

Support From Ineligible Companies Agreement

The Robert Larner College of Medicine at The University of Vermont (Provider/Sponsor) and an ineligible company (supporter) for the purpose of funding support or in-kind contribution for a medical educational activity

Title of Activity

Location

Name of Ineligible
Company

Address

Contact Person

Phone

Email

The above company agrees to provide funding support for the named activity in the amount of:

\$

The above company agrees to provide an in-kind contribution as follows:

In-kind description

The Accredited Provider/Sponsor agrees to: 1) abide by the Standards for Integrity and Independence in Accredited Continuing Education (please see page 2); 2) acknowledge funding support from the ineligible company in program materials; 3) upon request, furnish the ineligible company a report concerning the expenditure of the funds provided.

Company
Representative
Name

Signature

Date

Office of CMIE
Representative
Name

Signature

Date

University of Vermont Continuing Medical and Interprofessional Education
401 Water Tower Circle, Suite 102, Colchester, VT 05446
Phone: 802-656-2292 Fax: 802-656-1925 <http://www.med.uvm.edu/cme>

The Office of Continuing Medical Education at The Robert Larner College of Medicine at The University of Vermont is committed to operating within the policies and expectations of the Standards for Support for Integrity and Independence in Accredited Continuing Education

Standard 1 – Ensure Content is Valid: Accredited providers are responsible for ensuring that their education is fair and balanced and that any clinical content presented supports safe, effective patient care.

Standard 2 – Prevent Commercial Bias and Marketing in Accredited Continuing Education: Accredited continuing education must protect learners from commercial bias and marketing.

Standard 3 – Identify, Mitigate, and Disclose Relevant Financial Relationships: Many healthcare professionals have financial relationships with ineligible companies. These relationships must not be allowed to influence accredited continuing education. The accredited provider is responsible for identifying relevant financial relationships between individuals in control of educational content and ineligible companies and managing these to ensure they do not introduce commercial bias into the education. Financial relationships of any dollar amount are defined as relevant if the educational content is related to the business lines or products of the ineligible company.

Standard 4 – Manage Support Appropriately: Accredited providers that choose to accept commercial support (defined as financial or in-kind support from ineligible companies) are responsible for ensuring that the education remains independent of the ineligible company and that the support does not result in commercial bias or commercial influence in the education. The support does not establish a financial relationship between the ineligible company and planners, faculty, and others in control of content of the education.

Standard 5 – Manage Ancillary Activities Offered in Conjunction with Accredited Continuing Education: Accredited providers are responsible for ensuring that education is separate from marketing by ineligible companies—including advertising, sales, exhibits, and promotion—and from nonaccredited education offered in conjunction with accredited continuing education.

1. Decision-making and disbursement: The accredited provider must make all decisions regarding the receipt and disbursement of the commercial support.

- a. Ineligible companies must not pay directly for any of the expenses related to the education or the learners.
- b. The accredited provider may use commercial support to fund honoraria or travel expenses of planners, faculty, and others in control of content for those roles only.
- c. The accredited provider must not use commercial support to pay for travel, lodging, honoraria, or personal expenses for individual learners or groups of learners in accredited education.
- d. The accredited provider may use commercial support to defray or eliminate the cost of the education for all learners.

2. Agreement: The terms, conditions, and purposes of the commercial support must be documented in an agreement between the ineligible company and the accredited provider. The agreement must be executed prior to the start of the accredited education. An accredited provider can sign onto an existing agreement between an accredited provider and a commercial supporter by indicating its acceptance of the terms, conditions, and amount of commercial support it will receive.

3. Accountability: The accredited provider must keep a record of the amount or kind of commercial support received and how it was used, and must produce that accounting, upon request, by the accrediting body or by the ineligible company that provided the commercial support.

4. Disclosure to learners: The accredited provider must disclose to the learners the name(s) of the ineligible company(ies) that gave the commercial support, and the nature of the support if it was in-kind, prior to the learners engaging in the education. Disclosure must not include the ineligible companies' corporate or product logos, trade names, or product group messages.