



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY  
HEALTH SCIENCES CENTER™  
EL PASO

Office of Continuing Medical Education

*Paul L. Foster School of Medicine*

*CME Operating Policy and Procedure*

**OP: Independence**

**PURPOSE:** The purpose of this policy is to provide guidance to course directors, CME staff, planning committee members, and presenters regarding compliance of continuing medical education activities with accreditation requirements.

**REVIEW:** This policy will be reviewed on September 1st of each odd-numbered year by the Senior Director for Continuing Medical Education. If a revision to the policy is recommended, the CME Committee will review and approve changes.

**POLICY/PROCEDURE:**

- 1. Policy.** It is the policy of the Department of CME to plan and produce continuing medical education activities following Standard 1 of the ACCME Standards for Commercial support relating to independence.
- 2. Procedures.**
  - a. Each CME activity will be planned and produced in a manner that is free from the control of commercial interests. This shall include the identification of educational needs and learning objectives; selection and presentation of content; selection of presenters; and selection of educational methods.
  - b. The Office of CME shall be the final authority on the interpretation of Standard 1 of the Standards for Commercial Support: Standards to Ensure Independence in CME Activities, and Accreditation Criteria.
- 3. Restrictions.**
  - a. Representatives from a commercial interest are prohibited from involvement in the planning and production of CME activities.
  - b. A commercial interest may not take the role of a non-accredited partner in a joint sponsorship relationship.