



June 2014

ASMBS State Chapter

ASMBS
100 SW 75th St.
Suite 201
Gainesville, FL 32607

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. The ASMBS must report to the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME) in order to remain accredited. A most important part of accreditation is ACCME Standards for Commercial Support. Please review and understand the following excerpts from this important guideline:

Values Underlying the ACCME Standards for Commercial Support

1. Accredited CME providers must place a higher priority on the health and well-being of the public than on individuals' personal economic interests.
2. Some people in CME have personal economic interests derived from financial relationships with commercial interests that create a personal sense of duty or loyalty to the commercial interest.
3. Some financial relationships with commercial interests are important enough to conflict with the person's responsibility to CME learners and to conflict with the public interest.
4. If a person in CME has a conflict of interest, the CME provider must manage the conflict in a manner that is in the best interest of the public.

Purpose of CME

The purpose of Continuing Medical Education (CME) is to facilitate life-long learning among physicians so that their practices may reflect the best medical care for their patients. The goal of CME is to help physicians enhance their performance in practice. All involved in the CME enterprise – educators, meeting planners, faculty, authors, speakers, accredited providers, supporters, and the physician learners themselves – are responsible for fulfilling this purpose and this goal.

The Continuing Professional Development (CPD) Department of the ASMBS will work closely with you in assuring that all standards and requirements for CME accreditation are met. We have developed a packet of documents which will guide you through the planning process. We encourage you to look through these early so that you can be aware of the timeline and the requirements for your program to be able to offer CME credit. And, as always, we are available for any questions that you might have.

Sincerely,

Kristie Kaufman
ASMBS Director of Operations
352-331-4900; kristie@asmbs.org