

Decision-making Pathways for Continuing Education Accrediting Bodies

Status: Accreditation

The status of Accreditation results when:

- an accredited provider submits for reaccreditation, and
- is found to be in compliance with all expected accreditation requirements.

Status: Provisional Accreditation

The status of Provisional Accreditation results when:

- a CE provider submits for initial accreditation, and
- is found to be in compliance with all expected accreditation requirements.

Status: Accreditation with Commendation

The status of Accreditation with Commendation results when:

- an accredited provider submits for reaccreditation, and
- is found to be in compliance with all expected accreditation requirements, AND
- is found to be in compliance with additional requirements that are available in some accreditation systems.

The choice to submit for the additional requirements is completely optional and the choice of the provider.

Status: Accreditation with a Progress Report

A Progress Report is requested along with the status of Accreditation when:

- an accredited provider submits for reaccreditation, and
- is found to be in noncompliance with one or more expected requirements.

When assigned a Progress Report, the provider must:

- submit a Progress Report within one year, or a set period as determined by the accreditation system.
- demonstrate improved performance in the requirements previously found to be in noncompliance.

The Progress Report provides an opportunity for the provider to remediate and demonstrate improvement in its accredited CE program.

ADVERSE ACTIONS

Status: Probation

The status of Probation results when:

- an accredited provider demonstrates repeated noncompliance despite attempts at remediation through a Progress Report, or
- demonstrates a system failure, evident through extensive noncompliance in multiple requirements, particularly the requirements related to independence from commercial influence and bias.

When a provider goes on Probation, it must:

- submit a Progress Report to demonstrate improved performance through compliance with all accreditation requirements.
- demonstrate compliance with all accreditation requirements within two years.

If a provider fails to demonstrate compliance in all requirements within two years, it will go to Nonaccreditation.

Status: Nonaccreditation

The status of Nonaccreditation results when:

- a provider has been on Probation for one or two years and demonstrates noncompliance with any one accreditation requirement.
- a provider submits a Progress Report and fails to demonstrate improved performance, at the discretion of the accreditor. In this scenario, the accreditor may require a second Progress Report or move the provider to Probation or Nonaccreditation.

When a provider goes to Nonaccreditation, it must:

- no longer offer accredited CE.
- institute policies to improve its educational practices.
- resubmit accreditation materials to the accreditor.