

CME Credit 101

The Why's, What's, and How's

Leslie Christy

Learning Objectives

- Describe CME and why it is important to your learners.
- Understand the AAFP Credit System and the value of AAFP credit.
- Identify the next steps in applying for AAFP CME credit.

**Please note, all information is valid and correct as of July 2018 and is subject to change.*

What is CME?



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Continuing Medical Education is the process by which family physicians and other health professionals engage in activities designed to support their continuing professional development.

CME credit is the “currency” assigned to CME activities

<https://www.aafp.org/about/policies/all/cme-definition.html>

Why do physicians need CME?

- New and developing scientific techniques
- Maintain competence
- Licensure
- Board Certification
- Membership
- Hospital privileging



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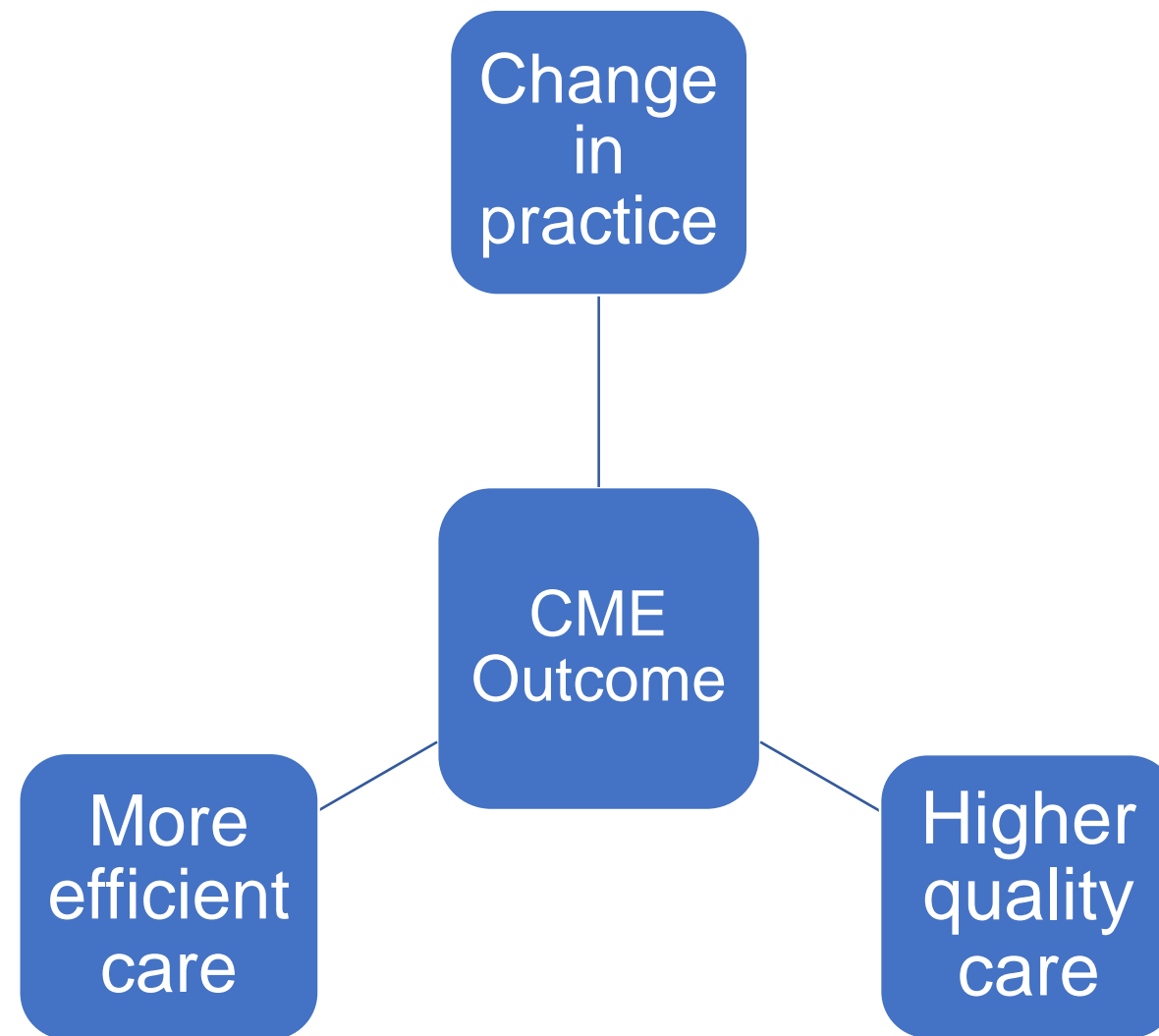
What do physicians expect from their CME?

- Fair and balanced
- Unbiased
- Data driven education
- Evidence based education



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What do physicians hope to achieve after participating in CME?

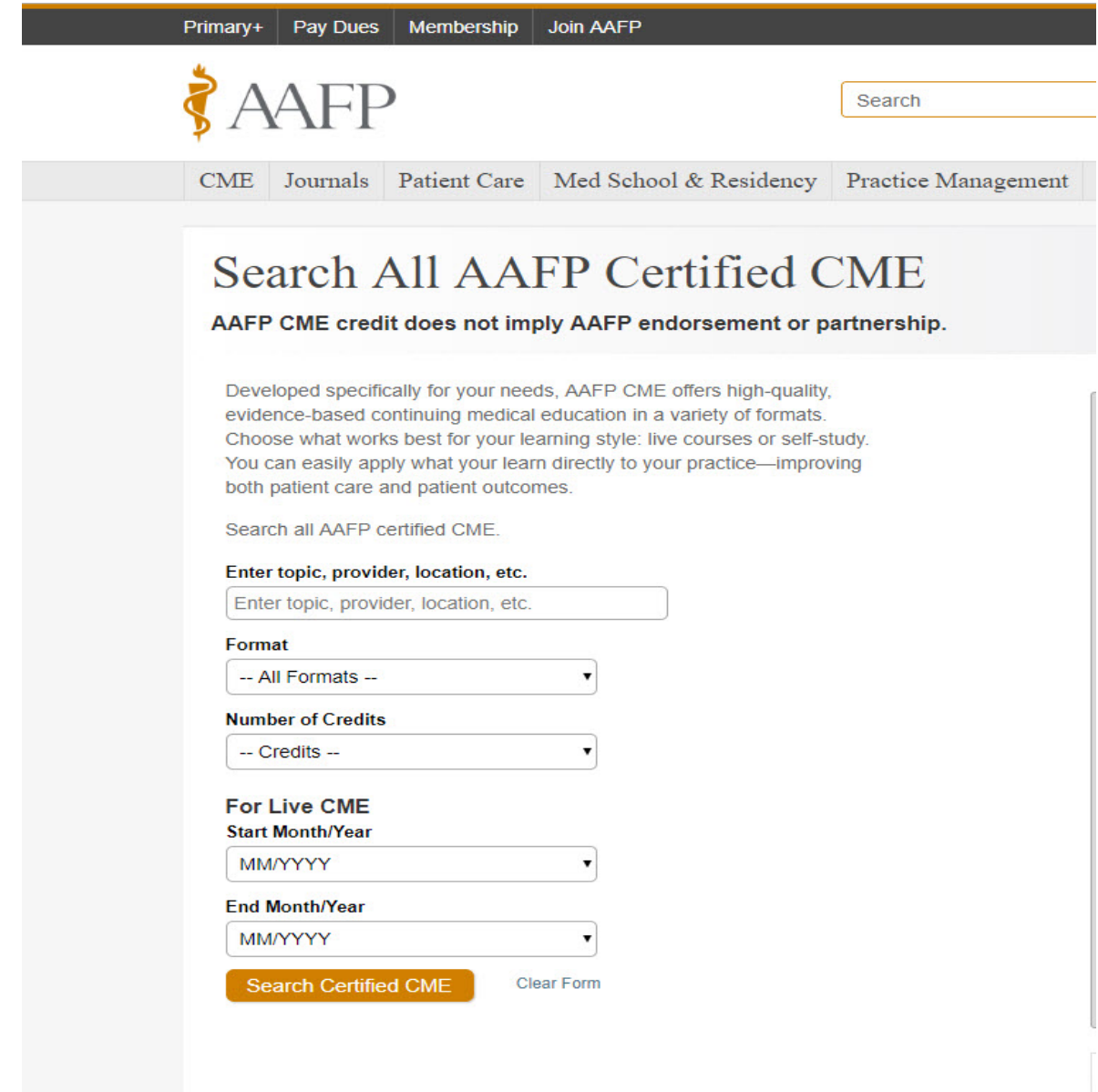


What is the AAFP Credit System?

- Established in 1947
 - First of 3 National Accreditors
- Certifies activities for CME credit
- Sets and upholds standards in CME
- Only the AAFP has authority over the AAFP Credit System

What Our Work Means to CME Providers

- Pay a fee for AAFP review
- Timely turnaround
- Advertise AAFP credit in their promotional materials
- [Website listing](#)



The screenshot displays the AAFP (American Academy of Family Physicians) website. At the top, there is a navigation bar with links for 'Primary+', 'Pay Dues', 'Membership', and 'Join AAFP'. Below this is the AAFP logo and a search bar. A secondary navigation bar includes links for 'CME', 'Journals', 'Patient Care', 'Med School & Residency', and 'Practice Management'. The main content area is titled 'Search All AAFP Certified CME' and includes a disclaimer: 'AAFP CME credit does not imply AAFP endorsement or partnership.' The text describes the high-quality, evidence-based continuing medical education offered. Below this is a search form with the following fields: 'Enter topic, provider, location, etc.' (a text input field), 'Format' (a dropdown menu with '-- All Formats --'), 'Number of Credits' (a dropdown menu with '-- Credits --'), 'For Live CME' (a section header), 'Start Month/Year' (a dropdown menu with 'MM/YYYY'), and 'End Month/Year' (a dropdown menu with 'MM/YYYY'). At the bottom of the form are two buttons: 'Search Certified CME' and 'Clear Form'.

CME Search

This is how your CME Activity will appear in the search results:

Leawood Hospital 2013 Grand Rounds : Diabetes Management and Cardiovascular Disease

by Leawood Hospital

Sun 01/13/13 - Sun 01/13/13

Leawood, KS

1.00

Prescribed

Come and learn about the latest research and developments on diabetes prevention. [View →](#)

Leawood Hospital 2013 Grand Rounds: Diabetes Management and Cardiovascular Disease

Leawood Hospital 2013 Grand Rounds: Diabetes Management and Cardiovascular Disease

1.00
Prescribed

by Leawood Hospital

Sun 01/13/13

Leawood Hospital , Leawood, KS

for up to 1.00 Prescribed credits



Leawood Hospital
11400 Tomahawk Creek Pkwy
Leawood, KS 66211

Come and learn about the latest research and developments on diabetes prevention.

[Learn more](#)

Contact Info

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[Visit website](#)

AAFP Credit Types

Prescribed

- Target audience: family physicians
- AND
- AAFP member involvement

Elective

- Target audience: healthcare professionals other than physicians
- No member requirement

Reciprocity Agreements and Credit Acceptance

- [American Medical Association](#): *AMA PRA Category 1 Credit™*
- [American Osteopathic Association](#): AOA Category 2-A, 2B
- [College of Family Physicians of Canada](#) (CFPC)
- [Qatar Council for Health Professionals](#) (QCHP)

- [Health Professional Organizations](#)
 - American Academy of Physician Assistants
 - American Nurses Credentialing Center
 - More

Eligibility Requirements



1.

- Relevant to scope of Family Medicine

2.

- Adhere to ACCME Standards for Commercial Support

3.

- Content

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Eligibility Requirements

1.

- Relevant to scope of Family Medicine

2.

- Adhere to ACCME Standards for Commercial Support

3.

- Content



Content Level Requirements

Evidence-Based or
Customary and
Generally Accepted

OR →

1. Not dangerous or ineffective
2. Fair and balanced (risks vs. benefits)
3. About vs. How to

Content must have a direct connection to patient care

*See detailed [eligibility requirements](#) and [Decision Tree](#) for more information

Activity Types

Live

Enduring
Material

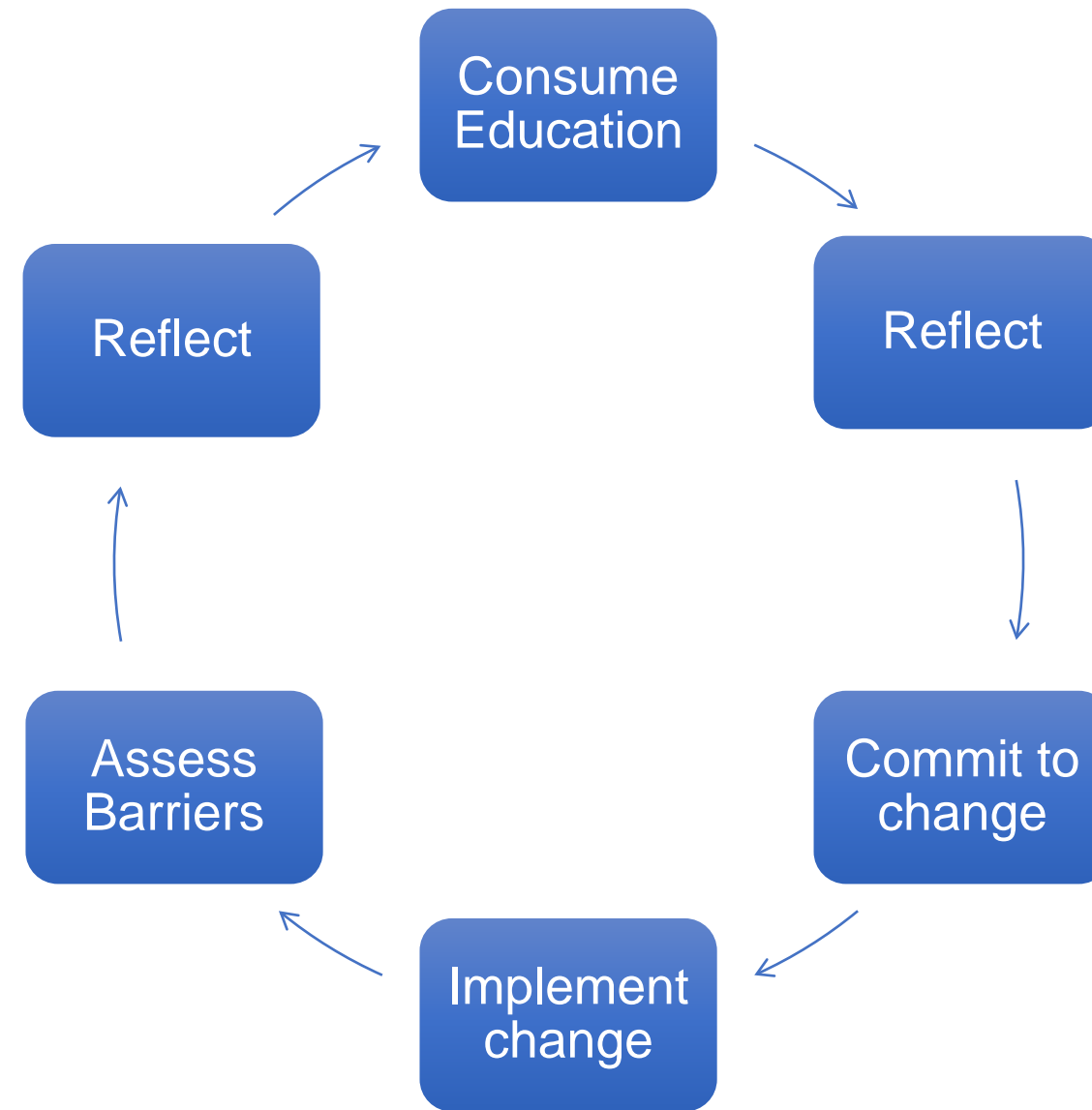
Medical
Journal

Performance
Improvement

Point of Care

Blended
Learning

Translation to Practice®



Credit System Site

The screenshot shows the AAFP Credit System website. At the top is a dark navigation bar with links for Membership, Favorites, Join AAFP, Shop, and View Cart (0 items). Below this is the AAFP logo, a search bar, and a user greeting: 'Welcome Leslie My Account | Sign Out'. A secondary navigation bar contains links for CME, Journals, Patient Care, Med School & Residency, Practice Management, Advocacy, Events, and AAFP News. The main content area is titled 'AAFP Credit System' with the tagline 'Applying for credit is easier than ever'. It features a left sidebar with a table of contents for the credit system, including sections like Eligibility Requirements, Activity Types, Application Process, Post-Approval Information, Activity Audits, Credit Statements, Translation to Practice® (t2p™), Policies and Criteria, Tools for CME Developers, Tutorials, and Credit System FAQ. The main content area includes a section for 'Certify Your Activities. All Your Activities.' with a description of the credit system's value and a 'Start a New Application' section that provides instructions and a list of resources (AAFP Credit System FAQ, Tutorials and Webinars, Worksheets and Forms, Application Fee Information) with a 'Start Your Application' button. There are also sections for 'CME PROVIDER LOGIN' with a 'Dashboard Login' button, 'BEGIN YOUR APPLICATION' with a 'Create a CME Provider Account' button, and 'Already Submitted an Application?' with a link to additional resources. A 'Get CME News' section is at the bottom right. Two callout boxes with arrows point to the login and account creation buttons: a blue box for 'If you have a CME provider account' pointing to the 'Dashboard Login' button, and an orange box for 'If you don't have a CME provider account' pointing to the 'Create a CME Provider Account' button.

Membership ★ Favorites Join AAFP Shop View Cart (0 items)

AAFP

Search Welcome Leslie My Account | Sign Out

CME Journals Patient Care Med School & Residency Practice Management Advocacy Events AAFP News

ABOUT AAFP CREDIT SYSTEM

- Eligibility Requirements
- Activity Types
- Application Process
- Post-Approval Information
- Activity Audits
- Credit Statements
- Translation to Practice® (t2p™)
- Policies and Criteria
- Tools for CME Developers
- Tutorials
- Credit System FAQ

AAFP Credit System

Applying for credit is easier than ever

Certify Your Activities. All Your Activities.

Every time you submit your activities for AAFP credit, you expand your activity's reach and increase its value to physicians, family physicians in particular, and allied health professionals. Ready to get started?

Start a New Application

Once you've either logged in to your [CME Provider Dashboard](#), or created a [CME Provider Account](#), you'll be ready to start the [application process](#). Use these resources along the way:

- AAFP Credit System FAQ
- Tutorials and Webinars
- Worksheets and Forms
- Application Fee Information

[Start Your Application](#)

Already Submitted an Application?

Utilize these additional AAFP resources after you've completed the application process:

CME PROVIDER LOGIN

View your CME Provider Dashboard

[Dashboard Login](#)

BEGIN YOUR APPLICATION

Create a CME Provider Account

[Create an Account](#)

Get CME News

If you have a CME provider account

If you don't have a CME provider account

www.aafp.org/cme/creditsys/about.html

CME Provider Dashboard

- Username and password
- www.aafp.org/cmea/login
- Access incomplete, pending, or approved/denied activities
- Begin new application
- Advice: Favorite this webpage on your browser

CME Provider Dashboard

Welcome, Leslie Christy

[Begin New Application](#)

You may experience problems when using an unsupported browser.

Provider: [Wrong provider?](#)
American Academy of Family Physicians
11400 Tomahawk Creek Pkwy
Leawood, KS 66211-2680

[Send us your questions or feedback.](#)

[In Progress](#) [Approved Activities](#) [Denied Activities](#) [Session Status](#)

Pay Application Fees or Complete Submission

Click the activity title to view or edit the incomplete application.

ACTIVITY NUMBER	ACTIVITY DATES	ACTIVITY TITLE	OWNER	APPLICATION STATUS
79243	03/05/2018 - 03/09/2018	Jan's Test App to Pull Screenshots	Jan Leslie	Incomplete

Application Process

Create account

- One time process

Apply online and pay review fee

- 30-60 minutes to complete
- [Worksheets](#) available

Receive credit determination letter

- No later than 20 business days after payment is received
- Website listing in [CME Search](#)

Resources

- AAFP Credit System Page
 - www.aafp.org/cme/creditsys/about.html
- Helpful Tools for CME Providers
 - <https://www.aafp.org/cme/creditsys/about/tools.html>
- Credit System Guide
 - <http://www.aafp.org/dam/AAFP/documents/cme/accreditation/cme-credit-guide.pdf>
- Translation to Practice templates/information
 - <https://www.aafp.org/cme/creditsys/about/t2p.html>
- Application Fees
 - <https://www.aafp.org/cme/creditsys/about/apply/review-fees.html>

Contact Information

- AAFP Credit System
 - Cmecredit@aafp.org
 - 800-274-2237
- Keep up to date with e-newsletter



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AMERICAN ACADEMY OF FAMILY PHYSICIANS

STRONG MEDICINE FOR AMERICA