

ADA CERP Facts Fall 2011

- Recognizing the need to offer its members and the dental community a way to select continuing dental education (CE) with confidence, and to promote the continuous improvement of CE, the American Dental Association's Continuing Education Recognition Program (ADA CERP) was established in 1993. Through an application and review process, the ADA CERP evaluates and recognizes institutions and organizations that provide continuing education (CE). The ADA CERP is managed by a standing committee of the Council on Dental Education and Licensure that includes representatives of the American Dental Association, American Association of Dental Examiners, American Dental Education Association, Canadian Dental Association, American Society of Constituent Dental Executives, and the organizations representing the recognized dental specialties.
- The role of ADA CERP is to evaluate providers of continuing dental education and assist state boards and other organizations that have CE requirements to identify providers whose activities are acceptable for credit. The ADA CERP does not approve the specific courses or credit hours that providers offer.
- The ADA CERP evaluates providers of continuing dental education in 14 aspects of program quality. Only providers that can meet the ADA CERP standards and procedures are granted ADA CERP recognition and are authorized to use the ADA CERP logo and recognition statement. Once approved, ADA CERP recognized providers are held accountable for maintaining those same high standards through periodic reevaluation.
- Currently, there are 426 ADA CERP recognized providers at the national level, including 38 ADA constituent societies and 14 component societies, 55 dental specialty societies and dental associations, 73 dental/medical schools, universities and colleges, and 99 dental education companies. In addition, authorization has been granted to ADA CERP recognized ADA constituent (state) dental societies and participating specialty organizations to extend approval to their component (local) societies and affiliates, respectively. Through the extended approval process, 135 dental societies are recognized.
- Of the U.S. licensing jurisdictions that have currently implemented CE requirements for licensure renewal of dentists and allied staff, all accept the credits offered by ADA CERP-recognized providers toward their requirements. However, each licensing jurisdiction may have additional criteria that must be met.
- All CE providers that meet the eligibility requirements may apply for ADA CERP recognition. Participating providers pay an application fee and an annual fee.
- ADA CERP does not maintain a registry of CE credits. It is the responsibility of the CE provider to maintain records of participants in its educational activities. Participants in CE activities should retain documents verifying participation in CE activities and submit copies to their individual licensing board as required.
- The Academy of General Dentistry accepts credits from ADA CERP nationally recognized providers toward the FAGD and MAGD awards.

Contact ADA CERP for more information:

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