



AAFP/ABFM joint application process for Performance Improvement (PI) Activities Frequently Asked Questions

1) What is the AAFP/ABFM joint application process for PI activities?

The AAFP Credit System and the American Board of Family Medicine (ABFM) collaborated so that CME providers will be able to offer their learners credit from AAFP and the ABFM depending on the learners' needs.

2) How do I obtain credit from the AAFP and the ABFM for my PI activities?

CME providers will complete an online application for CME credit for performance improvement activities through the AAFP Credit System.

If a CME provider is interested for applying for credit through this single application process, then the provider should check the ABFM attestation box on Step 1 of the application to indicate that ABFM Certification Activity credit is being sought in conjunction with AAFP CME credit. The CME provider must attest that the CME activity meets the following requirements to be eligible for credit through both entities:

- the [AAFP requirements for performance improvement activities](#),
- [ABFM Industry Support Policy](#),
- the [ABFM Requirements for Performance Improvement activities](#),
- and the provider agrees to [periodic audit by the ABFM](#).

Please report learner completion data directly to AAFP, who will ensure the information is shared with the ABFM.

3) What is the fee for the AAFP/ABFM joint application process?

There is no additional fee to receive credit through this single application process. The regular review fee for a performance improvement activity will just apply. That fee is \$695.

4) How do I let learners know that the CME activity has AAFP credit and ABFM points?

Upon approval, the AAFP Credit System will email the CME provider an approval letter that contains the AAFP CME credit statement and the ABFM Certification Activity credit statement. These statements can be used to inform learners that the performance improvement activity has been approved for CME credit by both the AAFP and the ABFM.

5) How does this change benefit CME providers who are seeking credit for both AAFP and the ABFM credit for performance improvement activities?

CME providers will no longer have to pay for ABFM Certification Activity credit approval. Additionally, CME providers will no longer have to submit two separate CME credit applications or wait on two separate time lines.

6) How does this change benefit learners?

It is anticipated that AAFP members and ABFM Diplomats will gain more PI activities from which to choose as a result of the new, unified process. Please report learner completion data directly to AAFP, who will ensure the information is shared with the ABFM. This streamlines reporting CME credit for PI activities for AAFP members and ABFM Diplomats.

7) Who should I contact if I have questions related to ABFM requirements, audits, etc.?

CME providers should contact Ann Williamson at the ABFM with questions regarding the ABFM.

8) What if the term of approval for my performance improvement (PI) activity ends with the ABFM before it does with AAFP?

You will want to look at the end dates of your performance improvement activities. If your term of approval with the ABFM expires before your activity with the AAFP, then go ahead and apply for PI-CME credit through AAFP. It is okay if you have two PI-CME activities with AAFP that overlap. After your new PI-CME application is approved by AAFP, you will only have to worry about AAFP's timeline for this activity.

9) What if the term of approval for my performance improvement (PI) activity ends with AAFP before it does with the ABFM?

If your term of approval with the AAFP expires before your activity with the ABFM, then go ahead and apply for PI-CME credit through the AAFP. After your new PI-CME application is approved by AAFP, you will only have to worry about AAFP's timeline for this activity.