ACPE *UPDATE*

SPRING 2024

Message from the Executive Director

Jan Engle, PharmD, PhD (Hon), FAPhA, FCCP, FNAP

The ACPE Board of Directors had their regular meeting at the end of January. New officers were elected at this meeting and include the following:

President: Cindy D. Stowe
Vice President: LuGina Mendez-Harper
Treasurer: Kimberly S. Croley

Commission liaisons were also selected at this meeting and they include:

CPE Commission:
Susan E. Buechele

International Commission:
Michael A. Moné

Pharmacy Technician Accreditation Commission:
Sharon L. Youmans

Jan Engle

PRESIDENT
Cindy Stowe

VICE PRESIDENT
LuGina Mendez-Harper

TREASURER
Kimberly S. Croley

The Board approved the release of the draft of Standards 2025 for Doctor of Pharmacy Programs for comment at the January Board meeting. More information about the revision process can be found later in this newsletter *(page 5)*.

Other topics discussed and actions taken at the January Board meeting include a change in annual monitoring, an update to the definition of an adverse action in ACPE policies, and several pieces of guidance from the continuing pharmacy education division.

Change in Annual Monitoring

The ACPE Board of Directors authorized changes to the annual monitoring policy for professional degree programs, 11.6 (www.acpe-accredit.org/pdf/CSPoliciesandProcedures January2024.pdf).

Board Liaisons to Commissions, L to R: Michael A. Moné, Sharon L. Youmans, and Susan E. Buechele

Starting in June 2024, the Board will begin looking at trends in the overall number of first-time test takers failing the NAPLEX examination at each program.

Following analysis of ACPE's process for monitoring NAPLEX® outcomes, the Board has acted to maintain ACPE's Benchmark of two standard deviations below the national average for first-time test takers. As outlined in the Policy, ACPE will continue to send letters requesting that programs identify the cause of negative changes or trends in NAPLEX® outcomes and provide action plans for correcting the changes or trends. Starting in June 2024, the Board will begin looking at trends in the overall number of first-time test takers failing the NAPLEX examination at each program. Programs with a large number of failures, yet still having an overall passing rate above the two standard deviations threshold, may be asked to identify the causes of such failures and provide action plans for reducing the number of first-time test takers failing the examination.

Beginning in July 2025, with the release of Standards 2025, the Board has approved actions to be taken based on the number of times a program falls below the two standard deviations (2SD) benchmark.

The specifics of the policy are as follows:

Within any seven-year period:

- 1st year passing rate below 2SD: letter sent requiring root cause analysis for poor performance and action plan for improvement
- 2nd year passing rate below 2SD: focused on-site evaluation to explore the program's compliance with accreditation standards
- 3rd year passing rate below 2SD: program requested to meet with ACPE Board of Directors
- 4th year passing rate below 2SD: program subject to probationary action
- 5th year passing rate below 2SD: program subject to withdrawal of accreditation

In addition, as part of ACPE's On-Time Graduation Rate Monitoring policy, programs exceeding ACPE's benchmark of 24% attrition of the matriculating class size will be requested to provide an update on the status of students with delayed graduation.

Adverse Action Definition

The ACPE Board of Directors approved an update to Section 13 of the Policies and Procedures to modify the definition of an adverse action. To align with USDE policy, Accredited with Probation is no longer considered an adverse action, which removes the opportunity for appeal. The updated manual can be found on the ACPE website at: https://www.acpe-accredit.org/pdf/CSPoliciesandProceduresJanuary2024.pdf.

Continuing Pharmacy Education

The January 2024 ACPE Board of Directors and CPE Commission approved guidance for ACPE-accredited CPE providers in the areas of diversity, equity and inclusion, artificial intelligence, digital badges and certificate programs. More information about the guidance can be found later in this newsletter *(page 11)*.

2023 NAPLEX Scores

The National Association of Boards of Pharmacy (NABP) has posted the North American Pharmacist Licensure Examination (NAPLEX) Passing Rates for 2021-2023 Graduates (https://nabp.pharmacy/wp-content/uploads/NAPLEX-Pass-Rates-2023.pdf). As a

If you have any questions about this information or anything in this edition of the *ACPE Update,* please don't hesitate to contact us at info@acpe-accredit.org or send a note to our individual emails.

reminder, a program accredited by ACPE is required to post on its website the most recent year's NAPLEX results for first-time takers as found on the NABP website. All programs should have the 2023 data posted on their website.

Council for Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA)

At the January 29, 2024 meeting, the Council for Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA) Board of Directors reviewed the recommendation of the CHEA Committee on Recognition regarding the application for continued CHEA recognition of the American Council for Pharmacy Education (ACPE). The CHEA Board of Directors accepted the Committee's recommendation and granted recognition to ACPE for the maximum term of seven years.

Webinar Activity

Webinars provided by the ACPE CE staff during the spring included:

- CE Program Evaluation Team Training, January 9 and 18
- ACPE CPE Administrator Virtual Workshop, February 27–29
- 2024 Getting Started with Joint Accreditation Virtual Workshop, March 28
- CE Program Self-Assessment Report Preparation Webinar, April 23 ◼

ACPE Board of Directors

L to R: Reza Karimi, Michael Moné, Kim Croley, Sharon Youmans, LuGina Mendez-Harper, Jan Engle, Amy Seybert, Cindy Stowe, John Kirtley, Susan Buechele, and Winnie Landis

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University of Pittsburgh School of Pharmacy

Sharon L. Youmans, PharmD, MPH, FAPhA
Executive Vice Dean and Professor of Clinical Pharmacy
University of California San Francisco

ACPE on the Road

ACPE Town Hall at the AACP Interim Meeting. L to R: Sharon, Cindy, and Jan.

The ACPE staff currently have a very heavy travel schedule for spring 2024. They continue to complete all comprehensive evaluations live and on-site. Where appropriate, they will continue to conduct focused evaluation visits virtually. All international site visits for the spring cycle have been completed successfully on-site or virtually when travel was not possible.

Greg Boyer was a panelist presenting ACPE's approach to annual monitoring at the Annual Meeting of CHEA, on January 31, 2024, in Washington DC. Convened by the Association of Specialized and Programmatic Accreditors (ASPA), the panel members spoke on the topic of data collection and ensuring compliance with accreditation standards. Representatives from the Council on Social Work Education and the National Accrediting Agency for Clinical Laboratory Sciences joined Greg in this discussion.

ACPE Continuing Pharmacy Education (CPE) staff have been busy giving presentations both at meetings and via virtual webinars for various audiences.

In February, **Dimitra Travlos** gave two presentations at the 2024 Alliance for CE for the Health Professions Annual Meeting in New Orleans, Louisiana:

- "Unlocking Our Potential: Insights and Ideas to Ensure Accreditor Alignment"
- "Emerging Trends: Exploration of the Changing Landscape of CE, Board Certification and Organization Recognition in Healthcare"

Jan speaking at the Fourth Pharmacy Accreditation Conference in Ankara, Turkey

ACPE was well represented at the AACP Interim Meeting in February with Board members and staff attending the meeting. The ACPE Colleges/Schools staff provided a new Dean's orientation session that was very well attended followed by a joint reception with AACP attended by the new deans, AACP Board members and this year's ALFP Fellows. We also held a session to receive feedback on the Standards. President **Cindy Stowe** and

Board member **Sharon Youmans** also participated in the session. The slides for that presentation can be found on our website at: www.acpe-accredit.org/communications/#tab-Presentations.

In February, **Jan Engle** was asked to give a presentation entitled "Assuring Quality of Pharmacy Education through Programmatic Accreditation" at the Fourth Pharmacy Accreditation Conference in Ankara, Turkey. The conference was hosted by the Association for Evaluation and Accreditation of Pharmacy Education Programs (ECZAKDER) and the Gazi Faculty of Pharmacy. The presentation was well received and generated a lot of questions and interest in our international program.

ACPE staff and Board members participated in sessions at the APhA Annual Meeting in Orlando and the Academy of Managed Care Pharmacy Annual Meeting in New Orleans to obtain feedback on the draft of Standards 2025.

ACPE staff also continue to participate in profession-wide meetings including the Council on Credentialing in Pharmacy (CCP), where Jan just concluded her term as President and the Joint Commission of Pharmacy Practitioners (JCPP), where ACPE gave a presentation on the new draft Standards to solicit feedback from JCPP and also meet with the CEOs of various pharmacy organizations on a regular basis.

ACPE staff welcome the opportunities to hear from our various stakeholders through these types of meetings. ◼

JCPP meeting attendees, January 31, 2024 in Alexandria, VA

PharmD Program Accreditation

Spring Visits

Spring 2024 on-site evaluations began the week of March 4 and concluded the week of April 25. During this two month period, ACPE staff and a cadre of trained evaluators conducted nine comprehensive and nine focused evaluations. ACPE is grateful for the service of the volunteers who serve as members of evaluation teams. A reminder to programs considering adding an additional pathway, such as an on-line or extended plan of study, to reach out to ACPE staff to review ACPE's substantive change policy and timelines for launching new pathways. ◼

ACPE Colleges and Schools Staff, L to R: Jacob Gettig, Mary Kiersma, Dawn Zarembski, Joanna Holub, Greg Boyer

Standards Revision Update

Draft
Standards 2025

Attention Colleagues:

The ACPE Board of Directors has approved a draft of the next revision of the Accreditation Standards and Key Elements for the Professional Program in Pharmacy Leading to the Doctor of Pharmacy Degree ("Draft Standards 2025") along with a draft of the Self-Assessment Instrument for the Professional Degree Program of Colleges and Schools of Pharmacy (i.e., rubric) for Standards 2025. The ACPE Board has authorized a period of comment on the draft standards to begin January 26, 2024 and conclude May 15, 2024. All comments and feedback will be reviewed before finalizing the documents. The ACPE Board will release the final version of the new standards in June 2024 with implementation on July 1, 2025. Visit here (www.acpe-accredit.org/pharmd-call-for-comments-standards-2025-2/) to access the documents and methods to provide feedback.

Written comments can still be provided here (https://acpe-accredit.formstack.com/forms/standards_revision_2025) before May 15th.

At its January 2024 meeting, the ACPE Board authorized the release of a draft version of Standards 2025 and established a period of public comment on the draft for the spring 2024 cycle. A town hall was led by ACPE's Executive Director with the Joint Commission of Pharmacy Practitioners (JCPP) the day after the draft standards were released. Numerous other town halls were scheduled during the spring 2024 cycle to obtain as much feedback from the profession as possible. The town halls include representatives from many pharmacy organizations representing a broad array of practice sites, specialties and preceptors.

After review of all comments received before the deadline prior to its June 13–16, 2024, meeting, the ACPE Board plans to finalize and release Standards 2025 at the June 2024 meeting, with full implementation by July 1, 2025. Prior to that date, all comprehensive evaluations will be conducted against Standards 2016. ◼

ACPE town hall presentation at the APhA Annual Meeting in Orlando.

PharmD Program Accreditation

Join Us at ACPE for Our Summer Workshops

The College and Schools staff will host two workshops during summer 2024. The self-study workshop will be held July 29–30 and the evaluator workshop will be held August 6–7 (sold out). Each workshop will be held at ACPE's office at 190 S. LaSalle, Suite 3000 in Chicago. Additional information and registration details are found here (www.acpe-accredit.org/calendar) ■

ACPE Self-Study Workshop
July 29, 2024 – 30, 2024

ACPE Evaluator Training
August 6 – 7, 2024

PharmD Program Accreditation — BY THE NUMBERS

140	PharmD Programs hold full Accredited Status
1	PharmD Program Accredited with Probation Status
1	PharmD Program with Candidate Status
1	PharmD Program with Precandidate Status
0	New Applications
9	Comprehensive Evaluations during Spring 2024
9	Focused Evaluations during Spring 2024
54	Trained Site Evaluators on visits in Spring 2024, supported by 5 ACPE staff
11	PharmD Programs authorized for OnLine/Distance Learning Pathways
1	PharmD Program authorized for an Extended Learning Pathway
25	PharmD Programs offering the accelerated calendar-year pathway

ACPE
Technology and Tools Corner

This section of the newsletter provides insight into tools and technology available to ACPE constituents. The goal is to provide tools and tips to the user community as well as provide knowledge and direction on how to best use the technology available to us.

This issue's article will focus on the newly developed self-study reporting system, **PHARMS– PHarmacy Accreditation Report Management System,** that will be used to generate the self-study for the College/School accreditation process starting in July 2025.

At the January 2024 meeting, the ACPE Board of Directors approved releasing a draft of Standards 2025 and the corresponding self-study rubric. With the planned release of the new standards and the corresponding rubric for 2025, the decision was made to create an online platform, managed by ACPE, for colleges and schools to create, manage and submit their program's self-study report via any common web browser.

The Pharmacy Accreditation Report Management System (PHARMS) for the Professional Degree Program of Colleges and Schools of Pharmacy is designed to assist college or school of pharmacy staff to prepare its self-study report and document how its pharmacy degree program is addressing ACPE's Standards. The platform specifically identifies the documents, data and narrative text that should be provided by the college or school for evaluation of the program's compliance with each of the Standards.

ACPE Pharmacy Accreditation Report Management System (PHARMS)

The process works as follows:

- College or school staff will be added to PHARMS. Each user will have an account created using an email address as the username.

- When your program is scheduled for a Comprehensive Review, the individual(s) granted access will receive an email from ACPE indicating that the platform is ready for the self-study to be entered.

- The college or school staff will then be able to access the self-study platform via a web browser and begin the process of writing the self-study, evaluating the program, submitting evidence, and providing a narrative.

- **Please note:** ACPE and evaluation team members will **NOT** have access to the self-study content **UNTIL** the college and school staff has completed every section of the rubric, all required evidence has been provided, all narratives have been entered, **AND** the college or school has attested to the completeness and accuracy of the information provided.

A high-level summary will be automatically updated to reflect the status of the section-based choices made for a particular standard.

Standard	Status	Satisfactory	Needs Improvement	Unsatisfactory
Standard 1: Organization and Governance				*COMPLIANT WITH MONITORING*
1.1. Eligibility and Reporting Requirements	In-Progress	✔		
1.2. College or School Vision, Mission, and Goals	Complete	✔		
1.3. Strategic Plan	Complete		✔	
1.4. Organization and Governance	Complete	✔		
1.5. Organizational Culture	Complete	✔		
College or School's Final Self-Evaluation: Self-assess how well the program is in compliance with the standard by selecting the appropriate radio button.	Complete			
Standard 2: Curriculum				*COMPLIANT*
2.1. Educational Outcomes	In-Progress	✔		
2.2. Curriculum Design, Delivery, and Oversight	In-Progress			
2.3. Interprofessional Education (IPE)	Complete	✔		
College or School's Final Self-Evaluation: Self-assess how well the program is in compliance with the standard by selecting the appropriate radio button.	Complete			

Specific evidence required to meet a standard can be uploaded. Gone are the days of creating complicated linked PDFs — now you simply upload specific evidence files.

Required Documentation and Data: (Please choose a file after uploading documentation/data using section above.)		
A copy of the professional PharmD curriculum	Test University Curriculum.pdf ⌄	⬇
A copy of the Entrustable Professional Activities utilized at the college/school	Test University Professional Activities.pdf ⌄	⬇

Below is a sample of key elements for Standard 1:

Key Elements	Satisfactory	Needs Improvement	Unsatisfactory
1.1 Eligibility and Reporting Requirements			
1.1.a. **Autonomy** – The academic unit offering the Doctor of Pharmacy program is an autonomous unit organized as a college or school of pharmacy (within a university or as an independent entity). This includes autonomy to manage the program within stated policies and procedures, as well as applicable state and federal regulations.	○	●	○
1.1.b. **Legal empowerment** – The college or school is legally empowered to offer and award the Doctor of Pharmacy degree.	○	○	○
1.1.c. **Administrative oversight** – The college or school is led by a dean, who serves as the chief administrative and academic officer of the college or school and is responsible for ensuring that all ACPE accreditation requirements are met.	○	○	○
1.1.d. **Institutional accreditation** – The institution housing the college or school, or the independent college or school, has (or, in the case of new programs, is seeking and in good standing) full accreditation by an institutional accreditation agency recognized by the U.S. Department of Education.	○	○	○
1.1.e. **Institutional accreditation actions** – The college or school reports to ACPE within 30 days any issue identified in institutional accreditation actions that may have a negative impact on the quality of the professional degree program and compliance with ACPE standards.	○	○	○
1.1.f. **Substantive change** – The dean ensures prompt reporting of substantive changes as defined in the policies and procedures to ACPE for the purpose of evaluation of their impact on program quality.	○	○	○

Save   Next   Cancel   View Summary

The document can be prepared as a Word® document that can be copied and pasted into the platform once access is granted. An editor that allows for manual formatting of your content within the platform is included.

A sample narrative of Standard 1 appears below:

The college or school's descriptive text and supporting evidence should specifically address the statements below. If issues are identified, the college or school should provide its plans for addressing them, with relevant timelines. For plans that have already been initiated to address an issue, the college or school should provide evidence that the plan is working.

3) **College or School's Comments on the Standard:** The college or school's descriptive text and supporting evidence should address the statements below. If issues are identified, the college or school should provide its plans for addressing them, with relevant timelines. For plans that have already been initiated to address an issue, the college or school should provide evidence that the plan is working.

- Describe how the autonomy of the program is assured and maintained.
- Describe how the program collaborates with university officials to secure adequate resources to effectively deliver the program and comply with all accreditation standards.
- Describe how the program's mission is aligned with the mission of the institution.
- Describe how the mission and associated goals address education, research/scholarship, service, and practice and provide the basis for strategic planning.
- Describe how the mission and associated goals are developed and approved with the involvement of various stakeholders, such as faculty, students, preceptors, alumni, etc.
- Describe how the program promotes initiatives and programs that specifically advance its stated mission.
- Describe how the strategic plan was developed, including evidence of the involvement of various stakeholder groups, such as, faculty, students, preceptors, alumni, etc.

The college or school will determine their overall compliance level with the standard as well as provide recommended monitoring if they do not rate the standard as compliant.

Compliant	Compliant with Monitoring	Partially Compliant	Non-Compliant
No factors exist that compromise current compliance; no factors exist that, if not addressed, may compromise future compliance.	• No factors exist that compromise current compliance; factors exist that, if not addressed, may compromise future compliance /or • Factors exist that compromise current compliance; an appropriate plan exists to address the factors that compromise compliance; the plan has been fully implemented; sufficient evidence already exists that the plan is addressing the factors and will bring the program into full compliance.	Factors exist that compromise current compliance; an appropriate plan exists to address the factors that compromise compliance and it has been initiated; the plan has not been fully implemented and/or there is not yet sufficient evidence that the plan is addressing the factors and will bring the program into compliance.	• Factors exist that compromise current compliance; an appropriate plan to address the factors that compromise compliance does not exist or has not yet been initiated /or • Adequate information was not provided to assess compliance.
Compliant ○	Compliant with Monitoring ●	Partially Compliant ○	Non-Compliant ○

Recommended Monitoring: If applicable, briefly describe issues or elements of the standard that may require further monitoring.

This is the recommended monitoring.

After the self-study has been completed, the college or school will be required to attest that the document is ready for review by ACPE. The attestation process will trigger an email to ACPE and allow both staff and evaluators to access the self-study.

☑ I attest that the evaluation information provided is correct and properly represents the current state of my program.

Submit to ACPE | Print Summary | Print Self-Assessment | Cancel

Future plans for the platform include additional reports, i.e., focused visits and interim reports, being submitted through PHARMS. This system will also be used by the evaluation team to perform the evaluation, document findings, and ultimately generate both an Evaluation Team Report (ETR) and Action and Recommendations (A&R) document.

More information will be provided in the upcoming months regarding the platform. Platform training will be provided as part of the ACPE Self-Study Workshop occurring later this year. Any questions can be directed to csinfo@acpe-accredit.org. ◼

Continuing Pharmacy Education Program

Congratulations

Three ACPE-accredited CPE Providers Earn Accreditation with Commendation:

Drug Information Association

Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center School of Pharmacy

TRINU Corporation

Providers must demonstrate compliance with all Standards for Continuing Pharmacy Education, Policies, and Procedures and two commendation criteria in two subcategories of their choice to earn Commendation status. Commendation is noted on ACPE's website in the CPE Provider Directory. There are seven ACPE-accredited providers with Commendation status. ◼

Certificate Programs

ACPE requires that ACPE-accredited providers use the term 'Certificate Program' for CE activities that comply with the ACPE-defined Certificate Programs. ACPE-accredited providers who use the term Certificate Program for activities that do not meet the expectations for Certificate Programs as defined in the ACPE Standards and Policies must include a disclaimer: *'This is not an ACPE-defined Certificate Program; learners who complete this course will receive ACPE CPE credit but will not be awarded completion of a Certificate Program'.*

Certificate Program activities are primarily constructed to instill, expand, or enhance practice competencies through the systematic achievement of specified knowledge, skills, attitudes, and performance behaviors. The information within the certificate program must be based on evidence as accepted in the literature by the healthcare professions. The formats of these CPE activities should include a didactic component (live and/or home study) and a practice experience component (designed to evaluate the skill or application). The provider should employ an instructional design that is rationally sequenced, curricular-based, and supportive of achievement of the stated professional competencies. The minimum amount of credit for these activities is eight contact hours. ◼

ACPE Continuing Pharmacy Education Staff, L to R: Dawn Zarembski, Dimitra Travlos, Hannah Gyimah, Eden Diaz, Kimberly Catledge, Steve Janis, Logan Murry

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Initiatives in Continuing Pharmacy Education

In January of 2024, the ACPE Board of Directors approved updated diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) guidance for CPE providers. The updated guidance was based on survey responses from ACPE-accredited CPE providers and a review of existing literature focused on DEI in health professions education. Entitled "ACPE Guidance to ACPE-accredited CE Providers to Incorporate Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion within Organizations and CE Activities," (www. acpe-accredit.org/pdf/Word%20Documents/DEI%20Guidance.pdf) the updated guidance focuses on approaches to fostering DEI at the organizational and activity level. The guidance provides a summary of best practices submitted by CPE providers and provides specific questions related to DEI which can be considered when planning, delivering, and assessing CPE activities.

Additionally, a manuscript highlighting survey responses and identified DEI best practices as reported by ACPE-accredited CPE providers is under peer review with the Journal of Continuing Education in the Health Professions (JCEHP). ◼

Artificial Intelligence Guidance

Artificial Intelligence (AI) has become very prominent in the world of education. ACPE staff explores the impact of AI on continuing education activities. To identify the factors and experience of ACPE-accredited CE providers, ACPE staff distributed a survey to identify the impact of AI on continuing education programs. Results of the survey, a review of the literature, and discussion at the CPE Commission and the Board of Directors resulted in guidance for ACPE-accredited providers.

Providers are encouraged to include guidance related to AI in their faculty guidance materials. This guidance may include the following:

- If faculty use AI in the development of educational content for a CE activity, it is strongly suggested to disclose:

  · The name of the AI application.

  · The purpose for which the faculty used the AI application.

  · The version of the AI application.

  · The date the AI application was used.

  · This information should be disclosed to learners.

For the full guidance, please see "Artificial Intelligence Usage Guidance for Continuing Pharmacy Education Providers" here on our website (www.acpe-accredit.org/pdf/ArtificialIntelligenceGuidance01252024.pdf). ◼

Continuing Pharmacy Education Program

State-specific CE Requirements and Pharmacy Scope-of-Practice

… ACPE-accredited CPE providers have continued to play an important role in obtaining the required training to provide additional services.

ACPE continues to play an important role in assuring quality education to meet state-specific continuing education requirements and support pharmacists in the provision of enhanced services. State-specific requirements for re-licensure have increased in specificity and complexity, with additional requirements extending into specific topic areas like implicit bias, drug therapy management, and human trafficking.

ACPE has continued to support CPE providers in assuring the most appropriate use of topic designators and has developed a process for providers to identify specific state requirements activities are intended to meet. Additionally, as pharmacists' scope-of-practice continues to change, CPE activities provided by ACPE-accredited CPE providers have continued to play an important role in obtaining the required training to provide additional services. To meet State Board of Pharmacy requirements for the provision of patient-care services, pharmacists are often required to complete activities developed by ACPE-accredited providers. As an example, states like Oregon require the completion of "Board-approved Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education (ACPE) accredited educational training program(s)" prior to engaging in hormonal contraceptive prescribing.

In 2023, several laws were passed increasing pharmacist and pharmacy technician scope-of-practice and ability to bill state Medicaid programs for the provision of pharmacy services. ACPE continues to support the development of CPE activities designed to help pharmacists develop confidence and competence in the provision of services which align with increased scope-of-practice and state-specific re-licensure requirements. ◼

P.L.A.N.: Pharmacy Learning Assistance Network

ACPE has added additional filtering capabilities to the P.L.A.N. tool to help learners find appropriate activities more efficiently. Learners may now search for CE activities that have/do not have a fee associated with it. They may also search for activities having a CE credit type of either pharmacy (ACPE) or interprofessional (IPCE). Using these filters will allow for learners to conduct a more targeted search when trying to find CE that meets their practice and/or educational needs. The P.L.A.N. tool can be reached here (https://plan.acpe-accredit.org/Home/Role). ◼

Pharmacy Technicians Search for CE for Pharmacy Technician Certification Board (PTCB) Recertification

PTCB's strategic plan included expanding CE opportunities for its certified pharmacy technicians. Based on the ACPE-PTCB discussions, ACPE provided access from its PLAN program to PTCB to depict on its website. The PTCB 'PLAN' website and all the various search fields can be found here (www.ptcb.org/renew-credentials/ce-directory). ◼

Continuing Pharmacy Education Program

Attention Pharmacists: Monitor Your CPE Credit Using the CPE Monitor Plus App!

Subscribe to the CPE Monitor PLUS for only $12 per year. By upgrading to the Plus plan, you can access enhanced features and easily manage CPE requirements no matter how many licenses you have now or may add in the future.

For more information, please visit nabp.pharmacy/programs/cpe-monitor ◼

	STANDARD	PLUS
PRICE	**FREE**	**$12 per year**
CPE activity upload (ACPE providers nationwide)	✓	✓
Downloadable list of all CPE activity	✓	✓
Accessible via mobile app	✓	✓
Access to P.L.A.N.	✓	✓
Breakdown of renewal requirements (for 50 states & DC)*	✗	✓
License status screen showing hours completed and hours needed	✗	✓
Alerts for CPE cycle deadlines	✗	✓
State-specific transcript for each license	✗	✓
Upload non-ACPE CPE credits	✗	✓

*CPE details and requirements for the jurisdictions of Guam, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands are not available for the Plus plan users at this time

It's Back! ACPE CPE Provider Conference

ACPE CPE Commission and staff are planning the **ACPE CPE 2024 Conference** to take place **November 18–20, 2024 at the ACPE Office in Chicago!** The conference will include an opportunity to attend a CPE Administrator Workshop or CPD Workshop, in addition to keynotes, workshop sessions, and roundtables focused on specific ACPE Standards and hot topics in CPE. In addition, you will have an opportunity to be informed of ACPE updates and to discuss and share approaches to advance CE and CPD through engagement with peer providers. We are planning to provide workshops that will stimulate discussion, enhance your CPE program, and meet the needs of pharmacist and pharmacy technician learners. Further details coming soon! ◼

Continuing Pharmacy Education Program

CPE Administrator Workshops are Integral to Continuing Professional Development of the CPE Administrator

By providing accessible, flexible, and interactive learning experiences, these workshops equip participants with the knowledge, skills, and strategies needed to maintain accreditation standards and drive continuous improvement in educational practices.

ACPE hosted a virtual workshop spanning three days, February 27–29, 2024, with participation from 51 CPE providers. Our workshops provide a structured platform for CPE providers to delve into the nuances of compliance and best practices. Each session is presented by an ACPE staff member, interactive discussions, case studies, and practical exercises aimed at enhancing participants' understanding and proficiency in navigating accreditation requirements.
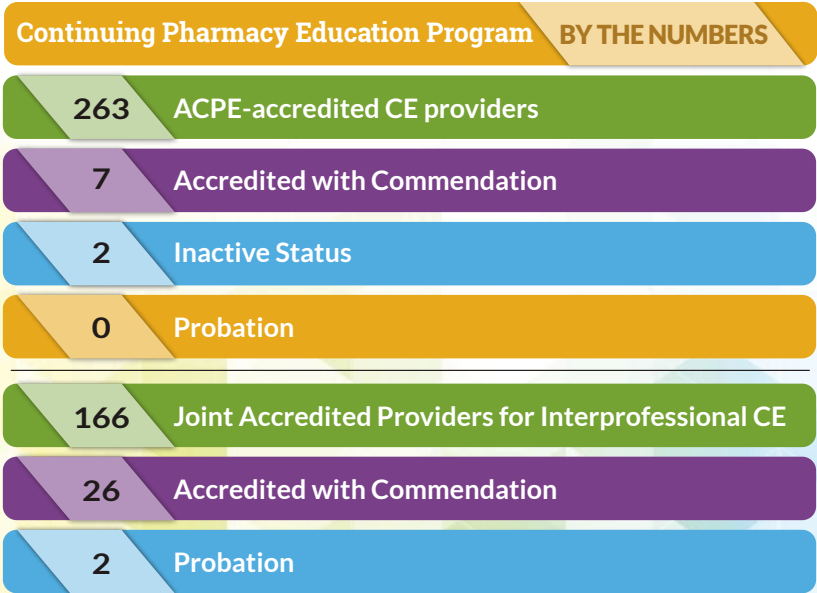
The upcoming workshop on our schedule will take place in person at our main office in Chicago during the Fall of 2024. ◼

Advancing Healthcare
Education by the Team
for the Team
jointaccreditation.org

L to R: Dimitra Travlos, PharmD, FNAP (Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education); Kate Regnier, MA, MBA (Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education); and Jennifer Graebe, MSN, RN, NEA-BC (American Nurses Credentialing Center).

Joint Accreditation Leadership Team Attends Alliance Meeting

Joint Accreditation leadership and staff came together at the 2024 Alliance for Continuing Education in the Health Professions Meeting in New Orleans to answer questions about Joint Accreditation and interprofessional continuing education (IPCE) and interact with the IPCE community. ◼

Continuing Pharmacy Education Program BY THE NUMBERS

263	ACPE-accredited CE providers
7	Accredited with Commendation
2	Inactive Status
0	Probation
166	Joint Accredited Providers for Interprofessional CE
26	Accredited with Commendation
2	Probation

Continuing Pharmacy Education Program

ACPE Continuing Professional Development (CPD) Accreditation Program is Open!

In January 2024, ACPE launched the new accreditation pathway for providers of Continuing Professional Development (CPD) programs. ACPE defines CPD as "a self-directed, ongoing, systematic, and outcomes-focused approach to lifelong learning that is applied into practice." The new accreditation pathway creates the opportunity for providers to award learners with CPD units (CPDUs) for the completion of activities reflective of CPD cycle components *(Reflect, Plan, Learn, Evaluate, and Apply).*

To support providers interested in offering an accredited CPD program, ACPE staff and the CPD Advisory Committee have created educational resources and application materials which are available on the ACPE website. Additionally, ACPE staff have collaborated with pharmacy educators to create the CPD Case Study Series, which are educational webinars introducing the CPD concept and exhibiting how CPD can be used in a variety of educational settings. The first case study is now available, where Dr. Kelsey Frederick, Dr. Janet Cooley, and Dr. Suzanne Larson show how the CPD process can be used to create an APPE experience designed to facilitate lifelong learning.

Providers with and without an ACPE-accredited CPE program are eligible to submit CPD programs for consideration. **Submissions are accepted now! Documents to guide providers interested in submitting a CPD program are now available on the** ACPE CPD website. Please contact ACPE Staff if you would like to discuss your CPD program: cpdinfo@acpe-accredit.org. ◼

ACCREDITATION COUNCIL FOR PHARMACY EDUCATION

CONTINUING PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Wall of Honor

John C. Kirtley, ACPE Board of Directors, received the American Pharmacists Association 2024 Thomas E. Menighan Pharmacy Management Excellence Award at the Annual Meeting in Orlando in March. This award is given to a pharmacist who has distinguished himself/herself and the profession of pharmacy by sustained outstanding performance and achievement in pharmacy management.

John C. Kirtley

Jenelle L. Sobotka

Jenelle L. Sobotka, International Commissioner, received the 2024 Gloria Niemeyer Francke Leadership Mentor Award from the American Pharmacists Association at the Annual Meeting in Orlando. This award is given to recognize an APhA member whose efforts or activities have significantly contributed to promoting leadership in others. The awardee is an individual who has promoted and encouraged pharmacists to attain leadership positions within pharmacy through example as a role model and as a mentor.

Congratulations!

International Services Program

ACPE International Services Division Staff, L to R: Jacob Gettig, Karen Reid, Dawn Zarembski, and Jan Engle

Programmatic Update

ACPE's International Service Program (ISP) continues to grow and now has programs with international-accreditation status in ten countries (Egypt, India, Indonesia, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, Mauritius, Northern Cyprus, Saudi Arabia, and United Arab Emirates). Following the actions of the ACPE Board of Directors at their January 2024 meeting, a total of 44 pharmacy degree programs have been awarded International-Accreditation or International-Preaccreditation status. In addition, the Board authorized five initial evaluation visits. For additional details, please refer to the Directory on the ACPE website here (www.acpe-accredit.org/international-programs-by-status). ◼

International Commission (IC) Meeting

On November 14–16, 2023, the members of the ACPE International Commission met at the ACPE office in Chicago, Illinois, to discuss the activities and operations of ISP and made several recommendations to the ACPE Board of Directors. Joseph T. DiPiro (USA) and Paraidathathu Thomas (Malaysia) joined the meeting as Commissioners-elect. They succeed Abeer Alghananeem and Jannet Carmichael, who completed six years on the Commission on January 31, 2024. ◼

ACPE International Commission, November 2023

ISP Welcomes New Consultant

Joseph T. DiPiro will join ACPE as a Consultant Evaluation Team Leader starting in fall 2024. He joins Bob Beardsley and Miriam Mobley-Smith, who also assist ACPE in this role. ◼

International Services Program

Faculty Development Workshop, Ajman, UAE

Faculty Development Workshop

On January 13–14, 2024, ACPE, in conjunction with Gulf Medical University, the American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy (AACP) and the Commission for Academic Accreditation (CAA), held the 7th Regional Pharmacy Faculty Development Workshop entitled "Best Practices for Assessment in Pharmacy Education." The program was delivered in a workshop format where teams sent from each participating pharmacy school were able to work together on application of the material discussed through structured activities. Each school was invited to display a poster about assessment at their institution. In addition, regional mini-presentations were given by some of the participating schools about the assessment system at their institution.

The workshop was very well attended by faculty from 26 colleges and seven countries. Gulf Medical University College of Pharmacy was the proud host of the Workshop. ACPE appreciates all of the hard work by then-Dean Sherief Khalifa and his staff to make the Workshop such a success.

Prior to the Faculty Development Workshop, ACPE Executive Director, Jan Engle, had the opportunity to meet with Gulf Medical University Chancellor Hossam Hamdy who is an internationally known medical educator and active pediatric surgeon, and the then dean of the College of Pharmacy, Dean Sherief Khalifa. She also toured the hospital and visited the inpatient and outpatient pharmacies and accompanied a clinical pharmacist while delivering patient care in the hospital. ■

Dean Sherief Khalifa providing opening remarks at the Faculty Development Workshop, Ajman, UAE

Chancellor Hossam Hamdy, Jan Engle, Dean Sherief Khalifa, Gulf Medical University, Ajman, UAE

International Services Program

Site evaluation team visiting a community pharmacy in Jordan.

Evaluation team on a site visit in Jordan.

Two Evaluation Teams doing visits in Amman, Jordan,
L to R: Don Letendre, Miriam Mobley-Smith, Kim Tanzer, Mohamad
Rahal, Jan Engle, Eman Farouk Mahmoud Abu-Gharbieh

Site team and program faculty visiting a library in the UAE.

Current Activities and Future Meetings

Spring 2024 evaluation visits:

All spring international evaluation visits were successfully completed including eight on-site evaluations and two virtual evaluations. In total, there were nine comprehensive evaluations (five for initial International-Accreditation) and one focused evaluation. We also received eight new applications for accreditation. Preliminary Review Teams will be working on the applications for presentation at the May International Commission meeting. This was our busiest cycle to date. ◼

International Services Program

International Services Program Updates

ACPE staff, under the leadership of Dawn Zarembski, have been reevaluating the International Services Program with the goal of simplifying the program and better meeting the needs of our many constituents. Staff are currently conducting a SWOT analysis to determine the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats of the program with members of the International Commission. The goal is to define next steps for the program as it continues to grow. We will also be reaching out to our accredited programs and others for additional feedback. ◻

Quality Criteria Revision

The ACPE Staff and the International Commission are continuing their work on the revision of the Quality Criteria. There will be additional work done on the revision at the May 2024 International Commission Meeting. ◻

Next International Commission Meetings:

- May 14–16, 2024
- November 19–21, 2024

ISP would like to express its gratitude for the volunteers and International Commissioners who served as members of the evaluation teams.

International Services Program	BY THE NUMBERS
International-Accreditation	27 degree programs
International-Accreditation (* online evaluation)	13 degree programs
Provisional International-Accreditation (* online evaluation)	1 degree program
International-Preaccreditation	2 degree programs
Voluntary Discontinuation of Certification Status – Discontinuation of Program	1 degree program
Initial Evaluation Visit Authorized	5 degree programs

ASHP/ACPE Pharmacy Technician Accreditation Commission

About PTAC

Pharmacy Technician Accreditation Commission

The ASHP/ACPE Pharmacy Technician Accreditation Commission (PTAC) meets twice yearly in May and October. Actions of the Commission are approved by both the ACPE and ASHP Boards in January and June. Each Commissioner, with the exception of public members, must have expertise and experience in quality assurance of pharmacy technician education and training and/or the contemporary education, training or practice of pharmacy technicians.

Members of the PTAC:

Tate Trujillo, Chair

Melissa Heigham, Vice Chair

Mathew Rewald, Past Chair

Amisha Arya

Kimberly Brown

Leah Matthews

Tracy O'Donnell

Jeenu Philip

Nader Rassael

Irene Villatoro

Sharon Youmans, ACPE Board Liaison

Leigh Briscoe-Dwyer, ASHP Board Liaison

Lisa Lifshin, Non-Voting Member, Secretary

Jan Engle, ACPE Executive Director

More information on the ACPE/ASHP Pharmacy Technician Training Program Accreditation can be found here (www.ashp.org/professional-development/technician-program-accreditation). ■

ASHP/ACPE Accredited Pharmacy Technician Programs	BY THE NUMBERS		
		JUNE 2023	**JANUARY 2024**
Number of ASHP/ACPE Accredited Programs		250	254
New Applications		14	14
Voluntary Withdrawals		14	6
Reaccreditation Reviews		10	12
Midterm Progress and Special Case Reviews		17	23

Contact Us...

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