

August 2010

ANNOUNCEMENTS

New Criteria for Self-Instructional Activities

At its April 2010 meeting, the ADA's Council on Dental Education and Licensure approved revisions to the [ADA CERP Recognition Standards and Procedures](#) requiring providers to publish release dates and expiration dates for all self-instructional continuing dental education activities. This information will assist dental professionals in identifying continuing education that is current.

Standard VI--Educational Methods has been revised to include the following new criterion:

- VI.8.e. Providers that offer self-instructional activities must publish the following information on publicity materials for the activity and in the activity itself:
- i. Original release date;
 - ii. Review date (if activity is reviewed and rereleased);
 - iii. Expiration date (a maximum of 3 years from the original release date or the last review date, whichever is most recent).

ADA CERP approved providers that offer self-instructional activities, whether printed, online or audio-visual formats such as DVD, must now list the original publication or release date at the beginning of the activity or on the packaging. Providers must also list the expiration date for the activity, after which credits will no longer be granted. The expiration date may be a maximum of 3 years from the release date, or less if the provider determines appropriate.

Providers may release self-instructional activities again if, after conducting a formal review of the activity, the provider determines that the content is still valid. Self-instructional activities that are rereleased must include the original release date, the review date, and the new expiration date. This information must be included at the beginning of the activity or on the packaging.

The publication/release date, the expiration date, and the review date (when applicable) must also be included in publicity materials or advertisements for self-instructional courses, as stated in the revised Standard XI--Publicity.

- XI.1. Publicity must be informative and not misleading. It must include:
- a. The name of the provider prominently identified
 - b. The names of any joint sponsors
 - c. The course title
 - d. A description of the course content
 - e. The educational objectives
 - f. A description of teaching methods to be used
 - g. The names of any entities providing commercial support
 - h. The costs and contact person
 - i. The course instructor(s) and their qualifications and any conflicts of interest
 - j. Refund and cancellation policies
 - k. Location, date, and time for live activities; original release date, review date (if applicable), and expiration date for self-instructional activities.
 - l. The recognition status of the provider, through the use of the authorized recognition statement, and, whenever feasible (given space considerations) the use of the ADA CERP logo in conjunction with the authorized statement
 - m. The number of credits available using the authorized credit designation statement.

ADA CERP approved providers should begin including this information in all new self-instructional activities and publicity materials for these activities. Providers will be evaluated on compliance with the revised Standards beginning in July 2011. The first cohort of providers to be evaluated on compliance with the new criteria will be those with recognition terms expiring December 2011. Providers will be required to demonstrate that any self-instructional courses released after August 2010 will include the release date and expiration date. As providers develop and implement a regular review and re-approval process for self-instructional activities, it is expected that all self-instructional courses offered will conform to the revised Standards by July 2013.

“Educational Methods” and “Electronically Mediated” Standards Consolidated

In other actions, the Council approved combining the criteria previously listed under Standard XV-- Electronically Mediated Distance Learning with the criteria for Standard VI--Educational Methods. Standard XV has therefore been eliminated; however the requirements for electronically mediated distance learning remain unchanged. They are now found under Standard VI--Educational Methods.

To assist providers in interpreting requirements for different educational formats, the Council also approved the addition of several new terms to the [ADA CERP Lexicon of Terms](#). Definitions for the terms Electronically Mediated Learning, Live Activities, and Self-instructional Activities are now included in the Lexicon.

For more information about ADA CERP policies and procedures contact ADA CERP staff at 800-621-8099 ext. 2869 or visit www.ada.org/goto/cerp.