-phase CPD cycle as presented in My CPD

Register at cpd.acpe-accredit.org/Account/Register

Setting Up a Development Plan Cycle

Each cycle is date-bound, documented, and portable

Define the date range

Plans are time-bound, with options to extend to 25 months or more to span a full licensure cycle.

Attach cycle documentation

Completed cycle evidence uploads at the plan level, in addition to files added within each phase.

Print, share, or email

Toolbar actions let a learner export the cycle, send it to a supervisor, or review its revision history.

Pharmacy Continuing Professional Development

Started: 10/3/2024 11:00 AM

Last Modified: 10/3/2024 11:00 AM

Date range for personal development plan:

25 months or more ▾



Upload Completed Cycle Documentation ▾

Upload file

Cycle header: date range, actions, and document upload

Documenting a REFLECT Entry

Guided prompts turn self-assessment into a structured, competency-based record

Prompted self-assessment

Learners select the areas they want to develop and record how those areas were identified against defined competencies.

Narrative or upload

A written reflection narrative is optional; learners may instead upload a reflection document they have already completed.

Save now, complete later

Entries save in progress and are timestamped for started, last modified, and completed.

Q: What areas do you want to develop or improve? ▼

Q: How did you determine the areas you want to develop or improve? (Select all that apply) ▼

Reflection Narrative: Describe your practice setting and professional development needs related to improv

Save

Complete

Cancel

Back To Cycle

REFLECT: guided prompts, optional upload, completion actions

Tracking Progress Across the Cycle

Status indicators keep a multi-month plan visible and auditable

Status at a glance

A color bar beside each phase shows which steps are complete and which remain open.

Move between phases

Learners work through REFLECT, PLAN, LEARN, EVALUATE, and APPLY as the plan progresses.

Evidence stays attached

Files uploaded to the cycle and to individual phases remain part of the permanent record.

	REFLECT
	PLAN
	LEARN
	EVALUATE
	APPLY

An administrator view is coming later this year, with credit awarding to learners through My CPD by 2027.

Future Directions for ACPE CPD

Research and organizational priorities point to several key directions for CPD advancement in the coming years:

- | | |
|----|---|
| 01 | Broader Pharmacist Adoption
Education, simplified tools, and awareness campaigns to make CPD attainable for all pharmacists and pharmacy technicians. |
| 02 | State Board Regulatory Integration
Encouraging state boards to explore CPD-based pathways for license renewal. |
| 03 | Expanded Provider Ecosystem
Extending accreditation beyond academia to health systems, associations, and community organizations. |
| 04 | Pharmacy Technician CPD
Extending CPD access and pathways to certified pharmacy technicians. |
| 05 | Research & Evidence Base
Building evidence for CPD's impact on competence, outcomes, and practice improvement. |
| 06 | Refreshed Visual Identity
A redesign of the ACPE logo and brand identity is currently underway. |

CPD in Summary

What CPD is, who it serves, and how it aligns with Joint Accreditation commendation

01

What CPD Is

A self-directed, ongoing, systematic, outcomes-focused approach to lifelong learning that is applied in practice, run as a six-stage cycle: Reflect, Plan, Learn, Evaluate, Apply, Record/Review.

02

Who It Is For

Pharmacists, pharmacy technicians, residents, preceptors, and students, in addition to the education team.

03

What It Gives JA Providers

One CPD-based program supplies evidence for six of the thirteen commendation criteria — JAC 15, 17, 22, 23, 24, and 25.

Sources: ACPE definition of CPD; Joint Accreditation Framework, August 2023.

THANK YOU

Questions?

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