AAPA CME Criteria

Educational Criteria

Criterion 1: The activity must conform to the AAPA definition of CME:

CME consists of clinical and professional educational activities that serve to maintain, develop, or increase the knowledge, skills, and professional performance and relationships that a PA uses to provide services for patients, the public, and the profession.

Criterion 2: The activity incorporates educational needs (knowledge, skills/strategy, or performance) that underlie the practice gaps of PAs as individuals or as members of the healthcare team.

Criterion 3: The activity has specific goals or objectives that are communicated to learners.

Criterion 4: The PA perspective is included in the planning process. This may be accomplished by including PAs as faculty, planners, or reviewers.

Criterion 5: The activity/educational intervention is designed to change the skills/strategy or performance of PAs and/or the healthcare teams of which they are a part.

Criterion 6: The activity is consistent with PAs’ current or potential scope of professional practice.

Criterion 7: The choice of format for the activity/intervention is appropriate for the setting, goals/objectives, and desired result of the activity or intervention.

Criterion 8: The activity is developed in the context of the desirable attributes of PAs and the healthcare team (Competencies for the PA Profession, IOM Competencies for the Healthcare Team, and other relevant professional and ethical commitments).

Criterion 9: The activity is developed independent of commercial interests and in compliance with ACCME Standards for Commercial Support: Standards to Ensure Independence in CME Activities including the following:

- Identification, resolution, and disclosure of relevant financial relationships of all individuals who control the content of a CME activity
- Appropriate management of commercial support (if applicable)
- Maintenance of the separation of promotion from education (if applicable)
- Promotion of improvement in healthcare and NOT proprietary interests of a commercial interest

Criterion 10: The activity must provide an assessment of the learner that measures achievement of the educational purpose and/or objective of the activity, and focuses on change in PAs or the healthcare teams in which they practice in terms of skills/strategy, performance, or patient outcomes.
Administrative Criteria

Criterion 11: The provider must have a mechanism to record and verify learner participation.

Criterion 12: The provider must issue documentation to PAs verifying their participation that includes the appropriate AAPA credit designation statement. Providers must maintain records of participation data for a minimum of 5 years.

Criterion 13: Activity materials such as syllabi, brochures, and promotional materials must include the appropriate AAPA credit designation statement and CME approval logo with the exception of “save-the-date” communications that give only preliminary information such as title, date, and location.