

CPME POLICIES AND MISCELLANEOUS DOCUMENTS

October 2021

CPME POLICIES AND MISCELLANEOUS DOCUMENTS

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*Throughout this document, the use of “Specialty Board Recognition Committee” or “SBRC” in place of “Joint Committee on the Recognition of Specialty Boards” or “JCRSB” is used pending adoption of a CPME *Bylaw* change at the Council’s April 2022 meeting. The CPME *Bylaws* adopted at the Council’s October 2021 meeting moved the JCRSB to a standing committee of the Council. At that meeting it was determined that because the JCRSB is no longer a “joint” committee of the APMA and CPME and is now a CPME standing committee, the committee’s name should change from the Joint Committee on the Recognition of Specialty Boards (JCRSB) to the Specialty Board Recognition Committee (SBRC) and that the name change should be implemented immediately.

ANNUAL SCHEDULE

The following calendar is used by the Council and Council staff in the conduct of yearly meeting activities. This list pertains to only primary Council meetings. Although the schedule should be followed whenever possible, staff is provided some discretion in the flexibility of the schedule should unforeseen circumstances arise.

March

Meetings:

- Continuing Education Committee
- Residency Review Committee
- APMA House of Delegates (CPME chair, vice-chair, and director)
- Collaborative Residency Evaluator Committee
- Specialty Board Recognition Committee

April

Meetings:

- Accreditation Committee
- Budget Planning Committee
- Executive Committee
- CPME

July

Meetings:

- Nominating Committee

September

Meetings:

- Continuing Education Committee
- Residency Review Committee

October

Meetings:

- Accreditation Committee
- Budget Planning Committee
- Executive Committee
- CPME

December

Meetings:

- Collaborative Residency Evaluator Committee

EXPENSE REIMBURSEMENT AND TRAVEL POLICIES

Expenses of individual Council members, committee members, evaluators, and consultants related to the on-site evaluation process, attendance at meetings, or participation in workshops/seminars are reimbursed by CPME through the APMA. (Members of RRC or CREC who represent specialty organizations or individual RRC evaluators who participate in workshops are reimbursed by their respective organizations.) The following general rules apply to reimbursement of expenses.

AIRFARE: Common carriers shall be used in all cases. Use of charter aircraft must be approved by the CPME director. Use of private aircraft is not authorized.

Coach or economy class are authorized classes of service. First class service is not authorized unless it results from upgrades that do not cost any more than the lowest appropriate fare.

Fares shall be the lowest available within a reasonable time of required arrival. Advance booking is the most cost-saving technique available. Reservations should be booked as soon as practical. Early Bird check-in when booking flight arrangements are reimbursable. Extra leg room is non-reimbursable. Council travelers may be reimbursed for an extra night's lodging and per diem in order to stay over a Saturday night (when appropriate) if substantial savings are made on airfares. These arrangements are to be made in advance with the approval of CPME staff.

Travelers are expected to use nonrefundable (penalty) fares whenever practical. An occasional payment of a penalty when necessary is more cost-effective than paying higher fares. Travelers are expected to meet penalty fare restrictions unless it is impossible.

AUTOMOBILES: Use of personal automobiles for Council travel is at the discretion of the traveler. CPME reimburses auto travel at a per-mile rate that is based upon the federal government standard. The per-mile rate includes fuel and any other costs related to use of the automobile. Mileage is reimbursed for transportation to and from airports, train, or bus stations; and to and from the site of the CPME activity. Should the traveler elect the use of personal automobile, reimbursement shall not exceed the lowest appropriate airfare available, irrespective of total miles driven.

Since use of personal automobiles is the choice of the traveler, the traveler assumes all responsibility for safety, maintenance, repairs, insurance, compliance with all applicable laws, fines, and other similar items.

AUTOMOBILE RENTAL: Automobile rentals are authorized when their use is more cost-effective than public transportation in a city. The choice of a car should be the smallest which can fulfill the needs of the trip. Individual travelers normally should choose compact or subcompact cars.

All travelers who rent cars paid by APMA are asked to consolidate their arrangements using Hertz Corporation whenever possible. APMA has worked out an arrangement with Hertz which provides advantages for both the Association and for individual travelers. The APMA account number with Hertz is 290783. This is a separate number from the general membership discount from Hertz. The general membership discount does not provide the premium benefit or

the Gold Service Benefit.

When required, automobile rental users should plan to refuel before returning the rental. This avoids premium charges for rental company refueling. Drop-off charges should be avoided. The cost of refueling is reimbursable.

Optional insurance coverage on automobiles rented for Council travel should be declined. APMA maintains coverage for automobile liability.

EXCEPTIONS: Exceptions or waivers of these policies may be granted by the Council director or his/her designee. No exceptions may be assumed by the traveler.

FREQUENT FLYER MILEAGE AND OTHER REWARDS PROGRAMS:

Frequent Flyer Mileage and Other Rewards Programs: Travelers may retain personal frequent flyer and other reward program benefits. However, participation in these programs must not influence flight, hotel or automobile rental company selection that would result in incremental cost to the Council beyond the lowest available airfare or rate.

Use of personal frequent flyer mileage or reward program points for business travel is at the option of the traveler. Travelers will not be reimbursed if personal frequent flyer mileage or reward program points are used.

The traveler assumes any tax liability resulting from use of this privilege. Abuse of travel arrangements for the purpose of maximizing frequent traveler benefits will not be tolerated.

HOTELS: Hotel reservations should be made on a “guaranteed” basis. Very frequently the Council guarantees rooms with a corporate credit card. All hotel policies should be followed to avoid penalty charges. When checking into a hotel, a corporate rate or other discount rate should be requested. Many hotels offer various, unadvertised, discount rates of which the most economical may not be the corporate rate. Room amenities are not reimbursable. Room charges not specifically related to CPME business will be deducted.

INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL: No international travel or associated expenses are authorized without the expressed approval of the Council director. This includes any travel outside the 50 United States, District of Columbia, or Canada.

LIMOUSINES: Limousine travel is not reimbursable.

NON-REIMBURSABLE EXPENSES: Reimbursement is not available for the following types of expenses: haircuts, entertainment, personal reading materials, personal alcoholic beverages, massages, manicures, laundry charges, long distance calls, auto clubs, valet parking, insurance for personal automobiles, personal travel insurance, flight insurance (exclusive of that which may be provided as an amenity by the travel agency or by credit card), personal life insurance, animal care, babysitting, or in-room mini-bar charges. Any additional costs incurred as a result of a spouse, family member, or other guest accompanying a CPME authorized traveler are the responsibility of the traveler.

PARKING: Reimbursement for parking is available under the following types of circumstances:

- Personal automobile parking in association with evaluations or attendance at meetings.
- Hotel parking charges for personal or rental cars on authorized business. parking facilities are to be used whenever possible. Valet parking is not acceptable.
- Reasonable airport parking of personal automobiles during business trips. Remote parking facilities are to be used whenever possible. Valet parking is not acceptable.

PER DIEM REIMBURSEMENT: A \$175 a day per diem is paid for days on which CPME business is conducted (e.g., regularly scheduled meetings and on-site evaluations). In addition, the per diem allowance is authorized for a travel day before and after days in which in-person business is conducted. This per diem allowance is expected to cover all incidentals, including meals, tips, and ground transportation to and from social activities. The per diem is allotted to be paid for up to two days of regularly scheduled meetings of the Council and its committees. If a regularly scheduled meeting is conducted in a virtual manner (e.g., Zoom), the per diem will be authorized to cover expenses incurred for the day to participate in any virtual meeting. Virtual meetings and conference calls that last more than three hours may pay the per diem as determined by the Council chair in consultation with the committee chair and CPME director.

RAIL SERVICE: Use of railroad transportation such as Amtrak is authorized. Fares are subject to the same policies as airfares.

REPORTING EXPENSES: Travelers must use the Council on Podiatric Medical Education Expense Voucher to report travel expenses. In order for an expense voucher to be processed, original, itemized, airline, train, bus, hotel, taxi, toll, and/or automobile rental receipts must be attached.

TAXI/UBER/LYFT: Taxi fare is reimbursable only when it pertains to individual transportation to and from airports, train, or bus stations; and to and from specific evaluation or meeting sites. Taxi fare related to meal functions and other social activities cannot be reimbursed.

TELEPHONE: The costs of personal telephone calls are the responsibility of the traveler. Telephone expenses related to communication with an institution to be evaluated or with Council staff are reimbursable.

TOLLS: Reimbursement is authorized for tolls incurred during business travel. Receipts must be provided for tolls exceeding \$15 in total. For tolls less than \$15 that are unaccompanied by a receipt, this should be noted.

TRAVEL AGENCY: If necessary, for your use APMA offers travel through Association Travel Concepts (ATC). To utilize ATC, you need to send an email to notifier@reardencommerce.com to receive an activation email. If you do not receive the email after you have emailed them, please contact Council staff. When you are booking travel, select “APMA miscellaneous travel” from the drop-down menu and use the travel authorization code of 9001.

UNUSED TICKETS: Any unused ticket coupons should be returned to the CPME office. Even penalty fare coupons may be salvageable for cash or other travel.

ACCREDITATION AND EVALUATION FEES AND OTHER ASSESSMENTS

General Policy about Fees

The Council on Podiatric Medical Education believes that a joint responsibility exists among CPME-recognized institutions/organizations and the practice community (APMA) for the financial support of the Council's evaluative process. With this in mind, the Council has developed fee schedules for various aspects of its evaluation and recognition activities that attempt to balance the responsibility between APMA and those institutions/organizations that seek CPME accreditation, approval, and recognition. The Council reserves the right to modify fee schedules at any time and will provide appropriate advance notice to affected institutions and organizations. The Council currently employs the following fee schedules:

COLLEGE EVALUATION FEES AND OTHER ASSESSMENTS

The fee schedule was last revised during the April 2019 Council meeting for implementation in October 2019. Fees are not refundable.

Fee	Explanation of Fees and Charges
Applicant Status	An institution applying to be a new college of podiatric medicine or a college that has had accreditation withdrawn and is seeking to regain accreditation is assessed an initial application fee of \$5,000.
Candidate Status Application	An institution seeking candidate status of a new college of podiatric medicine is assessed an application fee of \$10,000.
Preaccreditation	An institution seeking preaccreditation of a new college of podiatric medicine is assessed a fee of \$10,000.
On-Site Evaluation	An institution to be evaluated by the Council is responsible for paying the full and actual costs associated with all on-site evaluation visits. The fee includes reimbursement for evaluator expenses along with the cost of meeting facilities, if necessary. Payment of a \$10,000 preassessment is requested from the institution prior to each evaluation visit. The institution is billed for the costs beyond the preassessment following the visit or is refunded monies if the preassessment overestimated the actual costs.
Annual Assessment	Institutions are assessed an annual continuation fee of \$5,000.

CERTIFYING BOARD FEES AND OTHER ASSESSMENTS

The application fee schedule was last revised in October 2009, effective July 1, 2010. The assessment and RRC administrative fees were last revised in October 2015, effective July 1, 2016. Unless otherwise indicated, fees are not refundable.

Fee	Explanation of Fees and Charges
Application	Organizations sponsoring new certifying boards in a special area of podiatric medical practice are required to submit an initial application fee of \$5,000. The fee is 75 percent refundable if the organization withdraws its application for recognition prior to initial review by the Specialty Board Recognition Committee.
Annual Recognition Assessment	Recognized certifying boards are assessed an annual fee of \$2,500 plus \$2.50 per diplomate.
RRC Administrative	Certifying boards involved in a collaborative effort through the Residency Review Committee in the evaluation of residency programs are assessed an administrative fee above and beyond the annual recognition fee. The administrative assessment for each recognized certifying board is \$30,000 (\$15,000 for each RRC seat).

CONTINUING EDUCATION EVALUATION FEES AND OTHER ASSESSMENTS

With the exception of the annual assessment, the fee schedule was last revised during the October 2009 Council meeting for implementation in July 2010. The fee assessment was revised in October 2016, effective July 1, 2017.

Effective July 1, 2019, the application fee will increase from \$1,500 to \$2,000 and the petition review fee will increase from \$1,000 to \$1,250. The per joint provider fee will increase from \$500 to \$750, effective January 1, 2020. Fees are not refundable.

Fee	Explanation of Fees and Charges
Application	All entities seeking initial approval as a sponsor of continuing education in podiatric medicine are assessed an application fee of \$2,000.
Annual Assessment	An approved sponsor of continuing education in podiatric medicine is assessed an annual fee, beginning with the year following its first CPME-approved year. Sponsors are assessed \$1,750 plus \$750 per affiliate identified on the annual report.
Petition Review	Sponsors of continuing education scheduled for submission of a petition for continued approval are assessed \$1,250 prior to the committee meeting at which the petition will be considered.
On-Site Evaluation	Sponsors of continuing education scheduled for an on-site evaluation are assessed \$1,500 prior to the evaluation. Institutions are billed any additional actual costs over \$1,500 after the on-site evaluation.
Late Fee	Institutions that do not submit payment of a required fee by the date identified by the Council are assessed a late fee of \$500.

RESIDENCY EVALUATION FEES AND OTHER ASSESSMENTS

The fee schedule was last revised during the October 2019 Council meeting, effective immediately. Fees are not refundable.

Fee	Explanation of Fees and Charges
Application for Provisional Approval	Institutions seeking initial approval of new podiatric medical residency programs are assessed an application fee of \$1,500.
Reclassification of Approved Program	Institutions seeking reclassification of CPME-approved programs are assessed an application fee of \$500.
Annual Assessment	Institutions sponsoring approved residency programs are assessed an annual fee. Sponsoring institutions are assessed a base fee of \$2,800 plus \$150 per authorized position (applicable to all authorized positions in all programs sponsored by the institution).
Provisional Approval Evaluation	Institutions eligible for on-site evaluation of new podiatric residencies are assessed a \$2,000 pre-visit fee plus actual costs above \$2,000, which is assessed after the visit.
Authorization to Increase Positions	Institutions sponsoring approved podiatric residencies are assessed a \$500 fee to apply for authorization of increased residency positions.
Resident Transfer	Institutions sponsoring approved podiatric residencies are assessed a \$250 resident transfer fee if requested within the first 30 days of the resident's transfer into the new program; \$1,000 from the 31st day onward. The institution accepting the resident is responsible for paying the fee.
Authorization to Grant a One-Time Certificate	Institutions sponsoring approved podiatric residencies are assessed a \$250 fee to request authorization to grant a residency certificate on a one-time basis.
On-Site Evaluation Observers	ABFAS and ABPM pay the actual costs of their respective observers to participate on residency evaluation teams. The Council assumes the costs of all other observers on evaluation teams.
Late Fee	Institutions that do not submit payment of a required fee by the date identified by the Council are assessed a late fee of \$500.
Appeal of an Adverse Action	Institutions seeking an appeal of an adverse action determined by the Council must submit a fee of \$2,000 with the request for the appeal, as costs of an appeal are shared between the Council and the institution. Institutions are billed any additional expenses over \$2,000 after the appeal.
Residency Program Transfer Fee	Institutions making a transfer request of institutional sponsorship of an approved podiatric residency program are assessed a residency program transfer fee of \$500.

FELLOWSHIP EVALUATION FEES AND OTHER ASSESSMENTS

The fee schedule was last revised during the October 2019 Council meeting, effective immediately. Fees are not refundable.

Fee	Explanation of Fees and Charges
Application for Provisional Approval	Institutions seeking initial approval of new podiatric medical fellowship programs are assessed an application fee of \$1,500.
Annual Assessment	Institutions sponsoring approved fellowship programs are assessed an annual fee, beginning with the year following the institution's first CPME-approved year. Sponsoring institutions are assessed a base fee of \$2,000 per program plus \$150 per authorized position (applicable to all authorized positions in all programs sponsored by the institution).
Provisional Approval Evaluation	Institutions eligible for on-site evaluation of new podiatric fellowships are assessed a \$2,000 pre-visit fee plus actual costs above \$2,000, which is assessed after the visit.
Authorization to Increase Positions	Institutions sponsoring approved fellowships are assessed a \$500 fee to apply for authorization of increased fellowship positions.
Late Fee	Institutions that do not submit payment of a required fee by the date identified by the Council are assessed a late fee of \$500.

OTHER FEES

The schedule for other fees was last revised in October 2021 to include fees related to arbitration and is to be implemented immediately.

VERIFICATION OF RESIDENCY COMPLETION: Requests for verification of an individual's completion of an approved residency and/or approved fellowship training program must be submitted in writing. The fee for verifications is \$50 and is charged to all individuals and entities.

LATE FEE: \$500 fee for each of the Council's activity areas.

APPEALS: Institutions requesting appeals of adverse actions are assessed \$2,000 prior to the appeal. Institutions are billed any additional actual costs over \$2,000 after the appeal.

ARBITRATION: The institution's Notice of Intent to Arbitrate must be accompanied by payment of a non-refundable fee of \$2,000 to cover the administrative expense of the Council in connection with the proceeding.

The American Arbitration Association (AAA) charges a fee for providing administrative services for an arbitration proceeding for which the institution requesting arbitration is entirely responsible. The amount of the fee is specified in the current schedule of fees maintained by the AAA. (See CPME 935a and CPME 935b for details.)

COMPLAINTS: In the event of a formal complaint being directed to an accredited, approved, or recognized institution, organization, or provider, the institution, organization, or provider shall bear the full costs associated with an on-site evaluation that may be necessary to review the merits of the complaint.

INTEGRITY POLICY

The provision of false or misleading information or the failure to provide material information may affect accreditation, approval or recognition status of a college, program, board, or provider. If CPME determines a college, program, board, or provider has supplied false or misleading information or has failed to supply relevant material information to CPME, to a CPME committee, or to an evaluation team, CPME will determine an appropriate action, which may include but not be limited to a change in status and term. Similar action may be taken if a college, program, board, or provider knowingly makes misleading or incorrect public statements or disclosures regarding CPME, a CPME committee, or an evaluation team or its accreditation, approval, or recognition status.

Approved – April 2016

USE OF CPME LOGO POLICY

The CPME logo may only be used in conjunction with the CPME approval/ accreditation/ recognition statement on materials or websites of accredited colleges of podiatric medicine, approved residencies, fellowships, and continuing education providers, and recognized specialty boards. If the CPME logo is used digitally, the logo must link to the www.cpme.org webpage.

CPME's accreditation/approval/recognition statements are available online in the respective sections of the Council's website.

Approved – October 2019

CONFIDENTIALITY AND CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Council on Podiatric Medical Education (Council or CPME) volunteers are asked to review the confidentiality rules and to disclose potential conflicts of interest annually and to confirm any conflicts at the time the agenda is finalized at the beginning of each meeting. Individuals must also include in their disclosure the relevant financial relationships of a spouse or domestic partner. Such disclosure may be made by the member or staff directly or about another member or staff.

All meetings are held under the Chatham House Rule:

When a meeting, or part thereof, is held under the Chatham House Rule, participants are free to use the information received, but neither the identity nor the affiliation of the speaker(s), nor that of any other participant, may be revealed.

CONFIDENTIALITY

- I agree:

All information available to Council and committee members concerning actions taken or under consideration about institutions, organizations, and individuals is of a highly sensitive and confidential nature. Under no circumstances shall a Council or Committee member discuss the details of a particular institution, organization, or program with anyone other than Council or Committee members and staff. It is expected that Council and committee members will respect the confidentiality of information available about institutions, organizations, and individuals and about actions taken by the Council.

I understand that I may have access to patient information that is protected by federal and/or state law during the evaluation process. I understand that as an evaluator, I am required to protect the privacy and security of such patient information at all times, even after the evaluation process ends. As an evaluator, I understand that I must report any suspected breach of the privacy or security of such information to the Council immediately.

I agree that during and after participating in Council/committee deliberations, I will not disclose any such information to any person or entity, except as CPME specifically authorizes or directs me in writing. I will observe any procedures CPME requires for protecting the confidentiality of such information and elimination of perceived and actual conflict of interest. I understand that any question as to what information either is confidential or represents a conflict of interest will be referred to, and resolved by, the chair of the Council in consultation with the director.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

- I agree:

The Council on Podiatric Medical Education (Council or CPME) strives to avoid conflict of interest or the appearance of conflict of interest in all aspects of its activities. Council and committee members are expected to recognize potential conflicts as they appear and must remove themselves from all deliberations, discussions, and voting concerning programs, institutions, and organizations with which a conflict of interest exists.

Council and committee members who are affiliated in an official capacity with, who have a financial interest in, or who receive compensation from a college of podiatric medicine, residency or fellowship program, certifying board, or continuing education provider must remove themselves from all deliberations, discussions, and voting when their institutions, organizations, or programs are being considered.

Council and committee members must remove themselves from all deliberations, discussion, and voting on any matters pertaining to programs, institutions, or organizations for which he/she has served as on site evaluator until an approval/accreditation action has been taken by the Council.

Council and committee members and staff have the freedom to exercise their independent judgment without any undue pressure or perceived alliance to any organization or institution the Council accredits, approves, or recognizes or to any political entity within the podiatric medical profession. I agree to follow this policy.

Please review the list of CPME-approved/accredited colleges, programs, providers, and institutions and **notate on the conflict of interest form the following:**

Institutions in which you have a pecuniary or personal interest (or the appearance of same) or with respect to which, because of either present organizational, institutional, or program association or organizational, institutional, or program association during the past five years (e.g., college dean or faculty member, or program director or faculty member).

- List the CPME-accredited college where you received your DPM and/or professional degree
- List the college where you received your non-DPM degree if it is a CPME-accredited college
- List where you completed your residency and, if applicable, your fellowship
- List the CPME-approved/accredited programs/colleges/institutions/organizations where you have worked during the past five years
- List the CPME-approved/accredited programs/colleges/institutions/organizations where you have been a finalist for a job within the past five years
- List any other CPME-approved/accredited programs/colleges/institutions/organizations with which you have an association
- List any other CPME-approved/accredited programs/colleges/institutions/organizations with which you have a pecuniary or personal interest (or the appearance of same)
- List any CPME-approved/accredited programs/colleges/institutions/organizations with which you have divided loyalties or conflicts (or the appearance of same) on the outcome of the decision
- List the CPME-approved continuing education provider where you have been a speaker, planner, reviewer, content author, moderator, and/or faculty

EDUCATION:

College Attended

Residency Program(s)
Attended

Fellowship Program
Attended

EMPLOYMENT:

Current Employer

Employers during the
past five years

CPME-approved/accredited programs/colleges/institutions/organizations where you have been employed or a finalist for a job within the past five years.

SPECIALTY BOARDS:

I have a conflict with:

You must disclose if you are on the board of directors, a staff member, have a pecuniary interest, have a personal interest, or have the appearance of a divided loyalty/conflict with the recognized specialty boards.

CONTINUING EDUCATION:

Providers I have (or will soon)
lecture for

Providers I am a planner for

Providers I am a reviewer for

Providers I am a moderator for

Providers I am a faculty/staff
member of

OTHER CONFLICTS:

Other actual or perceived conflicts

Note ALL other actual or perceived conflicts of interest you have that are not listed above. This includes all of your financial relationships within podiatric medicine.

PUBLIC MEMBERS

Public members must confirm that they are aware of, and actually meet the following definition of public member as provided in the U.S. Department of Education’s Requirements for Recognition of Accrediting Agencies. A public member means a person who is not: (1) An employee, member of the governing board, owner, or shareholder of, or consultant to, an institution or program that either is accredited or provisionally by the agency or has applied for accreditation, provisional accreditation, or candidate status; (2) A member of any trade association or membership organization related to, affiliated with, or associated with the agency; or (3) A spouse, parent, child, or sibling of an individual identified in (1) or (2) of this definition.

Signature

By entering my name above, I hereby affirm that I am aware of, and meet the definition of a public member as noted above and as provided in the U.S. Department of Education’s Requirements for Recognition of Accrediting Agencies. Note that both electronic and handwritten signatures are accepted.

AGREEMENT

Signature

By entering my name above, I am attesting that I have read and hereby agree to abide by the terms of CPME’s confidentiality and conflict of interest policies as identified in the CPME 900, *Bylaws*. Note that both electronic and handwritten signatures are accepted.

Signature

By entering my name above, I am attesting that I have disclosed all of my actual and perceived conflicts of interest. Note that both electronic and handwritten signatures are accepted.

Today’s Date

Month, Day, Year

- indicates a required field

CPME OBSERVER'S CONFIDENTIALITY STATEMENT

I understand that in the course of observing the deliberations of the Council on Podiatric Medical Education and/or its standing committees, I will have access to confidential information about CPME's operations as well as actions related to college accreditation, continuing education provider, residency, and fellowship approval, and specialty board recognition. I agree that during and after observing in Council/committee deliberations, I will not disclose any such information to any person or entity, except as CPME specifically authorizes or directs me in writing. I will observe any requirements and procedures CPME may require for the protection of the confidentiality of such information and avoidance of conflict of interest (see pages 36-38 in CPME 900, *Bylaws of the Council on Podiatric Medical Education.*) I understand that any question as to what information is confidential will be referred to, and resolved by, the chair of the Council in consultation with the director.

Date: _____

Signature: _____

Name Printed: _____

- _____ Accreditation Committee
- _____ Budget Planning Committee
- _____ Continuing Education Committee
- _____ Executive Committee
- _____ Specialty Board Recognition Committee
- _____ Residency Review Committee

AGREEMENT NOT TO RECORD AND DISTRIBUTE

For Virtual Meetings of the Council on Podiatric Medical Education and its Committees

The Council on Podiatric Medical Education (CPME or Council) wishes to establish and maintain a fair, equitable, and confidential meeting process during all meetings of the Council and its committees, held either in person or virtually. All guests present during any portion of any CPME meeting will neither record nor distribute any part of the meeting conducted on a virtual platform (e.g., Zoom). This includes screenshots, still photos, audio recording, and video recording and applies regardless of whether the state in which the guest is located at the time of the CPME meeting requires only one-party consent.

■ Signature

By entering my name above, I am attesting that I have read and hereby agree to abide by the terms of CPME's Agreement to Not Record and Distribute policy.

Note that both electronic and handwritten signatures are accepted.

GUEST/OBSERVER PARTICIPATION IN MEETINGS OF THE COUNCIL ON PODIATRIC MEDICAL EDUCATION AND ITS COMMITTEES

Non-executive sessions of the Council and its committees may be attended by guests and/or observers who register in advance. Guests and/or observers may not participate in discussions and/or deliberations of the Council and its committees unless approved to do so by the Council or committee chair. Guests and/or observers may make presentations, but the chair of the Council and the chairs of the committees must approve all presentations prior to their respective meetings.

Executive sessions of the Council and its committees are not open to the public. Consideration of accreditation/approval/recognition decisions are conducted in executive session. Guests and/or observers may attend executive sessions of the Council, if invited by the chair of the Council but may not participate in any discussions and/or deliberations conducted in executive session. Guests and/or observers may not attend executive sessions of the Council's committees.

Each invited guest/observer attending a meeting of one of the Council's committees must sign the CPME conflict of interest and confidentiality policies statement.

Last reviewed – April 2021

CPME DATES

Initial College Accreditation

Arizona College of Podiatric Medicine at Midwestern University- 2007
Barry University School of Podiatric Medicine - 1988
California School of Podiatric Medicine at Samuel Merritt University - 1922
Des Moines University College of Podiatric Medicine and Surgery - 1983
Kent State University College of Podiatric Medicine - 1922
New York College of Podiatric Medicine - 1922
Dr. William M. Scholl College of Podiatric Medicine at the Rosalind Franklin University of
Medicine and Science - 1926
Temple University School of Podiatric Medicine - 1967
Western University of Health Sciences College of Podiatric Medicine – 2012

Specialty Board Recognition

Public Health – 1986 (withdrawn 1994)
Surgery – 1975
Orthopedics – 1978
Primary Podiatric Medicine – 1992

Preceptorship Approval Through College Accreditation (ended in 2000)

New York – 1985
Des Moines – 1988
Scholl – 1988
Pennsylvania – 1989

Miscellaneous

Required H&P training
Residencies – 1983
Colleges – 1989

STANDARDS OF CONDUCT

In order to ensure a comfortable atmosphere, CPME prescribes general rules of conduct to help everyone work together efficiently and effectively. By accepting an appointment to a CPME committee or as a CPME representative, the volunteer has a responsibility to adhere to certain rules of behavior and conduct. The purpose of these rules is not to restrict an individual's rights, but rather to be certain that everyone understands and respects the conduct that is expected and necessary. When each person is aware that he/she can fully depend upon fellow individuals to follow the rules of conduct, CPME can function smoothly and effectively.

Standards of Conduct

In general, each person is expected to act in a mature, professional, and responsible way at all times. Questions regarding any type of conduct may be referred to the chair of the Council, the chair of any committee, and/or the director of the Council.

The following list of unacceptable activities is not necessarily exhaustive, and should be kept in mind when participating in and conducting Council activities and when working with Council staff.

1. Violation of any rule or disregard for security or safety rules where CPME activities are conducted (i.e., an institution undergoing evaluation, the APMA building, any hotel or resort hosting a CPME meeting, any off-site location where CPME individuals are gathered).
2. Being intoxicated or under the influence of a controlled substance during meetings, on-site evaluations, or while conducting other business as a representative of CPME. This does not include medications prescribed by a physician that do not impair work performance. This does not preclude the reasonable and controlled use of alcohol at CPME social events.
3. Threatening, intimidating, or coercing fellow CPME representatives while conducting CPME business at any time, for any purpose. Engaging in acts of violence or making threats of harm or violence toward anyone while conducting CPME business or representing CPME. Obscene or abusive language or indifference or rudeness toward any individual involved in CPME activities or contacted during official CPME business.
4. Any act of harassment, sexual, racial, or other. Sexual harassment, whether explicit or implicit, is unacceptable whether it takes place during, in connection with, or at any other time when in contact with individuals involved in CPME activities (staff, volunteers, evaluators, etc.). Inappropriate fraternization or intimate relationships with CPME staff, evaluators, committee members, and individuals contacted during a visit.

5. Dishonesty including but not limited to falsification or misrepresentation on the application to be an evaluator or alteration of CPME records or documents (e.g., on-site evaluation team report).
6. Violating the confidentiality agreement, giving confidential or proprietary CPME documents to other organizations, or failure to abide by the conflict of interest policy.
7. Spreading malicious gossip and/or rumors; engaging in behavior that creates discord and lack of harmony; interfering with a staff member or volunteer on the job; encouraging sub-par work effort or product.

Disciplinary Actions

Under most circumstances, the Council chair, committee chairs, and CPME director are expected to follow the procedure outlined below. Particular situations may exist, however, in which the nature of the offense justifies the omission of one or more of the steps in the procedure. Likewise, there may be times when the Council may elect to repeat a disciplinary step.

Unacceptable behavior may be addressed in one or all of the following ways:

1. Counseling
2. Written Censure
3. Dismissal from Council activities

Counseling

When a problem in one of the previously-outlined areas arises, the individual will be counseled in developing an effective solution. If the individual fails to respond to counseling, or an incident occurs that requires formal discipline, the following procedures may be implemented.

Written Censure

If the behavior or violation persists, the Council or committee chair will send the individual a written censure, and a subsequent discussion with the individual will emphasize the seriousness of the issues and the need for immediate remedy to the problem.

Dismissal from Council activities

Certain behavior or negligent acts that are viewed to significantly jeopardize the work, activities, or goal achievement of CPME may be the basis for immediate dismissal of an individual from Council activities. In such cases, the individual will be given an official letter from the Council chair and CPME Director outlining the basis for the proposed dismissal and an opportunity for the individual to respond in writing. The response time shall not exceed two weeks from the date of the letter proposing immediate dismissal. Information in the response will be considered in taking action to dismiss with or without reason or in determining whether some other action is to be pursued in lieu of immediate dismissal.

Complaint Procedure

Reporting a complaint

An individual believing that a violation of the *Standards of Conduct* has occurred should immediately report the incident to the Council chair, Council director, and/or a committee chair with whom s/he feels comfortable speaking. The individual may on his/her own attempt to mediate an interaction or behavior that s/he believes is inappropriate or offensive prior to seeking implementation of this policy.

Inquiry Procedure

Once a report is made, the Council director and the Council chair will take steps within a reasonable time to conduct an inquiry and provide the opportunity for appropriate views, including rebuttals, to be presented to all involved parties. The director of CPME and the Council chair then render a decision, including any recommendations or actions to be taken. The decision is communicated in writing to all parties involved.

Confidentiality

Any allegation that a violation of the *Standards of Conduct* has occurred is to be handled in a confidential manner to protect the privacy of persons involved.

AD HOC ADVISORY COMMITTEE POLICIES

The Council on Podiatric Medical Association (CPME) conducts a comprehensive review of its procedural documents six years following completion of its last comprehensive review. The comprehensive review is completed by a CPME-appointed Ad Hoc Advisory Committee as prescribed in the CPME Bylaws. An Ad Hoc Advisory Committee is utilized in the document review of the following entities:

- Colleges of Podiatric Medicine (CPME 100 series) *
- Residency Programs (CPME 300 series)
- Continuing Education Programs (CPME 700 series)
- Fellowship Programs (CPME 800 series)
- Council Bylaws, Complaint Procedures, Appeal Guidelines (CPME 900 series)

* CPME 100 series Ad Hoc follows procedure as prescribed in CPME 130.

REPRESENTATION: Committee members shall represent the organizations within the community of interest relative to the area of activity for which documents and publications are scheduled for review.

The chair of the Committee relative to the area of activity for which documents and publications are scheduled for review shall be an ex-officio member of the Ad Hoc Advisory Committee. Committee members representing the organizations within the community of interest are appointed by the respective organizations. Other members of the Committee, as determined by the Council, are appointed by the Council chair, and confirmed by the Council.

COMMUNITY OF INTEREST: The CPME bylaws identifies the community of interest to include administrators and faculty of the colleges of podiatric medicine, specialty board governing boards, directors of fellowships and residencies, CPME volunteers (i.e., current and former CPME members, committee members, and evaluators), members of the podiatric practice community, students, residents, young members, members of the APMA House of Delegates, members of the APMA Board of Trustees, and directors of continuing education providers.

LENGTH OF TERMS: Terms are limited to the completion of the work of the Committee.

PROCEDURE: The comprehensive review of the standards incorporates the following three major features:

1. Notification about the opportunity for CPME constituents and other interested parties to validate the current standards and provide input about any problems in the interpretation or application of the standards or any gaps that might exist.
2. Broad-based surveys about the standards that solicit input by the community of interest.

3. Periodic review of the standards in a practical, manageable, and consistent way to facilitate sound decision making that results in the validation of the standards.

The first aspect of the systematic review of the standards ensures the opportunity for any interested party to provide input about the standards at any time. Information regarding how to submit comments to CPME is sent to constituents and posted on the CPME website.

All comments must be submitted to CPME in writing; the name, affiliation, and contact information of the individual submitting the comments must be identified.

The second feature in the above list involves solicitation of input about the standards through constituent surveying processes. CPME solicits information through a web-based questionnaire designed to probe participants' understanding and interpretation of the standards, as well as to evaluate each standard for its validity and relevance to the quality of the area of activity. Each standard and requirement, as well as the standards as a whole, are reviewed through this surveying process. The Council additionally solicits input about the standards from on-site evaluators and programs following each on-site evaluation. This review process allows for valuable input from individuals who recently experienced the on-site evaluation and are thus familiar with the accreditation or approval process.

The third feature in the above list formalizes the systematic review and analysis of the information collected, as discussed above. If CPME determines at any point during the review process that it needs to make changes to the standards, the Council will initiate action within 12 months to address the relevant issues. Such action may include convening the Ad Hoc Advisory Committee for the purpose of reviewing the standards and recommending changes to the Council.

The results of the comprehensive review are transmitted to the Council. Before any substantive changes become final, the Council disseminates proposed revisions in policies, standards, requirements, and procedures for comment to the community of interest. The Council will afford the community of interest a defined period of time to comment on the proposed changes and will take into account any comments received on the proposed changes. If the Council determines that additional document revisions are needed based on review of the comments received, the additional revisions will be forwarded to the community of interest for another comment period.

The results of the Committee's review, including recommendations for revisions to standards, requirements, and procedures, are reported to and used by the Council to determine that the proposed revisions are, in fact, valid and reliable indicators of quality and are accepted commonly by the educational and practice communities. The standards, requirements, and procedures are subsequently revised by the Council. Essential components of this process include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Continual emphasis on the development of well-defined, outcome-specific standards, focusing on multiple measures
- Frequent objective evaluations of compliance, based upon information gathered

- and verified during routine on-site evaluations and administrative reports
- Comprehensive analysis of individual and group data to identify patterns of performance

Systematic reviews of compliance through committees that examine these data determine their significance and make recommendations for appropriate action. During this review process, consideration also is given to the consequences of these activities on the profession. Such measures evaluate the relevance and clarity of existing standards, profession trends, necessity for follow-up visits, progress reports, and other similar activities. The ultimate objective is to establish a productive cycle of activities that ensures current and meaningful requirements, increased compliance, and improved process integrity, and product quality on a continual basis.

Along with the comprehensive review, an interim review of the standards and procedures documents occurs three years after the last comprehensive review. The purpose of the interim review is to “fine-tune” any areas of the documents that may not be functioning appropriately, rather than to propose major changes in direction or philosophy, which would be within the purview of the Ad Hoc Advisory Committee and the Council during its next major review.

The results of the interim review are transmitted to the Council. Before any substantive changes become final, the Council disseminates the proposed revisions to the community of interest. The Council will afford the community of interest a defined period of time to comment on the proposed changes and will take into account any comments received on the proposed changes. If the Council determines that additional document revisions are needed based on review of the comments received, the additional revisions will be forwarded to the community of interest for another comment period.

SPECIALTY BOARD RECOGNITION COMMITTEE POLICIES

In March 2021 the APMA House of Delegates approved a resolution moving the Joint Committee on the Recognition of Specialty Boards (JCRSB) to the Council on Podiatric Medical Education (CPME or Council). Subsequently, CPME adopted Bylaw amendments at its October 2021 meeting in order to comply with the APMA action. The Bylaw revisions include moving the JCRSB to a standing committee of the Council and restructuring the JCRSB representation.

In order to conform with the CPME Bylaws as recently revised, the Council is adopting this policy on an interim basis until the underlying JCRSB documents are revised and updated to reflect the new CPME/JCRSB Bylaw revisions.

The members of the new standing committee include:

- Two representatives of the APMA House of Delegates to be elected by the House
- At least three representatives of the Council to be appointed by the Council
- One representative of the public to be selected by the Council
- One representative from the health care community (e.g., hospitals, managed care agencies, HMOs, etc.) to be selected by the Council
- One psychometrician to be selected by the Council
- At least one practitioner or residency director that should hold certification from both recognized boards to be selected by the Council.

The members of the Committee (excluding those elected by the House of Delegates) are to be appointed by the Council chair and confirmed by the Council.

To reflect that the JCRSB is now a standing committee of the Council, the Council determined that the name of the JCRSB will be changed to the Specialty Board Recognition Committee (SBRC) and that the Council should initiate the name change immediately.