



ACCREDITED APPROVER UNIT
American Nurses Association Massachusetts
Accredited Approver Unit
Policy and Procedure Manual
Eligibility

August 2021

Eligibility: ANCCME/ANCC is committed to ensuring that accredited continuing education

- presents learners with only accurate, balanced, scientifically justified recommendations
- Protects learners from promotion, marketing, and commercial bias.

Eligible Organizations

Organizations eligible to be approved in the ANCC system are those whose *mission and function are:*

1. Providing clinical services directly to patients
2. the education of healthcare professionals
3. serving as fiduciary to patient, the public, or population health and other organizations that are not otherwise ineligible

e.g.

- Ambulatory procedure centers
- Blood banks
- Diagnostic labs that do not sell proprietary products
- Electronic health record companies
- Government or military agencies
- Group medical practices
- Health law firms
- Health professional membership organizations
- Hospitals or healthcare delivery systems
- Infusion centers
- Insurance or managed care companies
- Nursing homes
- Pharmacies that do not manufacture proprietary compounds
- Publishing or education companies
- Rehabilitation centers
- Schools of medicine or health care universities
- Software or game developers

Types of Organizations that cannot be Accredited in the ANCCME/ANCC system are

Ineligible Organizations

e.g.

- Advertising, marketing, or communication firms whose clients are ineligible companies
- Bio-medical startups that have begun a governmental regulatory approval process
- Compounding pharmacies that manufacture proprietary compounds

- Device manufacturers or distributors
- Diagnostic labs that sell proprietary products
- Growers, distributors, manufacturers or sellers of medical foods and dietary supplements]
- Manufacturers of health-related wearable products
- Pharmaceutical companies or distributors
- Pharmacy benefit managers
- Reagent manufacturers or sellers

Ineligible organizations/companies cannot be approved as a provider and may not serve as a joint provider of an educational activity.

Owners and Employees of Ineligible Companies

The owners and employees of ineligible companies are considered to have unresolvable financial relationships and must be excluded from participating as planners or faculty and must *not* be allowed to influence or control any aspect of the planning, delivery, or evaluation of accredited continuing education, except in the limited circumstances in standard 3.2.

- a. when the content of the activity is not related to the business line or products of their employer/company
- b. When the content of the accredited activity is limited to basic science research, such as pre- clinical research and drug discovery, and they do not make care recommendations.
- c. When they are participating as technicians to teach the safe and proper use of medical devices, and do not recommend whether or when a device is used.

Owners and employees are individuals who have a legal duty to act in the company's best interest.

- Owners are defined as individuals who have an ownership interest except for stockholders of publicly traded companies or holders of shares through a pension or mutual fund.
- Employees are defined as individuals hired to work for another person or business (the employer) for compensation and who are subject to the employer's direction to deliver accredited education.

Subsidiaries of an ineligible company cannot be accredited regardless of steps taken to firewall the subsidiaries. If an eligible parent company has ineligible subsidiaries, the owners and employees of the ineligible subsidiary must be excluded from accrediting continuing education except in the limited circumstances outlined in Standard 3.2.

- a. when the content of the activity is not related to the business line or products of their employer/company
- b. when the content of the accredited activity is limited to basic science research, such as pre- clinical research and drug discovery, and they do not make care recommendations.
- c. when they are participating as technicians to teach the safe and proper use of medical devices, and do not recommend whether or when a device is used.

New policy, 8/2021 JG

Reference: Standards for Integrity and Independence in Accredited Continuing Education

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