

SUBJECT: PROPOSED REVISIONS TO THE AOA SPECIALTY CONTINUING MEDICAL EDUCATION POLICY

SUBMITTED BY: Bureau of Osteopathic Specialists

REFERRED TO: BOT Reference Committee 1

1 RESOLVED, that the proposed revisions to the AOA Specialty Continuing Medical
2 Education (CME) policy be approved.

3 (Old language is crossed out and new language is in CAPS)

4 **AOA Specialty CME Policy Updates - page 1**

5 **Specialty CME Program Requirements**

6 To be deemed acceptable as specialty CME, the educational lecture must:

7 1. BE PRESENTED BY-

- 8 a. An AOA or ABMS board certified physician in the specialty topic being discussed.
9 ~~THERE ARE NO EXCEPTIONS FOR UNITED STATES TRAINED AND~~
10 ~~AMERICAN BOARD CERTIFIED PHYSICIANS. THE ONLY EXCEPTIONS~~
11 ~~ALLOWED ARE THOSE LISTED IN PARAGRAPH 1.B. BELOW. (exceptions~~
12 ~~for other qualified presenters may be reviewed by the specialty certifying board's~~
13 ~~CME Advisory Subcommittee on a case-by-case basis)~~

14 b. OTHER QUALIFIED PROFESSIONALS AS INDICATED BELOW:

- 15 1) FOREIGN-TRAINED PHYSICIAN AND NON-PHYSICIAN PRESENTERS
16 MAY BE REVIEWED BY THE SPECIALTY CERTIFYING BOARD'S CME
17 ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON A CASE-BY-CASE BASIS. THE
18 RESPECTIVE CME ADVISORY SUBCOMMITTEE SHOULD
19 DOCUMENT THE CRITERIA FOR GRANTING AN EXCEPTION FOR
20 SUCH INDIVIDUALS.
21 2) PHYSICIANS CURRENTLY PARTICIPATING IN AN AOA OR ABMS
22 ACCREDITED CLINICAL OR RESEARCH FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM
23 WOULD BE CONSIDERED ACCEPTABLE FOR SPECIALY CME
24 CREDIT.
25 3) INDIVIDUALS WHO ARE CURRENT FACULTY MEMBERS OF COCA
26 OR LCME ACCREDITED MEDICAL SCHOOLS WILL BE CONSIDERED
27 ACCEPTABLE FOR SPECIALTY CME CREDIT.

28 **AOA Specialty CME Policy Updates - page 3**

29 **Approved Specialty CME Credits 2016-2019 CME Cycle**

30 AOBFP 1025

Explanatory Statement:

The AOA Specialty Continuing Medical Education Policy is attached with the updated language as indicated within the resolution.

Specialty CME Program requirements paragraph 1

This section was revised to provide a clearer understanding of those presenters whose presentations are acceptable for specialty CME credit.

ACTION TAKEN **APPROVED**

DATE **February 25, 2016**



AOA SPECIALTY CONTINUING MEDICAL EDUCATION (CME) POLICY

AOA board certified physicians are required to earn credits in their primary specialty in each three-year continuing medical education (CME) cycle. These credits may be earned in Category 1 or Category 2.

Educational programs in the area of a board certified physician's specialty are essential to ensuring that osteopathic physicians maintain currency in their chosen specialty. Specialty CME is also required as part of Osteopathic Continuous Certification (OCC), which is the AOA's maintenance of certification program.

Physician Responsibilities

In each 3-year CME cycle, physicians must earn a minimum of 50 specialty CME credits in each primary specialty held, which may be in Category 1 or 2. These credits will also meet part of the minimum CME requirements for AOA membership.

For physicians holding certification(s) of added qualifications (CAQs), a minimum of 50 specialty CME credits must still be earned, but a minimum of 25% of the credits must be earned at the level of the CAQ.

Specialty CME Program Requirements

To be deemed acceptable as specialty CME, the educational lecture must:

1. **BE PRESENTED BY**
 - a. An AOA or ABMS board certified physician in the **specialty topic** being discussed. ~~THERE ARE NO EXCEPTIONS FOR UNITED STATES TRAINED AND AMERICAN BOARD CERTIFIED PHYSICIANS. THE ONLY EXCEPTIONS ALLOWED ARE THOSE LISTED IN PARAGRAPH 1.B. BELOW. (exceptions for other qualified presenters may be reviewed by the specialty certifying board's CME Advisory Subcommittee on a case-by-case basis)~~
 - b. **OTHER QUALIFIED PROFESSIONALS AS INDICATED BELOW:**
 - 1) FOREIGN-TRAINED PHYSICIAN AND NON-PHYSICIAN PRESENTERS MAY BE REVIEWED BY THE SPECIALTY CERTIFYING BOARD'S CME ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON A CASE-BY-CASE BASIS. THE RESPECTIVE CME ADVISORY SUBCOMMITTEE SHOULD DOCUMENT THE CRITERIA FOR GRANTING AN EXCEPTION FOR SUCH INDIVIDUALS.
 - 2) PHYSICIANS CURRENTLY PARTICIPATING IN AN AOA OR ABMS ACCREDITED CLINICAL OR RESEARCH FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM WOULD BE CONSIDERED ACCEPTABLE FOR SPECIALTY CME CREDIT.
 - 3) INDIVIDUALS WHO ARE CURRENT FACULTY MEMBERS OF COCA OR LCME ACCREDITED MEDICAL SCHOOLS WILL BE CONSIDERED ACCEPTABLE FOR SPECIALTY CME CREDIT.
2. Cover topic(s) of concern to osteopathic physicians certified in the specialty for which specialty CME is sought

Recording of Specialty CME Credits

In addition to providing participants with a certificate of attendance, accredited CME Sponsors must provide a roster of attendance to the AOA Division of CME. The sponsor also includes the number of credits which should be applied as specialty CME for applicable board certified attendees. Questions should be submitted to the AOA Division of CME. The specialty certifying board and/or the BOS Specialty CME Committee will review all questions about submissions.

CME providers may also request pre-approval of specialty CME based on presenter qualifications and learning objectives.

For CME activities not accredited by the AOA, member physicians must submit the certificate of attendance to the AOA Division of CME. Physicians should allow up to two weeks for the CME to appear on their CME Activity Report, and more time if submitted at the end of the CME cycle. If requesting specialty CME for a subspecialty, member physicians may submit a request form, with information about the activity, to the AOA Division of Certification.

Approved Specialty CME Credits – 2016 - 2019 CME Cycle

Code	Description	Maximum Number of
1	Annual OMED Conference and Exposition	Determined Annually by
2	AIDS Seminars (Osteopathic and Allopathic)	5
3	Risk Management / Patient Safety	5
4	Ethics	0
5	AOA Specialty College Conferences &	ALL
6	AOA State Society Seminars	ALL
7	Medical Journals / Home Study Courses	20
8	Scientific	5
9	AMA/AAFP Courses	Specified by Board
10	Formal Teaching in the Specialty	Specified by Board
11	Standardized Life Support	Specified by Board
12	Specialty Certifying Board Test Construction	15
13	Publications	15
14	Healthcare Facility Meetings	0
15	Hospital Inspections	0
16	Acute Care Hospital Programs	ALL
17	College of Osteopathic Medicine (COM)	ALL
18	Osteopathic Foundation Seminars	ALL
19	Osteopathic Preceptoring	Specified by Board
20	Test Construction / Administering Oral & Practical	10

Board	#9 AMA/AAFP Courses	#10 Formal Teaching in the Specialty	#11 Standardized Life Support	#19 Osteopathic Preceptoring
AOBA	50	50	All	25
AOBD	25	25	5	0
AOBEM	25	25	14	25
AOBFP	1025	25	5	25
AOBIM	25	25	0	25
AOBNM	50	50	All	0
AOBNMM	0	50	5	25
AOBNP	25	25	5	25
AOBOG	50	17 maximum per year	All	25
AOBOO	50	50	All	25
AOBOS	50	50	5	25
AOBP _a	50	50	All	25
AOBP	50	50	All	25
AOBPM	50	50	All	25
AOBPMR	25	25	5	25
AOBPr	50	50	5	25
AOBR	50	50	All	25
AOBS	50	50	All	25

Application of Specialty CME Credits

The AOA Board of Trustees has approved policy regarding the number of credits which may be applied as specialty CME for each cycle. In addition, specialty certifying boards have elected the number of AMA PRA Category 1 Credits™ or AAFP credits for formal teaching in the specialty, and credits for standardized life support courses which can be applied in each 3-year CME cycle.

Appeal Process

Each AOA specialty certifying board has also established a CME Advisory Subcommittee, which addresses questions or concerns about the way in which specialty CME has been applied. Diplomates may appeal to the BOS for CME that has not been approved by their specialty certifying board, but must demonstrate how the specialty CME activity has applied to the improvement of their practice as an osteopathic physician.

Requests for Review

Request forms for pre-approval and post-approval of activities are available by request to the Division of Certification at certification@osteopathic.org.

Note

Failure to meet the AOA specialty CME requirement is interpreted as a failure to meet the individual physician's CME requirement. This could result in the loss of AOA board certification.