

April 2021

Approval with Additional Information Requested

Temple Podiatric Medical Association; Philadelphia, PA – extend approval as a provider of continuing education in podiatric medicine; petition to be considered March 2024.

Probationary Approval

New Jersey Podiatric Medical Society; North Brunswick, NJ - probationary approval, based on failure to submit a progress report and noncompliance with standards 1 (requirements 1.2 and 1.6), 4 (4.2 and 4.3), and additional requirements 2.1, 3.1, 5.2, 5.3, 5.4, 6.1, 6.2, 6.3, 7.1, 7.4, 7.5, 7.6, 8.2, and 9.1. The provider is a candidate for withdrawal of approval, effective May 2023.

Podiatry Services VA Central Office; Cleveland, OH – continue probation, based on noncompliance with standards 2 (requirements 2.1 and 2.2), 5 (5.2, and 5.4), and 9 (9.2, 9.4, and 9.8), and additional requirements 7.4, and 7.5. The provider is a candidate for withdrawal of approval, effective October 2022.

The following items have been added to the Continuing Education Policies document and will be incorporated into CPME720 and CPME 730 when the documents are revised.

In reference to the word logo - requirement 6.3 (bullet 6) in CPME 720 states:

- Educational materials that are part of the continuing education activity, such as slides, abstracts, and handouts, cannot contain any trade names, and/or a product-group message, **logo**, or company image.

To provide clarity to requirement 6.3, specifically to the term logo, the Continuing Education Committee determined when the term logo is used it refers to any **corporate or product logo**.

In reference to commercial breaks being allowed on the screen (virtual) before/after the continuing education activity - to provide clarification to requirement 6.3 add the language “commercial breaks” to requirement 6.3.

Requirement 6.3 - Exhibit placement is not a condition of support for an activity. Promotional activities, such as exhibits, commercial presentations, **commercial breaks**, and printed or electronic advertisements are prohibited in the physical or virtual location where continuing education activities are conducted.

To provide clarity to requirement 9.6 add the language “and/or a virtual exhibit hall” to requirement 9.6.

9.6 Links to pharmaceutical and device manufacturers product websites [and/or a virtual exhibit hall](#) from the activity website are permitted before or after the educational content but may not be embedded in the educational content. Advertising of any type is prohibited within the educational content of the continuing education activity on the internet including, but not limited to, banner, subliminal, and pop-up ads.

To provide clarity to requirement 6.3 add the 9.6 paragraph to requirement 6.3 (as bullet 7).

Requirement 6.3 (new bullet 7) in CPME 720:

- Links to pharmaceutical and device manufacturers product websites [and/or a virtual exhibit hall](#) from the activity website are permitted before or after the educational content but may not be embedded in the educational content. Advertising of any type is prohibited within the educational content of the continuing education activity on the internet including, but not limited to, banner, subliminal, and pop-up ads.

To provide clarity to advertisements being allowed in the agenda.

The agenda is part of the educational content. No advertisements are allowed in the educational content. No advertisements are allowed in the agenda. This clarification will be added to requirement 7.2.

Inactive Provider Education Program

Although many providers of continuing education have been able to move their continuing education activities from “live platforms” to “virtual platforms,” as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, many providers could not due to staffing issues, technology challenges, or other circumstances. The Continuing Education Committee (CEC) observed this disruption in continuing education activities during its recent meeting when reviewing progress reports. Staff also verified this in the 2020 annual reports. The annual reports from continuing education providers have shown many cancelled scheduled CE activities or providers not holding any CE activities at all. Annual reports also showed a decrease in joint providers activities.

Not knowing how long the virus will continue to disrupt providers and CE activities, the CEC proposes the language below be added to the 730-document concerning inactive provider’s educational programs.

Emergency addition added to CPME 730 page 16

Inactive Status

Emergency addition to CPME 730 due to the COVID-19 pandemic: This addition to CPME 730 concerning Inactive Provider Education Program was approved by CPME on April 24, 2021. The addition provides a new policy extending the period of time an approved provider may maintain eligibility for approval without having an activity. This policy will be updated as needed by the Council.

Emergency addition language: Recognizing the continued impact COVID-19 is having on continuing education providers, CPME has approved extending the period of time an approved provider may maintain eligibility for approval without having an activity. This period of time will be extended from two years to the duration of the national emergency declaration and 180 days following the date on which the COVID-19 national emergency declaration is rescinded.