

CME Types and Requirements

There are four categories of CME activities and each meets different needs for the learners and planners.

Any CME activity must comply with AMA and ACCME requirements to be eligible for *AMA PRA Category 1 Credit™*. The American Academy of Family Physicians (AAFP) offers prescribed credit based on the same criteria as the AMA, but for this accreditation you must plan your activity in detail at least three months before it takes place.

RECURRING ACTIVITIES

Regularly Scheduled Series

Regularly scheduled series, such as grand rounds, take place on weekly or monthly bases. The provider's staff plans and presents them.

NON-RECURRING ACTIVITIES

Conferences

Conferences sponsored by the CME generally focus on the diagnosis and treatment of a particular condition or medical problem. They may last one day or take place over several days. They seek to address identified needs and must be evaluated to ensure they meet these needs.

Enduring Materials

Enduring materials give healthcare providers access to educational resources on their own schedules. They can include printed, electronic, or audiovisual media.

Enduring materials may be derived from live CME activities. In such a case, ACCME considers the provider to have created two separate activities. Both must comply with all ACCME requirements, and the enduring material must comply with additional ACCME policies specific to enduring materials.

Performance Improvement Activities

Performance improvement (PI) activities improve targeted aspects of participants' medical practice through an evidence-based, three-part program. Individuals or groups of physicians assess their current practice, learn about specific performance measures, apply the new measures over a useful interval, and at the end, re-evaluate their performance.