



JOINT ACCREDITATION™
INTERPROFESSIONAL CONTINUING EDUCATION

Joint Accreditation Data Report

Driving Improvement through Accredited Continuing Education for Healthcare Teams - 2021

The Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME®)

The Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education (ACPE)

The American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC)



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INTERPROFESSIONAL CONTINUING EDUCATION

*Joint Accreditation Data Report:
Driving Improvement through Accredited Continuing Education for Healthcare Teams – 2021*
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Message from the Joint Accreditation Team

Adapting and Growing

As we reviewed the data from 2021, we were struck by the continued growth and adaptability of the interprofessional continuing education (IPCE) enterprise. More organizations recognize the value of the team-driven approach to healthcare improvement, as reflected in the growing number of jointly accredited providers.

After a year of pandemic-driven change, our community is stronger than ever. In 2021, hybrid events gave rise to more learning opportunities available on demand, in addition to more in-person activities being offered.

It is especially heartening to see our community expanding their teams of healthcare professionals as learners. Joint Accreditation now serves 10 professions, and a significant number of learners in other professions are also participating in accredited activities.

You are to be congratulated! We are grateful for your dedication to support collaborative education, your endurance over months and now years of intense challenges, and your remarkable innovation to support healthcare professionals and teams in delivering quality patient care. Thank you for your steadfast professionalism and commitment to improving our healthcare system through IPCE. We remain committed to supporting IPCE and facilitating your important work through Joint Accreditation.



From left: Dimitra Travlos, Kathy Chappell, Kate Regnier

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Joint Accreditation Data Report

Driving Improvement through Accredited Continuing Education for Healthcare Teams—2021

Executive Summary

Welcome to the fourth annual *Joint Accreditation Data Report: Driving Improvement in Accredited Continuing Education for Healthcare Teams – 2021*. The purpose of the report is to provide a comprehensive picture of the scope of the accredited interprofessional continuing education (IPCE) community, including the diversity of jointly accredited organizations, educational activities, and learners. Jointly accredited providers can use this report to benchmark themselves against their colleagues and to demonstrate the value of their work to leadership and stakeholders. We look forward to expanding the data that we are able to publish and exploring trends in future reports.

Key Takeaways

- The 2021 report includes data from 132 jointly accredited providers, an increase of almost 17% since 2020, when 113 providers were jointly accredited.
- The number of activities rose 32% and the number of learner interactions increased by nearly 9% from 2020.
- Performance/quality improvement activities, included as part of the menu of criteria for Joint Accreditation with Commendation, increased by 178% from 2020 to 2021, to 89 activities.
- Live courses, which include not just in-person events but also live remote or online events, increased by 59% from 2020.
- In a sign of continuing innovation, “other” or “blended learning” activities saw an increase of over 400% from 2020 to 2021, to 405 activities.
- The most common activity types were enduring materials and live courses.
- The activity type with the most interactions was, by far, enduring materials, at more than 20 million interactions with healthcare professionals.
- For the first time, we are reporting credits or contact hours by activity type. We are pleased to see total IPCE credits exceeded 150,000. In addition, the total number of organizations offering IPCE credit increased from 85 in 2020 to 96 in 2021, with most of that growth coming from publishing and education companies, offering further evidence of the value of continuing education by the team, for the team.

New JA-PARS

Our new, improved Joint Accreditation Program and Activity Reporting System (JA-PARS) launched in November 2021. JA-PARS is the data collection system that accredited providers used to report their 2021 activity and learner credit data. It now includes expanded options for reporting activity and learner credit data. Some of the changes in data fields establish 2021 as a new baseline for comparisons moving forward. For instance, the types of activities were modified to reflect the ease with which learners now engage remotely in both live and enduring material activities. We no longer draw the distinction between live and enduring activities that are provided in person and via the Internet. We are grateful to our accredited providers for embracing this upgraded system and adapting to the streamlined reporting requirements.

Learner Interactions by Profession

Joint Accreditation now represents a collaboration of 10 accrediting bodies in the health professions. As Joint Accreditation has expanded, we've expanded JA-PARS to enable providers to identify more learners by profession. This data report includes the numbers of learner interactions with dentists and allied dental staff, nurses, optometrists, pharmacists, pharmacy technicians, physicians, physician associates (PAs), psychologists, social workers, and for the first time, registered dietitians, dietetic technicians, and athletic trainers. Learners from other professions not currently included in Joint Accreditation are categorized as "other learner interactions." In 2021, providers reported the most interactions with nurses (45%), followed by physicians (23%) and pharmacists (5%).

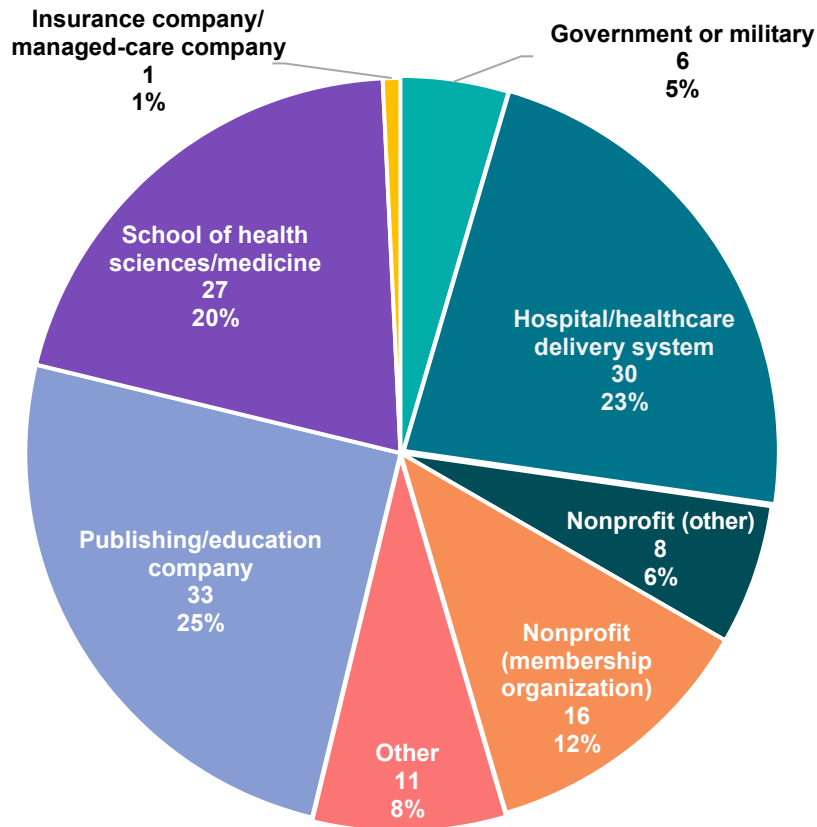
Preparation of the Joint Accreditation Data Report

The aggregated information published in this annual report is based upon self-reporting by jointly accredited providers. Joint Accreditation does not provide full verification of the accuracy of all reported information but does follow-up if it appears that providers have reported activity data that does not conform to Joint Accreditation's definitions and reporting instructions.

More Information

For more information about the terms used in the data report, please see the [ACCME/AMA Glossary of Terms and Definitions](#) and the [Joint Accreditation definitions](#). Visit the [Joint Accreditation website](#) for more information and resources about IPCE.

Jointly Accredited Providers
Figure 1. Providers by Organization Type—2021
Total Organizations = 132



Jointly accredited providers represent many different organization types. In 2021, publishing/education companies and hospital/healthcare delivery systems represented the largest numbers of jointly accredited providers, at 25% and 23%, respectively. Schools of health sciences/medicine followed closely at 20%. The "other" category includes organizations such as patient safety and quality assurance organizations.

CE Presented by Jointly Accredited Providers
Table 1. Size of the CE Enterprise—2021
Total providers = 132

Directly provided¹	Activities	Total learner interactions²	
Live course	25,129	1,248,501	
Enduring material	24,194	19,367,686	
Regularly scheduled series	5,917	2,443,198	
Journal CE	400	161,732	
Other/blended learning	335	71,275	
Performance/quality improvement	38	1,622	
Manuscript review	18	14,279	
Learning from teaching	12	91	
Committee learning	10	219	
Test-item writing	7	293	
Internet searching and learning	4	99,258	
Total	56,064	23,408,154	
Jointly provided¹			
Live course	7,165	352,650	
Enduring material	11,979	801,616	
Regularly scheduled series	594	138,417	
Journal CE	348	31,594	
Other/blended learning	70	4,754	
Performance/quality improvement	1	15	
Manuscript review	1	222	
Learning from teaching	1	182	
Committee learning	-	-	
Test-item writing	56	483	
Internet searching and learning	1	-	
Total	20,216	1,329,933	
Number of providers			
Grand total 2021	132	76,280	24,738,087
Grand total 2020	113	57,489	22,785,773
Grand total 2019	87	55,236	14,796,496
Grand total 2018	75	29,629	15,438,797

¹Directly provided activities are delivered by an accredited provider. Jointly provided activities are delivered by an accredited provider and one or more nonaccredited organizations.

²Accredited providers report the number of learners at each activity. In this report, the learner numbers are referred to as interactions. The data represents aggregate numbers of interactions and not the number of unique learners. Learners attending multiple activities are counted multiple times.

CE Presented by Jointly Accredited Providers
Table 2. Activities by Organization and Activity Type—2021

Organization type	Publishing/ education company	Government or military	School of health sciences/ medicine	Hospital/ healthcare delivery system	Nonprofit (membership organization)	Nonprofit (other)	Other ¹	Grand total
Number of providers	33	6	27	30	16	8	12	132
Directly provided²								
Live course	1,747	12,018	4,006	5,763	585	467	543	25,129
Enduring material	12,226	2,032	3,493	3,371	1,501	981	590	24,194
Regularly scheduled series	2	668	2,541	2,589	23	31	63	5,917
Journal CE	34	-	48	62	232	24	-	400
Other/blended learning	1	-	133	39	34	123	5	335
Performance/quality improvement	-	-	7	25	5	-	1	38
Manuscript review	-	1	2	2	13	-	-	18
Learning from teaching	1	-	4	7	-	-	-	12
Committee learning	-	-	2	7	-	1	-	10
Test-item writing	-	-	-	-	7	-	-	7
Internet searching and learning	-	-	2	2	-	-	-	4
Total	14,011	14,719	10,238	11,867	2,400	1,627	1,202	56,064
Jointly provided²								
Live course	4,853	144	1,440	362	142	144	80	7,165
Enduring material	9,691	274	1,621	146	136	84	27	11,979
Regularly scheduled series	24	-	382	177	-	1	10	594
Journal CE	164	-	51	-	133	-	-	348
Other/blended learning	5	-	29	1	31	-	4	70
Performance/quality improvement	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
Manuscript review	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
Learning from teaching	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Committee learning	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Test-item writing	-	-	56	-	-	-	-	56
Internet searching and learning	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Total	14,739	418	3,581	686	442	229	121	20,216
Grand total	28,750	15,137	13,819	12,553	2,842	1,856	1,323	76,280

¹Insurance company/managed-care company and Other have been combined in this table for presentation purposes.

²Directly provided activities are delivered by an accredited provider. Jointly provided activities are delivered by an accredited provider and one or more nonaccredited organizations.

CE Presented by Jointly Accredited Providers
Table 3. Learner Interactions by Organization and Activity Type—2021

Organization type	Publishing/ education company	Government or military	School of health sciences/ medicine	Hospital/ healthcare delivery system	Nonprofit (membership organization)	Nonprofit (other)	Other ¹	Grand total
Number of providers	33	6	27	30	16	8	12	132
Directly provided²								
Live course	375,060	300,005	175,210	233,002	82,110	27,219	55,895	1,248,501
Enduring material	13,085,461	2,471,185	267,779	362,847	982,613	1,938,523	259,278	19,367,686
Regularly scheduled series	2,051	133,256	1,028,781	1,234,251	5,434	8,478	30,947	2,443,198
Journal CE	97,420	-	2,683	33,644	20,151	7,834	-	161,732
Other/blended learning	62	-	7,422	1,466	40,092	22,138	95	71,275
Performance/quality improvement	-	-	1,062	429	131	-	-	1,622
Manuscript review	-	2	321	24	13,932	-	-	14,279
Learning from teaching	2	-	45	44	-	-	-	91
Committee learning	-	-	19	193	-	7	-	219
Test-item writing	-	-	-	-	293	-	-	293
Internet searching and learning	-	-	99,229	29	-	-	-	99,258
Total	13,560,056	2,904,448	1,582,551	1,865,929	1,144,756	2,004,199	346,215	23,408,154
Jointly provided²								
Live course	242,360	5,497	53,723	29,804	10,615	5,657	4,994	352,650
Enduring material	556,304	73,711	100,048	16,105	43,254	11,563	631	801,616
Regularly scheduled series	1,697	-	73,657	61,940	-	327	796	138,417
Journal CE	25,233	-	221	-	6,140	-	-	31,594
Other/blended learning	459	-	3,172	18	1,057	-	48	4,754
Performance/quality improvement	-	-	15	-	-	-	-	15
Manuscript review	-	-	222	-	-	-	-	222
Learning from teaching	182	-	-	-	-	-	-	182
Committee learning	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Test-item writing	-	-	483	-	-	-	-	483
Internet searching and learning	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	826,235	79,208	231,541	107,867	61,066	17,547	6,469	1,329,933
Grand total	14,386,291	2,983,656	1,814,092	1,973,796	1,205,822	2,021,746	352,684	24,738,087

¹Insurance company/managed-care company and Other have been combined in this table for presentation purposes.

²Directly provided activities are delivered by an accredited provider. Jointly provided activities are delivered by an accredited provider and one or more nonaccredited organizations.

CE Presented by Jointly Accredited Providers
Table 4. Learner Interactions by Profession¹ and Activity Type—2021
Total providers = 132

	Nurse interactions ³	Physician interactions ³	Pharmacist interactions ³	Social Worker interactions ³	Pharmacy Technician interactions ³	Physician Associate interactions ³	Psychologist interactions ³	Registered Dietitian Interactions ³	Dentist interactions ³	Optometrist interactions ³	Allied Dental Staff interactions ³	Athletic Trainer interactions ³	Dietetic Technician interactions ³	Other learner interactions ³	Total learner interactions ³
Directly provided²															
Live course	360,505	223,734	167,402	68,851	28,655	25,638	26,783	22,300	5,598	5,103	2,471	223	46	311,192	1,248,501
Enduring material	10,027,894	3,272,139	1,013,960	504,244	511,446	405,021	362,796	108,871	15,495	6,502	2,697	379	364	3,135,878	19,367,686
Regularly scheduled series	359,422	1,552,601	48,112	25,631	1,496	72,410	24,562	716	2,445	1,427	67	3,123	-	351,186	2,443,198
Journal CE	68,930	61,415	2,247	34	16	17,834	6	421	107	-	1	-	-	10,721	161,732
Other/blended learning	13,774	29,803	2,758	66	68	607	30	40	18	5	-	-	-	24,106	71,275
Performance/quality improvement	222	943	14	2	-	41	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	398	1,622
Manuscript review	22	14,248	3	3	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	14,279
Learning from teaching	31	56	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	91
Committee learning	66	71	62	1	-	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	14	219
Test-item writing	-	293	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	293
Internet searching and learning	1	84,649	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	14,608	99,258
Total	10,830,867	5,239,952	1,234,558	598,832	541,682	521,557	414,179	132,348	23,663	13,037	5,236	3,725	410	3,848,108	23,408,154
Jointly provided²															
Live course	78,285	118,769	19,290	13,205	3,586	5,186	6,744	1,056	521	6,003	11	195	48	99,751	352,650
Enduring material	189,361	178,229	33,296	23,176	21,431	25,872	9,622	4,348	6,233	9,058	12	27	11	300,940	801,616
Regularly scheduled series	28,813	63,563	4,937	2,509	80	1,428	499	149	206	18	2	10	-	36,203	138,417
Journal CE	4,520	19,545	826	-	246	2,830	11	3	62	15	-	33	-	3,503	31,594
Other/blended learning	1,570	2,355	197	24	3	85	9	4	6	-	-	-	-	501	4,754
Performance/quality improvement	1	13	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	15
Manuscript review	-	222	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	222
Learning from teaching	10	18	-	18	-	18	18	18	18	18	18	-	18	10	182
Committee learning	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Test-item writing	-	483	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	483
Internet searching and learning	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	302,560	383,197	58,546	38,932	25,346	35,420	16,903	5,578	7,046	15,112	43	265	77	440,908	1,329,933
Number of providers															
Grand total	132	11,133,427	5,623,149	1,293,104	637,764	567,028	431,082	137,926	30,709	28,149	5,279	3,990	487	4,289,016	24,738,087

¹The launch of the Joint Accreditation Program and Activity Reporting System (JA-PARS) in 2018 enabled jointly accredited providers to report learner data by profession. "Other learner interactions" refers to healthcare professionals other than the ones listed.

²Directly provided activities are delivered by an accredited provider. Jointly provided activities are delivered by an accredited provider and one or more nonaccredited organizations.

³Accredited providers report the number of participants at each activity. In this report, the participant numbers are referred to as interactions. The data represents aggregate numbers of interactions and not the number of unique participants. Participants attending multiple activities are counted multiple times.

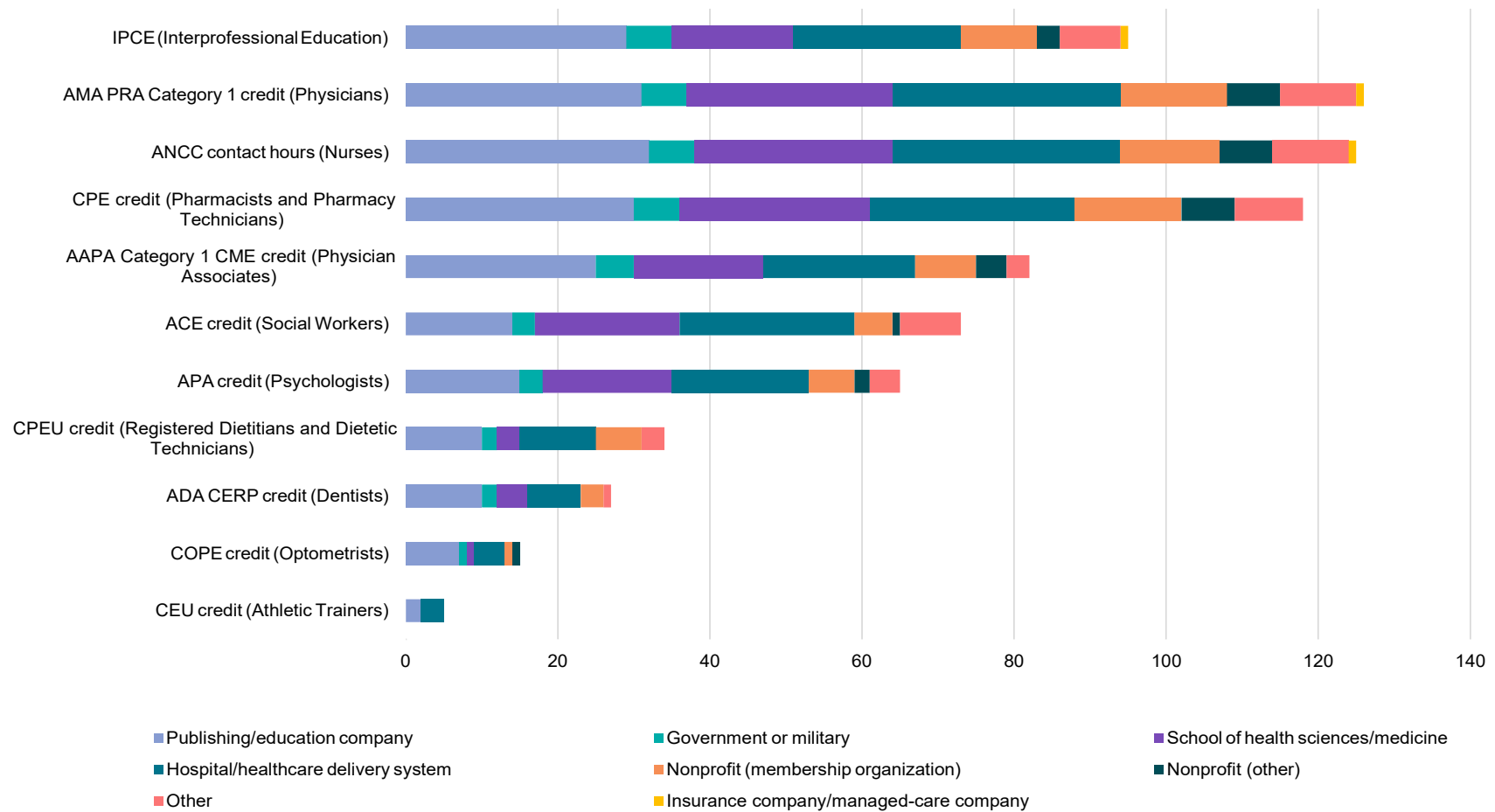
CE Presented by Jointly Accredited Providers
Table 5. Credits/Contact Hours Available by Activity Type—2021
Total providers = 132

	Total IPCE credit (Interprofessional Education)	Total AMA PRA Category 1 Credits™ (Physicians)	Total ANCC contact hours (Nurses)	Total ACE credit (Social Workers)	Total APA Credit credit (Psychologists)	Total AAPA Category 1 CME credit (Physician Associates)	Total CPE credit (Pharmacists and Pharmacy Technicians)	Total ADA CERP credit (Dentists)	Total CPEU credit (Registered Dietitians and Dietetic Technicians)	Total COPE credit (Optometrists)	Total CEU credit (Athletic Trainers)	
Directly provided¹												
Live course	64,354	77,521	90,815	42,768	34,924	12,659	13,540	2,709	1,719	492	40	
Enduring material	15,090	32,487	28,938	5,970	4,658	7,951	10,302	447	1,633	178	14	
Regularly scheduled series	33,429	132,111	55,070	6,355	5,415	19,310	3,887	1,681	785	411	9	
Journal CE	51	385	99	11	6	35	54	-	13	-	-	
Other/blended learning	539	3,186	2,295	130	332	438	905	-	91	-	75	
Performance/quality improvement	34	632	167	8	8	215	11	-	-	-	-	
Manuscript review	-	211	15	12	12	12	16	-	-	-	-	
Learning from teaching	-	329	13	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Committee learning	5	15	10	-	-	-	11	-	-	-	-	
Test-item writing	-	70	10	-	-	-	10	-	-	-	-	
Internet searching and learning	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Total	113,502	246,948	177,431	55,254	45,354	40,618	28,735	4,836	4,240	1,081	138	
Jointly provided¹												
Live course	23,900	38,717	28,472	4,229	8,322	4,718	3,887	5,172	764	7	35	
Enduring material	12,962	12,821	15,572	4,516	3,697	1,385	6,999	411	273	62	30	
Regularly scheduled series	2,728	11,685	5,252	522	370	894	598	41	36	-	-	
Journal CE	-	414	22	-	-	-	6	4	-	0	-	
Other/blended learning	87	651	706	2	8	206	145	-	-	-	-	
Performance/quality improvement	-	20	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Manuscript review	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Learning from teaching	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	-	
Committee learning	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Test-item writing	-	570	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Internet searching and learning	-	50	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Total	39,681	64,936	50,029	9,273	12,402	7,209	11,638	5,633	1,078	75	65	
Number of providers												
Grand total	132	153,183	311,884	227,460	64,526	57,756	47,827	40,373	10,469	5,318	1,156	203

Note: Grand totals may differ slightly due to rounding.

¹Directly provided activities are delivered by an accredited provider. Jointly provided activities are delivered by an accredited provider and one or more nonaccredited organizations.

CE Presented by Jointly Accredited Providers
Figure 2. Types of Credit/Contact Hours Offered by Organization Type—2021



Jointly Accredited providers can offer credit for any of the professions that are members of Joint Accreditation. Figure 2 shows the number of providers that offered each type of credit in 2021.

CE Presented by Jointly Accredited Providers
Table 6. Income by Organization Type—2021

	Number of providers	Total reported income	Commercial support	Registration fees	Advertising and exhibits income	Government grants	Private donations
Publishing/education company	33	\$ 544,320,457	\$ 404,302,720	\$ 97,132,470	\$ 41,222,343	\$ 1,537,925	\$ 125,000
Government or military	6	\$ 3,400	\$ -	\$ 3,400	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
School of health sciences/medicine	27	\$ 66,073,663	\$ 27,407,890	\$ 23,842,056	\$ 8,842,363	\$ 4,993,672	\$ 987,682
Hospital/healthcare delivery system	30	\$ 19,033,740	\$ 5,400,587	\$ 5,411,278	\$ 5,641,816	\$ 2,342,594	\$ 237,466
Nonprofit (membership organization)	16	\$ 168,251,072	\$ 21,585,212	\$ 108,979,449	\$ 35,839,383	\$ 1,710,528	\$ 136,500
Nonprofit (other)	8	\$ 17,993,924	\$ 9,088,694	\$ 8,464,037	\$ 425,794	\$ -	\$ 15,400
Other ¹	12	\$ 10,533,079	\$ 1,798,375	\$ 5,998,654	\$ 2,493,980	\$ 200,070	\$ 42,000
Grand total 2021	132	\$ 826,209,336	\$ 469,583,477	\$ 249,831,344	\$ 94,465,678	\$ 10,784,789	\$ 1,544,048
Grand total 2020	113	\$ 578,062,492	\$ 298,173,276	\$ 214,496,978	\$ 60,080,851	\$ 4,316,970	\$ 994,418
Grand total 2019	87	\$ 630,230,138	\$ 267,118,330	\$ 262,481,065	\$ 94,046,244	\$ 4,788,891	\$ 1,795,608
Grand total 2018	75	\$ 508,233,007	\$ 239,131,076	\$ 200,458,867	\$ 61,035,162	\$ 5,939,749	\$ 1,668,154

Note: Grand totals may differ slightly due to rounding.

¹Insurance company/managed-care company and Other have been combined in this table for presentation purposes.

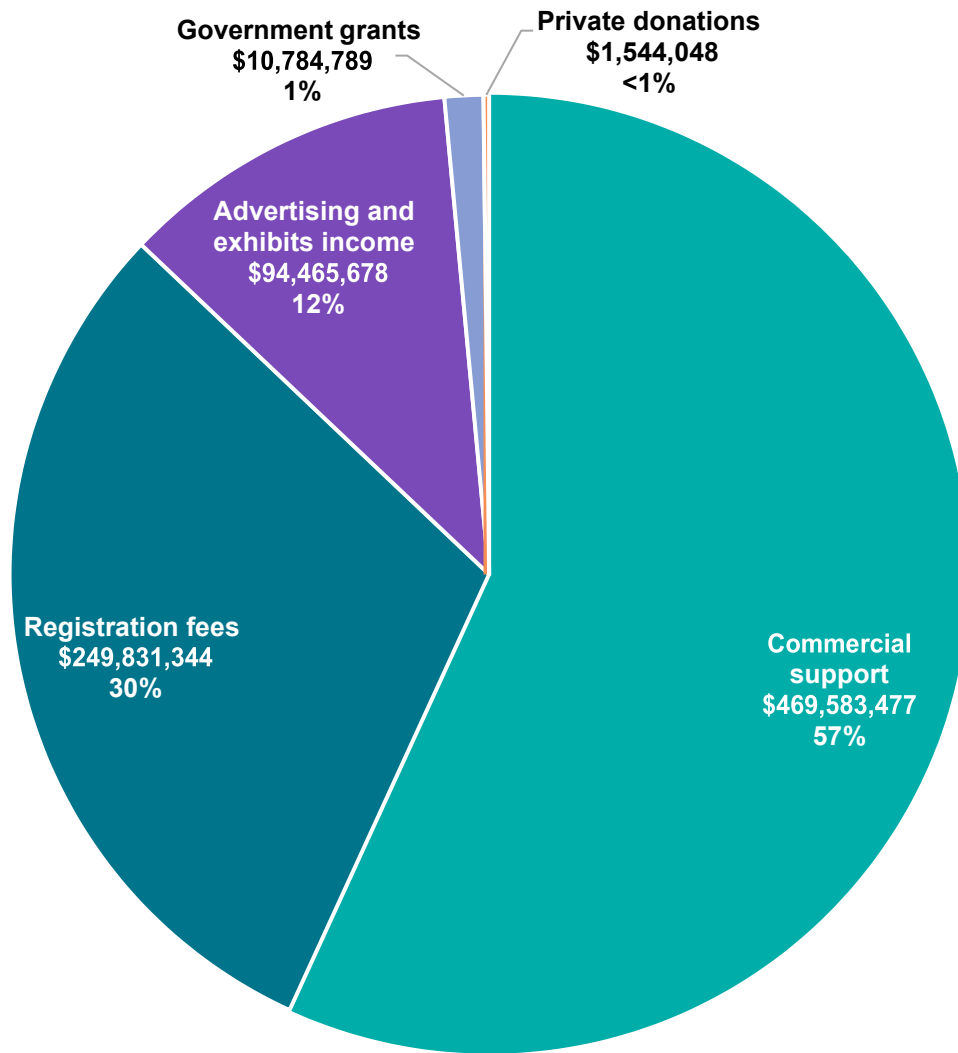
CE Presented by Jointly Accredited Providers
Table 7. Income—2021
Total providers = 132

	Total income	Commercial support	Registration fees	Advertising and exhibits income	Government grants	Private donations
Average	\$ 6,259,162	\$ 3,557,451	\$ 1,892,662	\$ 715,649	\$ 81,703	\$ 11,697
First quartile ¹	\$ 57,927	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Second quartile (median) ¹	\$ 897,850	\$ 26,250	\$ 94,420	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Third quartile ¹	\$ 5,193,128	\$ 1,551,633	\$ 712,336	\$ 242,051	\$ -	\$ -
Total	\$ 826,209,336	\$ 469,583,477	\$ 249,831,344	\$ 94,465,678	\$ 10,784,789	\$ 1,544,048
Providers reporting data > \$0	115	70	96	65	21	27

Note: Grand totals may differ slightly due to rounding.

¹Quartile is determined by sorting providers from smallest to largest for each of the financial categories. The number that is at the 25% mark is first quartile. The number at the 50% mark is second quartile (median). The number at the 75% mark is third quartile. The percentage of providers reporting data for some of the financial categories is less than needed to report some of the quartile values.

CE Presented by Jointly Accredited Providers
Figure 3. Income—2021
Total Income is \$826,209,336



In 2021, commercial support made up 57% of reported income for jointly accredited providers. Registration fees accounted for 30%, advertising and exhibits income for 12%, and government grants and private donations accounted for the remainder.

CE Presented by Jointly Accredited Providers
Table 8. Activities and Interactions with and without Commercial Support—2021

	Activities		Total learner interactions	
	Count	%	Count	%
No commercial support	69,830	92%	22,144,304	90%
Commercial support	6,450	8%	2,593,783	10%
Total	76,280	100%	24,738,087	100%

CE Presented by Jointly Accredited Providers
Table 9. Numbers of Activities and Interactions *without* Commercial Support—2021

	Activities	Total learner interactions
Live course	29,591	1,284,362
Enduring material	32,576	17,972,970
Regularly scheduled series	6,497	2,556,973
Journal CE	738	187,804
Other/blended learning	282	25,713
Performance/quality improvement	37	1,637
Manuscript review	19	14,501
Learning from teaching	12	91
Committee learning	10	219
Test-item writing	63	776
Internet searching and learning	5	99,258
Total	69,830	22,144,304

CE Presented by Jointly Accredited Providers
Table 10. Numbers of Activities and Interactions *with* Commercial Support—2021

	Activities	Total learner interactions
Live course	2,703	316,789
Enduring material	3,597	2,196,332
Regularly scheduled series	14	24,642
Journal CE	10	5,522
Other/blended learning	123	50,316
Performance/quality improvement	2	-
Manuscript review	-	-
Learning from teaching	1	182
Committee learning	-	-
Test-item writing	-	-
Internet searching and learning	-	-
Total	6,450	2,593,783