



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY HEALTH SCIENCES CENTER™

School of Medicine

Operating Policy and Procedure

SOM OP: 60.03, **Independence**

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

REVIEW: This SOM Policy and Procedure shall be reviewed within each odd-numbered fiscal year by the Managing Director for Continuing Medical Education. Revisions will be forwarded to the Office of the Dean for approval and publication

POLICY/PROCEDURE:

1. **General.** It is the policy of the Office of CME to plan and produce continuing medical education activities following the ACCME Standards for Commercial Support.
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 Essential Areas and Elements, Updated Decision-making Criteria, and Standards for Commercial Support.
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 providership relationship.