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# ACCREDITATION CRITERIA

The Accreditation Criteria are divided into three levels. To achieve Provisional Accreditation, a two year term, providers must comply with Criteria 1, 2, 3, and 7–12. Providers seeking full Accreditation or reaccreditation for a four-year term must comply with Criteria 1–13. To achieve Accreditation with Commendation, a six-year term, providers must comply with all Criteria.

[Criterion 1](#) The provider has a CME mission statement that includes expected results articulated in terms of changes in competence, performance, or patient outcomes that will be the result of the program.

[Criterion 2](#) The provider incorporates into CME activities the educational needs (knowledge, competence, or performance) that underlie the professional practice gaps of their own learners.

[Criterion 3](#) The provider generates activities/educational interventions that are designed to change competence, performance, or patient outcomes as described in its mission statement.

**Criterion 4 This criterion has been eliminated effective February 2014.**

[Criterion 5](#) The provider chooses educational formats for activities/interventions that are appropriate for the setting, objectives, and desired results of the activity.

[Criterion 6](#) The provider develops activities/educational interventions in the context of desirable physician attributes [eg, Institute of Medicine (IOM) competencies, Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME) Competencies].

[Criterion 7](#) The provider develops activities/educational interventions independent of commercial interests. (SCS 1, 2, and 6).

[Criterion 8](#) The provider appropriately manages commercial support (if applicable, SCS 3 of the ACCME Standards for Commercial Support<sup>SM</sup>).

[Criterion 9](#) The provider maintains a separation of promotion from education (SCS 4).

[Criterion 10](#) The provider actively promotes improvements in health care and NOT proprietary interests of a commercial interest (SCS 5).

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[Criterion 11](#) The provider analyzes changes in learners (competence, performance, or patient outcomes) achieved as a result of the overall program's activities/educational interventions.

[Criterion 12](#) The provider gathers data or information and conducts a program-based analysis on the degree to which the CME mission of the provider has been met through the conduct of CME activities/educational interventions.

[Criterion 13](#) The provider identifies, plans and implements the needed or desired changes in the overall program (eg, planners, teachers, infrastructure, methods, resources, facilities, interventions) that are required to improve on ability to meet the CME mission.

**Criterion 14 This criterion has been eliminated effective February 2014.**

**Criterion 15 This criterion has been eliminated effective February 2014.**

## ACCREDITATION WITH COMMENDATION

[Criterion 16](#) The provider operates in a manner that integrates CME into the process for improving professional practice.

[Criterion 17](#) The provider utilizes non-education strategies to enhance change as an adjunct to its activities/educational interventions (e.g., reminders, patient feedback).

[Criterion 18](#) The provider identifies factors outside the provider's control that impact on patient outcomes.

[Criterion 19](#) The provider implements educational strategies to remove, overcome or address barriers to physician change.

[Criterion 20](#) The provider builds bridges with other stakeholders through collaboration and cooperation.

[Criterion 21](#) The provider participates within an institutional or system framework for quality improvement.

[Criterion 22](#) The provider is positioned to influence the scope and content of activities/educational interventions.