

Leading Through Learning: Advancing Skills for Better Care

ACCME Strategic Goals 2026 - 2029





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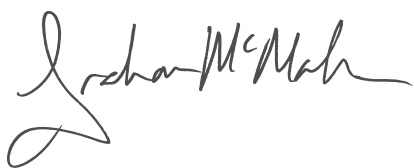
Message from the CEO

As we launch our 2026–2029 Strategic Goals, I'm deeply proud of the ACCME team and our community. Over the past several years, we've strengthened the foundations of our system—advancing transparency, modernizing our data infrastructure, expanding interprofessional collaboration, and building trusted partnerships across the profession. These accomplishments reflect extraordinary commitment and care for the people we serve.

This next chapter calls for leadership with courage. The challenges facing healthcare and education demand that we explore new approaches, invest in research and evidence, and collaborate across boundaries—so that learning and skill development remain at the heart of how we grow, adapt, and take care of one another. Our strategy centers learning as a force for improvement: for patients and families, for healthcare professionals and teams, and for the organizations that support them.

We will continue to hold ourselves to the highest standards of fairness, rigor, and independence, while working alongside the profession to extend the reach and impact of accredited continuing education. These goals reflect our commitment to service—to and with our community—and to strengthening the skills, systems, and trust that enable better care.

I'm grateful for the leadership of our Board, the dedication of ACCME staff, and the partnership of accredited providers, volunteers, and collaborators around the world. Together, we will lead with purpose, learn with humility, and ensure that accredited continuing education remains a cornerstone of healthcare improvement.



GRAHAM MCMAHON, MD, MMSc
President and CEO, ACCME



ACCME's Mission and Vision

The ACCME is uniting the accredited continuing medical education community around our common mission:

To assure and advance quality learning for healthcare professionals that drives improvements in patient care.

Our Board of Directors and ACCME staff reflected on our purpose, opportunities, and responsibilities to advance the organization and our service to the profession and patients. In pursuing our mission, we believe:

- Healthcare professionals' education is among the most powerful catalysts for change in the healthcare ecosystem.
- Our mission drives us to create lasting improvement in the wellbeing of individuals, organizations, and societies around the world.
- Skilled CE educators play a pivotal role in harnessing the power of learning to achieve better health.

Our vision statement conveys our belief that accredited CE is critical in delivering optimal healthcare. Through this vision, the ACCME seeks to convey the true value of continuing education for physicians and health professionals on the lives of patients, their families, and the care team:

A world where our community of educators supports healthcare professionals and teams in delivering optimal healthcare for all.

The ACCME is a trusted global leader in the accreditation of continuing education in the health professions and seeks to extend the benefits of high-quality education to health professionals and patients around the world. Our vision is based on the following tenets:

- Trusted information is foundational to healthcare workforce capability.
- People are at the heart of what we do.
- Learning together improves performance together.
- Robust CE accreditation strengthens systems and amplifies impact.

These strategic goals build on the foundation laid by our 2022–2026 framework, which advanced transparency, technology, interprofessionalism, and international collaboration. With many of those priorities now operational, we turn our attention to sustaining momentum, extending our impact, and reinforcing trust.





Our Strategic Goals

These goals identify six strategic priorities that reflect our commitment to navigating change, strengthening our foundations, and advancing future opportunity.

Safeguard Trust, Fairness, and Professionalism

ACCME must remain a beacon of fairness, transparency, and professionalism in our governance and accreditation practices. Our standards and processes must continue to be evidence-based, consistent, and fair, ensuring that every accredited organization is evaluated with integrity and respect.

At the same time, we uphold the public's trust by ensuring that accredited continuing education is grounded in evidence, free from commercial influence, and designed to facilitate improvements in patient care. CME should also be managed by the profession itself, distinguishing it clearly from promotional or unregulated education.

OBJECTIVES:

- › Ensure that accredited continuing education is grounded in rigorous scientific evidence and actively safeguards learners by identifying, addressing, and preventing the spread of misinformation and disinformation.
- › Ensure impartiality and transparency in governance, accreditation, and accuracy in decision-making.
- › Maintain trust through clear, consistent, and appropriate communication and policy.
- › Ensure accreditation decisions remain timely, accurate, consistent, and defensible through ongoing reviewer training, data audits, and technology enhancements.
- › Ensure broad and inclusive community representation and perspectives in board and committee structures.
- › Promote understanding of ACCME's value-add and regulatory integrity.

Amplify Visibility and Value of Accredited Continuing Education

Elevating the visibility and value of accredited CE is essential to achieving our mission, enhancing uptake, and securing continued engagement from health systems and regulators. At its core, accredited CE serves patients by supporting clinicians in delivering safe, effective, and compassionate care. We will promote equitable access to accredited education and support accredited providers in addressing public health priorities, the social determinants of health, cultural humility, and bias in education design and delivery.

OBJECTIVES:

- › Launch targeted campaigns to raise awareness of accredited CE's value among physicians, patients, and policymakers.
- › Equip accredited providers and volunteers with tools to advocate for accredited CE.
- › Equip healthcare leaders with tools and strategies to leverage CE for organizational goals.
- › Engage accredited providers in striving for higher level outcomes and impact.
- › Leverage ACCME's digital platforms and communications to elevate visibility, share impactful stories, and strengthen engagement.
- › Enhance existing and explore new collaborations to elevate ACCME's public presence.
- › Work diligently with our Joint Accreditation and Recognized State Medical Society Accreditor partners to ensure access to, and promote the value of, interprofessional CE and local CME.
- › Develop guidance and partnership strategies to advance equity in CE access and delivery, including support for education in rural, community-based, and underserved settings.
- › Grow the impact of our Learn to Thrive and Workshop meetings as cornerstone convenings that build community, share innovations, recognize excellence, and support professional growth.

Integrate Accredited Continuing Education as a Strategic Lever for System Performance and Workforce Well-being

The evolving healthcare landscape demands that accredited CE delivers value in system improvement, clinician well-being, and team performance. ACCME can lead by aligning accredited CE with demonstrable outcomes and positioning it as a strategic tool for organizational success. We are committed to supporting the development of skills and capabilities of CE professionals with tools and services that promote best practices and educational innovation.

OBJECTIVES:

- › Promote integration of accredited CE into health systems' talent development, quality, and workforce initiatives.
- › Support use of accredited CE to address burnout, retention, and achievement of a positive learning and safety culture.
- › Partner with health systems, government agencies, professional societies and others to align accredited CE with shared strategic goals.
- › Advance the professionalization of the continuing education workforce by leveraging workforce survey data to support job role clarity, growth, compensation benchmarks, and staffing models by organization size and type.
- › Advance opportunities for ACCME's accredited providers to build their skills and have their capabilities and contributions recognized through our certificate and awards programs.

Harness Data and Technology for Personalized, Insightful, and Scalable Education

Our data platforms and infrastructure are robust and continue to evolve. As artificial intelligence, adaptive learning, and credentialing technologies accelerate, ACCME must contribute to the ethical and valid use of these technologies to create more personalized, effective, and insightful learning systems.

OBJECTIVES:

- › Expand capabilities in PARS and CME Passport to deliver learner-focused insights.
- › Strengthen collaborations with certifying and licensing bodies to support alignment, reduce burdens on learners, and enhance data-driven regulatory oversight.
- › Enable data sharing and interoperability with stakeholders including credentialing bodies.
- › Make a mobile application available to physicians to select, track and manage their CME.
- › Explore, promote, and pilot best practices that leverage artificial intelligence to evolve operational efficiency and educational impact of accredited CE.
- › Support the continued evolution of collaborative organizational relationships to simplify regulatory requirements and increase alignment with learning.

Collaborate and Support Accredited CE Globally

ACCME is increasingly looked to as a global leader in education quality and system development. We are committed to building international collaborations that reflect our strengths, support global partners, and extend our vision for lifelong learning and optimal healthcare worldwide.

OBJECTIVES:

- › Expand ACCME's capacity to accredit providers globally and develop enduring collaborations.
- › Develop and promote recognition frameworks and alignment strategies to support global mutual recognition and cross-border CE system development.
- › Contribute to global improvement in learning systems that support the delivery of safe and high-quality healthcare.

Build Research Capacity to Demonstrate the Impact of Accredited Continuing Education

The healthcare ecosystem is increasingly seeking evidence of the impact of accredited CE on clinician performance, care quality, and system outcomes. ACCME can support the continuing education community in generating, curating, and disseminating research that substantiates the role of education and training in health professional workforce development and care improvement.

OBJECTIVES:

- › Launch a coordinated research agenda focused on best practices in and evolving the impact of accredited CE.
- › Support accredited provider-led studies with access to data.
- › Partner with health systems and academic institutions to advance accredited CE as a key component of change management and implementation science.
- › Disseminate findings to influence policy and investment decisions.

Conclusion

The ACCME will continue to lead the evolution of high-quality, accredited continuing education that provides immediate and long-term benefits to physicians and healthcare teams, organizations, and society. We are committed to supporting the expertise and impact of our continuing education community by deepening our efforts through collaboration, innovation, and trust.

We will nurture and advance scholarship, accelerate adoption of transformative technologies, and support the professional growth of our CE workforce. This includes applying workforce survey data to promote job clarity, fair compensation, and effective staffing structures, while also delivering practical upskilling opportunities through our meetings, peer exchange and certificate programs.

We will continue to make accurate, reliable, consistent, and fair accreditation decisions, while reinforcing the values of equity and inclusion that guide our work. Our relationships with certifying and licensing bodies will continue to evolve to meet the needs of learners and the public, reducing burdens while ensuring rigor and alignment.

We will strengthen our role as a convener and connector, including through our meetings, website, and social media, ensuring that our community remains informed, inspired, and aligned in service to healthcare professionals and the public.

To meet these aspirations, we will rely on the ingenuity, expertise, and dedication of the ACCME team and the continued engagement of our community. Progress toward these goals will be phased and flexible, responsive to available resources, opportunities, and community needs.

Together, we will navigate change with purpose, uphold trust, and ensure that accredited continuing medical education continues to be a cornerstone of healthcare improvement for years to come.

