

Dear ASMBS State Chapter Representative,

Thank you for your interest in applying for joint providership for CME accreditation with the American Society for Metabolic and Bariatric Surgery (ASMBS) for your upcoming State Chapter educational activity. To maintain our accreditation with the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME), it is essential that we adhere to all applicable guidelines and standards.

A key component of maintaining this accreditation is compliance with the **ACCME Standards for Integrity and Independence in Accreditation**, which govern the interactions between CME providers and commercial supporters. Please review the following to ensure you understand and meet these requirements:

Key Principles of ACCME Standards for Integrity and Independence

1. **Independence:** CME content must be free from commercial influence and determined by the provider, not by outside interests.
2. **Integrity:** Ensure transparency and disclose any relevant financial relationships of those involved in the CME activity to avoid conflicts of interest.
3. **Disclosure:** Faculty and planners must disclose any financial ties to commercial interests, and steps should be taken to manage conflicts.
4. **Balanced, Evidence-Based Content:** Provide information based on the best available evidence, ensuring a balanced, unbiased perspective.
5. **Evaluation:** Providers must monitor and assess CME activities for effectiveness and compliance with standards.
6. **Program Planning:** CME should be based on identified needs and undergo peer review for scientific accuracy.
7. **Accountability:** Providers must meet ACCME accreditation requirements, maintain records, and report on activities.
8. **Quality:** CME programs must uphold high standards of quality and maintain educational integrity, free from commercial bias.

Purpose of Continuing Medical Education (CME)

The purpose of Continuing Medical Education (CME) is to help healthcare professionals stay updated on the latest medical knowledge, treatments, and technologies. It ensures they maintain their skills, stay competent, and improve patient care. CME also meets licensing requirements, supports lifelong learning, and helps professionals stay informed about ethical, legal, and emerging medical issues. Ultimately, it leads to better patient outcomes and quality care.



This shared responsibility includes everyone involved in the CME process—educators, meeting planners, faculty, authors, speakers, accredited providers, sponsors, and physician learners themselves.

Support from ASMBS

ASMBS will be working closely with you to ensure that all necessary standards and requirements for CME accreditation are met. To assist you in this process, we have developed a comprehensive packet of documents that will guide you through the planning steps. We encourage you to review these materials early to familiarize yourself with the timeline and requirements needed to offer CME credit for your program.

As always, if you have any questions or need further clarification, please don't hesitate to reach out. We are here to help and support you every step of the way.

Thank you again for your commitment to providing high-quality education.

Sincerely,

ASMBS Education Team
Statechapterscme@asmbs.org