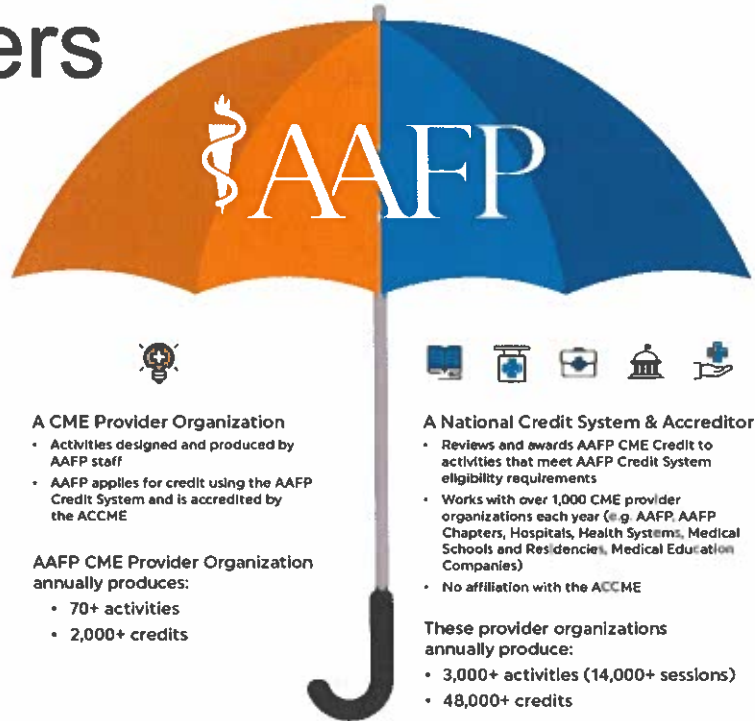


AAFP Credit System:

Why It Matters for Family Physicians



Overview:

The American Academy of Family Physicians (AAFP) Credit System plays a critical role in maintaining high standards of continuing education for family physicians.

A CME Provider Organization

- Activities designed and produced by AAFP staff
- AAFP applies for credit using the AAFP Credit System and is accredited by the ACCME

AAFP CME Provider Organization annually produces:

- 70+ activities
- 2,000+ credits

A National Credit System & Accreditor

- Reviews and awards AAFP CME Credit to activities that meet AAFP Credit System eligibility requirements
- Works with over 1,000 CME provider organizations each year (e.g. AAFP, AAFP Chapters, Hospitals, Health Systems, Medical Schools and Residencies, Medical Education Companies)
- No affiliation with the ACCME

These provider organizations annually produce:

- 3,000+ activities (14,000+ sessions)
- 48,000+ credits

By awarding Continuing Medical Education (CME) credits, the AAFP ensures that family physicians stay current with the latest medical knowledge, clinical techniques, and best practices, and allows them to meet their state medical licensing requirements, as well as certification and recertification requirements by the American Board of Family Medicine (ABFM) and the American Osteopathic Board of Family Physicians (AOBFP).

AAFP's Credit System:

Enhances Competency.

Family medicine is a comprehensive specialty that spans all ages, disease states, and populations.

The credit system reflects this by awarding credit to activities that cover a vast array of topics, from pediatrics and geriatrics to chronic disease management, mental health, preventive care, and emerging medical technologies. By participating in AAFP accredited activities, physicians can refine their clinical skills, leading to higher standards in patient care.

Emphasizes Patient-Centered Care.

Family medicine is inherently patient-centered.

Credits are awarded to activities that improve the physician's ability to provide holistic, continuous care—whether in managing chronic conditions, promoting wellness, or addressing mental health concerns. Family medicine emphasizes continuity of care. The credit system emphasizes evidence-based learning, enabling physicians to apply the most effective treatments and interventions. Ongoing education directly correlates with improved patient outcomes and satisfaction.

Standout Features of the AAFP CME System:

Patient Care Focus:

Patient care is central to the Credit System's clinical and non-clinical requirements. These requirements acknowledge the significance of ongoing medical education in enhancing patient outcomes, which can be attained through everyday clinical practice and the contributions family physicians make to their team, practice, and profession.

Tailored Accreditation:

It is the only accreditor focused solely on the needs of family physicians, ensuring that the CME activities are highly relevant and beneficial to their practice.

Quality Assurance:

The system reviews and awards credit to CME activities that meet stringent eligibility requirements, ensuring that the education provided is of high quality and evidence based.



Licensure & Certification:

The AAFP Credit System helps physicians comply with CME requirements set by regulatory bodies, like ABFM, AOBFP and state medical boards.



Long Track Record:

The AAFP Credit System was the first national CME accreditor for physicians in the US and today, is the only accreditor focused solely on the needs of family physicians.

Each year, the AAFP accredits more than 17,000 CME activities and sessions, providing over 48 thousand credits, resulting in over seven million credits reported by AAFP members in FY2024.