Guidance on Live Streaming CE Activities for CERP Recognized Providers

In response to the spread of the 2019 novel corona virus, communities, institutions and individuals are taking steps to help reduce transmission of COVID-19 by canceling non-essential travel and large gatherings. Accordingly, some CE providers scheduled to hold professional conferences or educational events in the upcoming months are exploring options for offering these activities virtually. The following information is offered for providers that are considering presenting live, online CE activities and that may have questions about CERP requirements for these activities.

Updates on the corona virus are available from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Resources for dentists are available from the American Dental Association at ada.org/virus.

Live, online CE activities

Providers offering online CE activities should review CERP Standard VI.9 which outlines requirements unique to these types of activities, by providing:

- A mechanism for participant interaction with instructors—for example, through a chat function or email
- Participant access to technical assistance for the webinar or streaming platform throughout the activity
- No “commercial breaks” or embedded advertising within the CE activities (however, acknowledgement of commercial support is permitted)

Providers must also ensure that CERP requirements for all types of formal CE activities are met. These include, but are not limited to:

- Publishing educational objectives;
- Publishing information about instructors, their qualifications and disclosures of relevant financial relationships;
- Providing a method for participants to evaluate the effectiveness of the activity;
- Verifying who participated in the activity;
- Issuing CE credits based on the actual hours of instruction in which the learner participated; and
- Issuing a document to those who participated including the course title, the method of delivery, the number of CE credits earned and the CERP recognition statement.

Online recorded CE activities

If a provider records a live CE activity, and then releases the recording for those who were not able to participate in the live broadcast, the recording is considered as a self-study activity. In addition to the criteria listed above, self-study, or asynchronous, CE activities must meet Standard VI.8.

Reporting the addition of live webinars or streaming CE activities

Providers adding live webinars or live-streamed CE activities will not be required to submit a separate report of substantive change to the Commission.

However, providers that add self-study activities to their programming since submitting their last application will be required to submit a report of substantive change (see the Policy on Reporting Substantive Changes in the CERP Recognition Standards and Procedures).

Providers that offer live webinars/streaming activities or online self-study activities will be asked to report on these at the time of the provider’s next application for continued recognition by completing the appropriate supplement(s), consistent with current CERP application procedures.

Providers are encouraged to review the CERP Recognition Standards and Procedures. Contact CCEPR staff for more information at 312-440-2869 or cerp@ada.org.