



LEARNING TO THRIVE TOGETHER

2020-2021 Highlights from the Accreditation Council
for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME®)

OUR MISSION

The ACCME's mission is to assure and advance quality learning for healthcare professionals that drives improvements in patient care. Our vision is a world where our community of educators supports clinicians in delivering optimal healthcare for all.

A GROWING COMMUNITY OF PRACTICE

- **Released Standards for Integrity and Independence in Accredited Continuing Education**
- **Launched the new, improved Program and Activity Reporting System (PARS) and CME Passport**
- **Collaborated with state medical boards and certifying boards to centralize reporting of CME and Maintenance of Certification/Continuing Certification**
- **Awarded research grant to develop educational toolkits**
- **Harmonized international standards for substantive equivalency between CPD/CME accreditation systems**
- **Delivered COVID-19 educational resources to clinicians and providers**
- **Produced virtual annual meetings in 2020 and 2021**
- **Expanded the ACCME Academy**
- **Increased Joint Accreditation to include 10 professions**
- **Offered Joint Accreditation with Commendation**
- **Engaged in strategic planning for 2022-2025**

Learning to Thrive Together

2020-2021 Highlights from the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME®)

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MESSAGE FROM THE CEO

INSPIRATION AND INNOVATION

As the COVID-19 pandemic continues to evolve, the ACCME is working to evolve alongside our accredited providers to meet the changing needs of our learners. Although the past few years have restricted our ability to interact in person, we, as a continuing education community, have strengthened our connections and collegiality, supporting and caring for each other. I remain inspired by the compassion, resilience, and innovative spirit of our accredited providers—you continue to adapt and respond to the needs of clinicians and healthcare teams, offering timely, quality accredited education in diverse learning environments.

When the pandemic began, we recognized that our responsibility was to serve as a facilitator, offering accredited providers the guidance, resources, and flexibility that would enable you to meet the needs of healthcare professionals during extraordinary times. From the ACCME virtual annual meetings to the newly expanded ACCME Academy—our goal is to offer resources that enable educators to advance their professional development and rise to the challenges of an ever-changing healthcare landscape. Together, we are building our community of practice, nurturing collaboration, promoting growth, and demonstrating how accredited education makes a meaningful difference in the lives of clinicians and patients.

In this report, we share with you the key initiatives we've undertaken to respond to your recommendations, fulfill our strategic goals, and support our shared mission to improve care for patients and communities:

- Throughout the pandemic, we, along with our colleagues in Joint Accreditation for Interprofessional Continuing Education™, offered new accommodations and resources to help the accredited education community adapt to new circumstances. We provided an expedited pathway for planning activities related to COVID-19, a searchable database for vaccine-related education, and guidance for transitioning to virtual learning formats.

- Working with our colleague accreditors in the health professions, providers, and other stakeholders, we released the Standards for Integrity and Independence in Accredited Continuing Education. With these Standards, we deliver on our promise to healthcare professionals that they can trust accredited continuing education to provide accurate, balanced, evidence-based information that supports high-quality patient care.

- To meet the needs of our accredited providers, physicians, regulatory bodies, and other stakeholders, we developed an upgraded version of the Program and Activity Reporting System (PARS). Providers can now enter, track, and manage learner data for all accredited activities. In conjunction with the new PARS, we launched CME Passport, a free, all-in-one web application that enables physicians to find, track, and manage their CME.

- We continue to expand our collaborations with our colleague regulatory bodies, with the goal of reducing CME-reporting burdens for physicians, giving them more time to focus on their education and patient care, rather than on compliance.

- As part of our commitment to fostering learning environments

that promote diversity, health equity, and inclusiveness, our Board of Directors convened a special task force to explore how we can facilitate meaningful change and advance these ideals in accredited education.

The Board of Directors will share their findings in 2022.

In the coming year, the ACCME will work to build our strategic plan and vision for the coming years, continuing our upward trajectory. I look forward to working together to promote an even more dynamic system that adapts to the changing expectations of learners today and in the years to come.

More than ever, I believe that accredited education has the capacity to be a part of the solution to the challenges we face. My colleagues at the ACCME and I want to thank our providers, educators, and healthcare professionals who continue to show us the ability of education to make the world a better, healthier place.

Graham McMahon, MD, MMSc
President and CEO, ACCME

WHO WE ARE

The ACCME leverages the power of education to drive quality in the medical profession and improve care for patients.

The ACCME accredits continuing medical education (CME) providers, creating a framework that supports, inspires, and motivates educators to achieve their full potential. We set the standards for education that accelerates learning, change, and growth in healthcare. Our standards respond to the evolving healthcare environment and reflect the value of our educator community. As a result, clinicians and teams can drive improvement in their practice and optimize the care, health, and wellness of their patients.



ACCME Strategic Plan 2018-2021: Transforming Education to Improve Health

The [ACCME Strategic Plan 2018—2021: Transforming Education to Improve Health](#), comprising six strategic goals, aimed to promote an even more dynamic CME enterprise that is well-positioned to adapt to the changing educational needs and expectations of learners today and in the years to come. In the following pages, we describe our work to achieve our goals.

OUR COMMUNITY

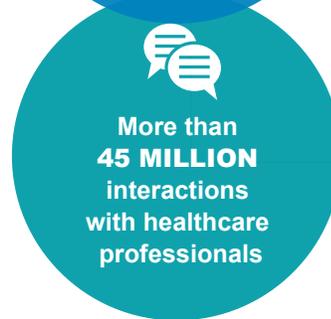
Accredited CME offers clinicians, teams, educators, and health leaders the power and capacity to address many of the challenges we face in our changing healthcare environment.

Our community of approximately 1,700 CME providers represents a range of organizations from national physician membership organizations to rural hospitals. Some specialize in local, community-based health issues, others focus on national and international health priorities, and others advance interprofessional continuing education (IPCE) and team-based care.

The geographic distribution and diversity of CME providers means that clinicians and teams have access to education where they live and work that addresses local, national, and international healthcare priorities.

Welcome to the 56 new ACCME-accredited and jointly accredited providers that joined us in 2020 and 2021, and congratulations to the 555 providers that received reaccreditation!

We welcome organizations outside the US to our accreditation system. Congratulations to the accredited organizations from Canada, Ireland, Lebanon, Mexico, Pakistan, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Saudi Arabia, Ukraine, and the United Kingdom that have joined our CME community.



Offered by approximately **1,700** accredited education providers

Source: ACCME Data Report: Rising to the Challenge in Accredited Continuing Education—2020

THANK YOU TO OUR VOLUNTEERS

As it has since its inception, the ACCME system continues to rely on our community of dedicated volunteers who serve as accreditation surveyors, and as members of the Accreditation Review Committee, Joint Accreditation Review Committee, Committee for Review and Recognition, Board of Directors, and state medical society CME committee members. In total, an estimated 20,000 people across the country support the system that helps healthcare professionals practice to the best of their ability.

We thank all our volunteers for their commitment to achieving our mission and to sustaining a high-quality, self-regulated CME system that advances clinician performance and patient care.

A RESILIENT, RESPONSIVE COMMUNITY

In March 2020, the World Health Organization declared the COVID-19 outbreak a global pandemic. Since then, the accredited education community has adapted nimbly, creating new learning environments to deliver critically needed skills and support to clinicians and healthcare teams. We at the ACCME strive to provide the best possible support for the accredited education community, particularly during times of uncertainty. During this time, we offered the following accommodations and resources:

- Expedited pathway for planning accredited activities related to COVID-19 to help accredited providers meet the urgent need for education.
- LearnToVaccinate.org: A searchable database of accredited continuing education activities related to the COVID-19 vaccines, featuring 120 activities—one of our most highly viewed pages.
- Resource pages for clinicians and educators including information on administering the COVID-19 vaccines.
- Survey of accredited providers, including several interviews, on how the pandemic is affecting the accredited education community.
- Best practices for creating a virtual meeting for planners and educators.
- Sample run-of-show documents and staff training plans from the virtual ACCME 2020 Meeting.
- LinkedIn articles and podcasts addressing vaccine hesitancy in healthcare professionals, ways to combat learner fatigue, and evolving CME amid the pandemic.

www.LearnToVaccinate.org

The screenshot shows a search filter interface with the following elements:

- Display By Topic:** Radio buttons for Clinical Data (Efficacy, Safety), Communicating with Patients About Vaccines, Vaccine Administration (checked), and Vaccine Storage and Handling.
- Filter By Organization:** A dropdown menu currently set to "- Any -".
- Filter By Credit:** Checkboxes for AMA PRA Category 1 Credit, Pharmacy (ACPE) credit, Nursing (ANCC) credit, and Interprofessional (I/PCE) credit.
- Filter By Format:** A dropdown menu currently set to "- Any -".
- Buttons:** "Apply Filters" and "Reset Filters".

Clinicians were able to search by topic, organization, type of credit, and format. Topics included vaccine hesitancy in healthcare professionals, communicating with patients, vaccine administration, and more.

“Healthcare professionals must lead by example and get vaccinated. We must continue to demonstrate our commitment to science and exemplify the principle of taking care of ourselves so we can take care of other people.

Graham McMahon, MD, MMSc
President and CEO, ACCME



“I am forever grateful to all of you for demonstrating through the virtual, free meeting how to move forward. I took what I learned from you and got the resolve to keep going!”

- Annual Meeting Participant

“Thank you for role modeling how we can adapt our own education and facilitate meaningful reflection and conversation in an online format!”

- Annual Meeting Participant

“As a result [of the expedited pathway], in one month, we were able to approve over 80 activities related to COVID-19, awarding over 8,200 accredited continuing education credits. This benefited physicians, nurses, pharmacists, social workers, psychologists, and physician assistants. Thank you so much for your attention to the need for expedited COVID-19 education and training for our clinical workforce.”

- Accredited Provider

STRATEGIC GOAL 1:

AUGMENT AWARENESS OF CME'S VALUE

NEW: LinkedIn Article Series from Dr. Graham McMahon

In 2020, Dr. McMahon began writing articles on his personal LinkedIn page as a way to stay connected to colleagues and offer support during the COVID-19 pandemic. The article series has covered a variety of topics, ranging from ways clinicians can build trust with LGBTQ+ patients to how healthcare organizations can better support clinician wellbeing. Dr. McMahon's article series is available on his [LinkedIn page](#).

Coffee with Graham Podcast

In late 2019, we launched *Coffee with Graham*, a new podcast where Dr. McMahon and invited guests discuss an array of topics that affect clinicians, educators, and healthcare thought leaders. Episodes have chronicled clinician burnout, interprofessional continuing education, health equity, overcoming vaccine hesitancy, and more. To listen, visit the [Coffee with Graham webpage](#), or stream wherever you listen to podcasts.



Good health is a gift that is fragile and must be protected. The best way to protect this gift is through the power of prevention and public health.”

Howard Koh, MD, MPH
Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health,
from an episode of *Coffee with Graham*:
“[Public Health and COVID-19 Vaccines](#).”

In honor of National Veterans and Military Families Month, the ACCME hosted a [webinar](#) in November 2020 with the leadership at the Veterans Health Administration to address how continuing education can help clinicians and teams provide high quality care for veterans and their families.



Continuing education providers can look in their environments and build content that meets particular needs of veteran care. We would love to collaborate and meet these needs together.”

Clinton L. Greenstone, MD
Executive Director, Clinical Integration and Field Operations,
U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs

Our Growing Community on Social Media

We are engaging our community on social media by sharing links to helpful resources, videos, articles, event highlights, and more.

- LinkedIn: 2,500+ followers
- Facebook: 1,600+ followers
- Twitter: 1,900+ followers
- Instagram: 790+ followers

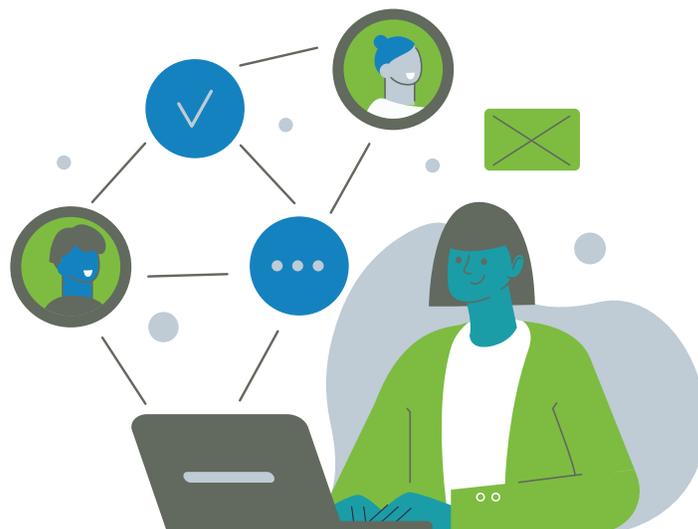
On the Move (Virtually)

Although COVID-19 hindered in-person travel for the majority of 2020 and 2021, our executive staff were able to connect virtually and communicate the strategic value of accredited CME to healthcare leaders, build collaborations with colleague accreditors and regulatory bodies, and offer guidance for CME providers on ways to adjust programming during the pandemic.

Here are a few examples:

- Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) ACTS COVID-19 Evidence to Guidance to Action Collaborative
- Alliance for Continuing Medical Education in the Health Professions Annual Conference
- American Board of Internal Medicine (ABIM) Foundation Forum
- European CME Forum
- International Association of Medical Regulatory Authorities Conference 2021
- National Academy of Medicine: Opioid Collaborative; Action Collaborative on Clinician Wellbeing and Resilience
- National Center for Interprofessional Practice and Education Nexxus Summit

We participated (virtually) in state medical society conferences for local CME providers in more than 15 states.



JOURNAL ARTICLES

In our journal articles, we describe how standards in accredited education and collaboration between clinicians, educators, and accreditors can lead to quality and safety in patient care.

- “Learning Together: Engaging Patients as Partners in CPD,” Graham T. McMahon, *Journal of Continuing Education in the Health Professions*, (November 2021)
- “Facilitating Flexibility: The Role of CPD Regulators and Accreditors during a Crisis,” Graham T. McMahon, *Journal of European CME*, (November 2021)
- “Changes to the Standards for Integrity and Independence in Continuing Medical Education,” Graham T. McMahon, *JAMA*, (April 2021)
- “Standards for Substantive Equivalency between Continuing Professional Development/Continuing Medical Education (CPD/CME) Accreditation Systems,” Kate Regnier, Craig Campbell, Reinhard Griebenow, Michel Smith, Kate Runacres, Amy Smith, Graham T. McMahon, and on behalf of the International Academy for CPD Accreditation *Journal of European CME*, (January 2021)
- “Continuing Board Certification: Seeing Our Way Forward,” Graham T. McMahon, Warren P. Newton, *The Journal of the American Board of Family Medicine*, (September 2020)

STRATEGIC GOAL 2:

ASSURE ACCREDITATION QUALITY AND EQUIVALENCY

ACCME Standards for Integrity and Independence in Accredited Continuing Education

In December 2020, we released the [Standards for Integrity and Independence in Accredited Continuing Education](#), replacing the Standards for Commercial Support: Standards to Ensure Independence in CME Activities. 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.

The newly evolved Standards reflect the values of the accredited education community and have been adopted by the following accrediting bodies representing multiple health professions:



**Accreditation Council
for Continuing Medical
Education (ACCME)**



**American Academy of PAs
(AAPA)**



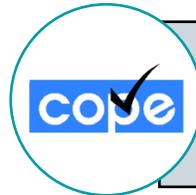
**Accreditation Council for
Pharmacy Education (ACPE)**



**American Nurses Credentialing
Center (ANCC)**



**American Academy of
Family Physicians (AAFP)**



**Association of Regulatory
Boards of Optometry Council
on Optometric Practitioner
Education (ARBO/COPE)**



**Joint Accreditation for
Interprofessional Continuing
Education™**

Many thanks to the Task Force on Protecting the Integrity of Accredited Continuing Education for overseeing the review process, and to the hundreds of stakeholders who provided their feedback.

We've produced a series of resources to support the accredited education community's successful implementation of the Standards. Visit our [Standards resources webpage](#) for checklists, FAQs, toolkits, webinars, and more.

Our Colleague Accreditors

We appreciate the collaborative efforts and dedication of our colleague accreditors, whose work supports local CME providers such as community hospitals, state specialty societies, and county medical societies. The COVID-19 pandemic emphasized the value of local accredited education in providing necessary resources and support for clinicians and healthcare teams—thank you for your hard work during an uncertain time.

Using a framework of equivalency, we recognize 35 state and territory medical societies as accreditors of regional and local CME programs. Equivalency ensures that all CME providers in our system, whether they are ACCME-accredited or state-accredited, are held to the same high standards for educational excellence and independence.

We provide ongoing education, auditing, feedback, support, and IT solutions to Recognized Accreditors at no cost, as part of our commitment to sustaining a vibrant state-accreditation CME system. Resources include the ACCME Academy, monthly webinars, support for staff in transition, and volunteer training.

An International, Interprofessional Community

As a founding member of the International Academy for CPD Accreditation (IACPDA), we work with our colleagues around the world to harmonize standards to increase opportunities for clinicians to engage in high-quality education.

In 2020, the IACPDA announced the adoption of the [Standards for Substantive Equivalency between CPD/CME Accreditation Systems](#), the first Standards to set international guidelines for the accreditation of continuing professional development. The Standards are designed to support improvements in patient care and patient safety by promoting high-quality continuing education for medical doctors and teams across borders. They will be used to determine substantive equivalency between accrediting bodies.

The ACCME recognizes six accrediting bodies outside the US as substantially equivalent to the ACCME's accreditation system:

- Committee on Accreditation of Continuing Medical Education (Canada)
- European Board for Accreditation of Continuing Education for Health Professionals (EBAC)
- Federation of the German Chambers of Physicians
- Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada
- Oman Medical Specialty Board
- Accreditation Section of the Department of Healthcare Professions of the Qatar Ministry of Public Health



STRATEGIC GOAL 3:

ACCELERATE THE EVOLUTION OF CME

Accreditation with Commendation

Congratulations to the CME providers that have implemented the Menu of Criteria for Accreditation with Commendation! Since the menu went into effect in 2017, 45 providers achieved Accreditation with Commendation. All provider types have applied for and achieved commendation.

Serving as a guidepost for the future of CME, the commendation menu rewards and recognizes providers for leveraging the power of education to:

- Promote team-based education
- Address public health priorities
- Enhance skills
- Demonstrate educational leadership
- Achieve outcomes



Visit our website to download this graphic and access tutorials, video overviews, compliance examples, FAQ, and more resources about the commendation criteria.

CME that Counts for Continuing Certification

Our collaborations with certifying boards continue to streamline processes for CME providers, drive innovation and flexibility in education, expand lifelong learning options, and reduce burdens for physicians. We were pleased to welcome the American Board of Surgery to our collaboration in 2020. We now have collaborations with seven certifying boards.



The ACCME-ABS collaboration will decrease the administrative burden of CME reporting and will allow diplomates to devote their time to lifelong learning and the care of patients, instead of tracking and uploading CME credits.”

Jo Buyske, MD
President and CEO, American Board of Surgery (ABS)

Collaborating Certifying Boards

- American Board of Anesthesiology (ABA)
- American Board of Internal Medicine (ABIM)
- American Board of Ophthalmology (ABO)
- American Board of Otolaryngology – Head and Neck Surgery (ABOHNS)
- American Board of Pathology (ABPath)
- American Board of Pediatrics (ABP)
- American Board of Surgery (ABS):
New collaboration in 2020



Advancing Healthcare Education by the Team, for the Team

In 2020, we were proud to celebrate the 10th anniversary of Joint Accreditation for Interprofessional Continuing Education, the first and only program in the world offering multiple accreditations through one unified system. Cofounded by the ACCME and our colleagues in nursing and pharmacy, Joint Accreditation established the standards for IPCE planned by the healthcare team, for the healthcare team. The first two organizations were reviewed and granted Joint Accreditation in 2010.

Now, our IPCE community has grown to include:

- **10 professions**
- **135 accredited organizations**
- **57,000 educational activities each year**
- **23 million interactions with healthcare professionals each year**

Joint Accreditation Collaborating Accreditors

- Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME): Cofounder
- Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education (ACPE): Cofounder
- American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC): Cofounder
- American Academy of PAs (AAPA)
- American Dental Association's Continuing Education Recognition Program (ADA CERP)
- American Psychological Association (APA)
- Association of Regulatory Boards of Optometry's Council on Optometric Practitioner Education (ARBO/COPE)
- Association of Social Work Boards (ASWB)
- Board of Certification for the Athletic Trainer (BOC)
- Commission on Dietetic Registration (CDR)

In 2020, about three-quarters of jointly accredited providers offered education addressing topics related to COVID-19, comprising more than 1.8 million learner interactions.



Together, we've learned that the tenets of interprofessional collaborative practice, such as mutual respect and trust, are never more important than during a crisis. We thank you for your dedication to supporting clinicians and teams in delivering quality care during the pandemic and beyond."

Kathy Chappell, PhD, RN, FNAP, FAAN;
Kate Regnier, MA, MBA;
Dimitra Travlos, PharmD;
Cofounders, Joint Accreditation for
Interprofessional Continuing Education



Joint Accreditation with Commendation

Congratulations to the first four providers who received commendation under the new Menu of Criteria for Joint Accreditation with Commendation! The goal of the menu is to reward providers that implement exemplary practices and generate meaningful outcomes.



New Report: The Transformative Value of IPCE

Our report, *2020 Joint Accreditation Leadership Summit: The Transformative Value of IPCE*, explores wellness and burnout, innovative strategies for overcoming COVID-19 challenges, health equity in IPCE, and achieving Joint Accreditation with Commendation. The report is the fifth in a series. All reports are available [here](#).

Join the IPCE Community

Join us on social media by following and liking our pages:

- Facebook: www.facebook.com/AccreditedIPCE
- Twitter: www.twitter.com/AccreditedIPCE
- LinkedIn: www.linkedin.com/company/AccreditedIPCE



Addressing Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI)

We are committed to fostering learning environments that promote health equity, inclusiveness, pluralism, diversity, equality of opportunity, and social justice. Accredited education has the opportunity and responsibility to be part of the solution, helping to navigate a path from empathy to understanding to action.

- Our Board of Directors convened a special Task Force on DEI to explore how the ACCME can facilitate meaningful change and advance the ideals of DEI in continuing education for health professionals. The Board of Directors will share their findings in 2022.
- We hosted a [webinar](#) that discussed strategies for advancing social justice and health equity through continuing education, featuring thought leaders from Rush University Medical Center and the American Medical Association.
- During several episodes of our podcast, [Coffee with Graham](#), we addressed issues of health equity for marginalized communities.
- We created a dedicated webpage, [Advancing Social Justice Resources](#), featuring resources for addressing DEI issues.
- In our Menu of Criteria for Accreditation with Commendation, we included a [criterion](#) that recognizes accredited providers for expanding their programs beyond clinical care education to address factors affecting the health of populations, including economic, social, and environmental conditions; access to care; and health disparities.

We have to move beyond just diversity and inclusion. They are important, but they are not where equity starts and ends. We need to begin to take the lead at the CME level to expand our language and to include broader concepts of equity and justice.”

Aletha Maybank, MD, MPH
Chief Health Equity Officer, American Medical Association



STRATEGIC GOAL 4:

ASSIST CME EDUCATORS

ACCME Academy

In June 2021, we announced the expansion of [ACCME Academy](#), an educational home for the accredited education community. All accredited providers in the ACCME system, included ACCME-accredited, state-accredited, and jointly accredited providers, received three complimentary user accounts to use through 2021.

SINCE THE EXPANSION OF THE ACADEMY:



What You'll Find in ACCME Academy:

- **Courses and curricula** to help you design and deliver engaging, effective accredited education, promote faculty development, achieve Accreditation with Commendation, and more.
- **Resources** for fulfilling accreditation requirements, using PARS, engaging clinicians, and including patients as partners in accredited education planning and teaching.
- **Support tools** to augment the professional development of your education team.
- **A community of practice** that enables you to learn from and with your colleague educators.

“The course on adult learning theory was well-done and informative, and I enjoyed the format. ACCME Academy is a great opportunity to learn and particularly valuable throughout the COVID-19 pandemic. Thank you so much for the work you do.”

– ACCME Academy User

ACCME 2020 Meeting: Driving Change

When the World Health Organization declared the COVID-19 outbreak a global pandemic in March 2020, our education and outreach team quickly transitioned our in-person annual meeting to an all-virtual format in a matter of weeks. Our team produced a free, fully online experience that engaged more than 2,100 participants from over 1,100 organizations in 52 states/territories and 22 countries. Together, we addressed the important role of accredited education during the pandemic, shared resources and tips for virtual learning and working, and discussed how to better support clinicians and each other to during a challenging time.



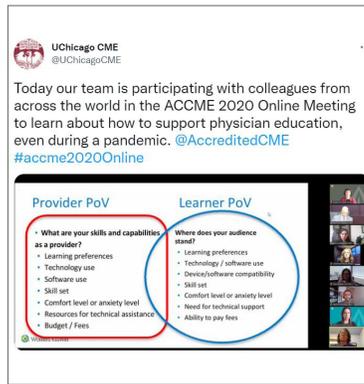


It's wonderful to hear other diverse opinions because it opens your mind to ways to collaborate and prompts you to think about how to bring other people and other opinions into your program."

Michael Zanolli, MD
2020 ACCME Chair, Board of Directors
Dermatologist, Heritage Medical Associates

"Our CME community has not only survived but thrived in our work throughout the COVID-19 pandemic. The ACCME 2021 Meeting helped illustrate the industrious and creative nature of our profession—it is truly invincible.

Suzanne Ziemnik, MEd
2021 ACCME Chair, Board of Directors
Chief Officer, Learning and Educational Research, American Society for Clinical Pathology

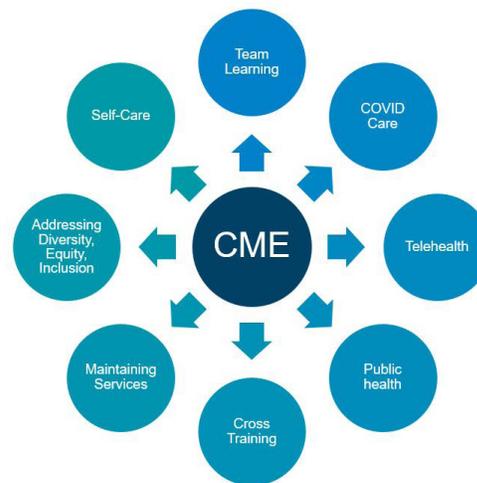


ACCME 2021 Meeting: Embracing Change



By listening to our community of accredited providers and building on the success of the ACCME 2020 Meeting, our team produced the ACCME 2021 Meeting in a completely online format. The 2021 meeting theme, Embracing Change, embodied the strength and resiliency of our accredited education community as we shared our successes, challenges, and key takeaways from providing continuing education throughout a pandemic.

For the first time, we introduced optional Working Groups, which offered participants an opportunity to collaborate with their colleagues to address a specific educational topic and develop a new resource for the accredited education community. The Working Groups presented a summary of their projects during the closing plenary session and disseminated their resources in the months following the meeting.



MORE EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

In addition to our Annual Meeting, we continue to offer our Accreditation Workshop each August and many other online educational opportunities year-round for the community of CME providers and Recognized Accreditors. Visit our [website](#) for upcoming events.

STRATEGIC GOAL 5:

ADVANCE DATA SYSTEMS

We heard from stakeholders that an integrated, centralized data system is essential for reducing burdens on learners; better serving our accredited provider community; meeting the needs of credentialing, certifying, and licensing authorities; and increasing the value of accredited CME. The new, improved PARS is designed to achieve those goals.

Reflecting feedback from providers and other stakeholders, the new version of PARS features a modernized, user-friendly, streamlined interface for activity and learner reporting.

New benefits for CME providers include the options to:

- Display any current or future activities in CME Passport so they can be readily searched for and discovered by curious learners.
- Enter, track, and manage learner data for all accredited activities in one centralized system.

By entering activities prospectively, choosing to display them in CME Passport, and entering individual learner data, providers have the opportunity to:

- Increase the visibility of CME activities; reach a wider audience of learners.
- Eliminate the need to issue certificates at the completion of activities.
- Reinforce the value of activities to learners and other stakeholders.
- Decrease physicians' reporting burden — giving them more time to focus on their patients, rather than paperwork.
- Support regulatory authorities by providing easier access to verified CME and Maintenance of Certification/Continuing Certification (MOC/CC) participation data.



Welcome to CME Passport

[CME Passport](#) is a free, all-in-one web application that enables physicians to find, track, and manage their CME.

Key features of CME Passport (formerly CME Finder):

- More activities: CME Passport displays any current or future activities that providers choose to include.
- More search filters: Users can quickly search for accredited CME by activity format, date, types of credit offered, topic, location, keyword, specialty, and other details.
- Personalized accounts: Physicians can create a personalized account, enabling them to view and manage their reported CME and MOC/CC credits and generate transcripts for their state medical licensing board, employer, or other credentialing body.

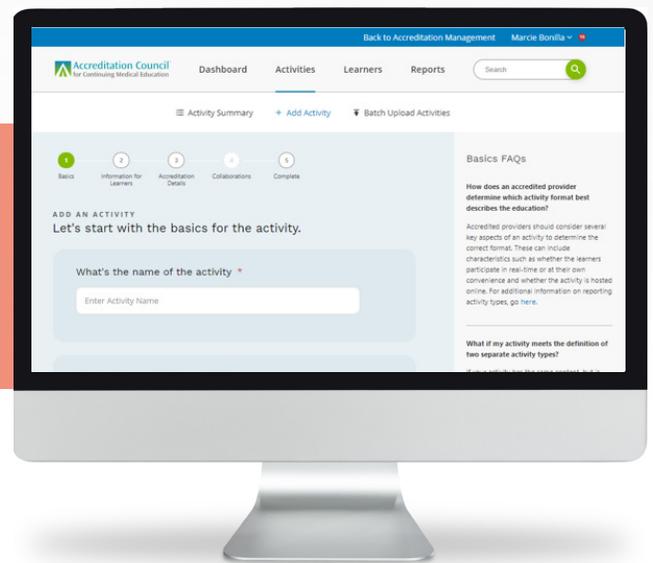
ACCME and State Medical Boards Collaboration

The ACCME and State Medical Licensing Boards Collaboration enables CME providers to report physician participation in accredited CME to participating boards via PARS, with the goal of reducing burdens on physicians and simplifying the audit process for boards. The ACCME offers the service free of charge to medical boards, accredited providers, and physicians.

Currently, participating boards include:

- Medical Board of California
- Maine Board of Licensure in Medicine
- Maine Board of Osteopathic Licensure
- Maryland Board of Physicians
- North Carolina Medical Board
- Oregon Medical Board
- Tennessee Board of Medical Examiners

With the launch of the new version of PARS in November 2021, this service is now available to all state medical boards and all accredited CME providers.



5 Key Features of New PARS

1

View a dashboard about your program.

2

Tag activities by commendation criterion.

3

Enter physician-learner data for all activities.

4

Pre-validate physician-identification data.

5

Display any activities in CME Passport.

“PARS is very intuitive and easy to use. The filtering and download of data are simple and secure. Well-done and thank you!” – *New PARS User*

STRATEGIC GOAL 6:

ADVOCATE FOR CME SCHOLARSHIP

We support engagement in the scholarly pursuit of research in CME with the goal of advancing innovation and sharing best practices throughout the community.

Supporting Research

- We awarded a research grant to the Society for Academic Continuing Medical Education (SACME) to create toolkits on promoting best practices in educational design.
- We modified the evaluation questions in the new version of PARS to better align with outcomes models that are used in research.
- We offer researchers the opportunity to access anonymized ACCME data to support research that assesses the effectiveness of CME, identifies best practices in CME, and is in service to the overall CME enterprise.
- At our annual meetings, we invite participants to conduct research presentations and share lessons learned with their colleagues.
- The *Engages in Research/Scholarship* criterion in our commendation menu rewards providers for developing research projects.

COMING SOON

- Strategic plan for 2022–2026.
- Guidance from the ACCME Board of Directors on promoting diversity, health equity, and inclusion in accredited education.
- Return to in-person and hybrid meetings!

ACCME was proud to celebrate its 40th anniversary in 2021. We look forward with optimism to our continued work together as we support healthcare professionals in delivering optimal healthcare for all.

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We will focus on providing flexible approaches to meet the diverse needs of our community in an accessible and equitable way. It is an honor for SACME to collaborate with ACCME to advance the quality of continuing education for our diverse communities.”

Betsy Williams, PhD, MPH
President, SACME

“I’m delighted to help lead and collaborate with the ACCME Board of Directors as we navigate an evolving healthcare ecosystem. Our incredible community of accredited providers, educators, and other stakeholders continue to demonstrate innovation and dedication to advancing the field of CME—and I look forward to working together to meet new goals.”

Marilane Bond, EdD, MEd, MBA
2022 ACCME Chair, Board of Directors
Associate Dean for Medical Education,
Emory University School of Medicine





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