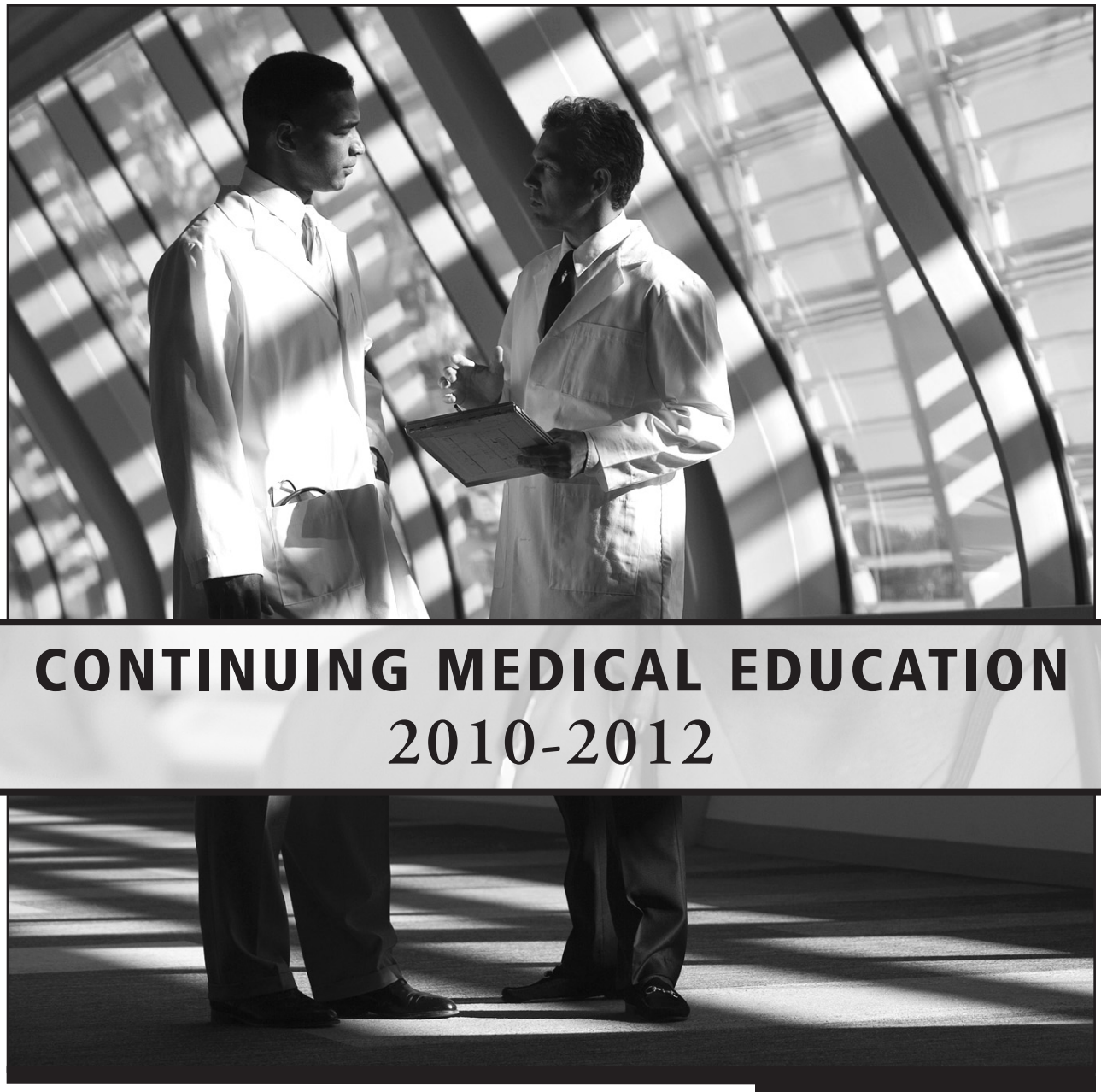

CONTINUING MEDICAL EDUCATION
2010-2012

DECEMBER 2009

Guide for Osteopathic Physicians

AMERICAN **OSTEOPATHIC** ASSOCIATION

TREATING OUR FAMILY AND YOURS

American Osteopathic Association

142 East Ontario Street

Chicago, IL 60611

CME Guide for Osteopathic Physicians – 2010-2012

CME Requirements

All members of the American Osteopathic Association (AOA), other than those exempted, are required to participate in the Continuing Medical Education (CME) program and to meet specified CME credit hour requirements for the 2010-2012 CME cycle.

One hundred and twenty credits of CME are required for membership in the American Osteopathic Association within this three-year cycle. Of this total, thirty CME credits must be obtained in Category 1-A- and the remaining ninety credit hours of the CME requirement may be satisfied with either Category 1-A, 1-B, 2-A, or 2-B credits. Physicians entering the program in mid cycle will have their credit requirements prorated. Your individual CME Activity Report outlines your total CME requirement and the amount of credits required in categories 1 and 2.

Members who obtain one hundred and fifty credits or more of AOA approved applicable CME credit in a three-year CME cycle will be given a certificate of excellence in CME. These hours must be earned by December 31ST, but reported no later than May 31st of the current CME cycle.

In recognition that members of the AOA who hold specialty or subspecialty certificates in those specialties with less than two hundred and fifty certificate holders, may have difficulty accruing the necessary AOA 1-A credits required for membership, and to allow adequate time for the development of such programs, such members may apply ACCME OR AAFP category 1 credits to their AOA 1-A credit requirement up to the maximum credits per cycle as per the following table.

CME CYCLE	ACCME CATEGORY 1 CREDITS	AOA CATEGORY 1-A CREDITS	TOTAL CREDITS
2007 – 2009	20 CREDITS	10 CREDITS	30 CREDITS
2010 – 2012	15 CREDITS	15 CREDITS	30 CREDITS
2013 – 2015	10 CREDITS	20 CREDITS	30 CREDITS
2016 –onward	0 CREDITS	30 CREDITS	30 CREDITS

For eligibility in this program, contact your certifying board.

Note this only applies to the AOA thirty Category 1-A membership requirement, for credits required for certification see section, IX. CME requirement for certified physicians, or contact your specialty certifying board.

The acceptance of ACCME, AAFP, or credits from any other certifying body by the CCME in order to fulfill AOA CME requirement does not convert said credits to AOA credits.

The AOA assigns CME credit to four categories: 1-A, 1-B, 2-A, and 2-B.

I. Category 1-A Credit

AOA Category 1-A credits will be granted to attendees for formal educational programs designed to enhance clinical competence and improve patient care. These programs must be sponsored by an AOA accredited Category 1 CME sponsor and are limited to:

A. Formal Osteopathic CME

Consisting of formal face-to-face programs that meet the Category 1 quality guidelines, faculty requirements, and which are sponsored by AOA-accredited Category 1 CME sponsors.

B. Osteopathic Medical Teaching

Physicians who deliver formal osteopathic medical education in a didactic format are eligible to receive Category 1-A credit on an hour-for-hour basis. Methods of such education are limited to:

1. Formal delivery of osteopathic medical education lectures in colleges of osteopathic medicine.

2. Formal delivery of osteopathic medical education to students, interns, residents, and staff of AOA approved healthcare facilities. Teaching credit must be submitted by the CME Department of an AOA-accredited Category 1 CME college of osteopathic medicine or Category 1 CME sponsoring hospital.

C. Standardized Federal Aviation Courses

The Federal Aviation Administration "Aviation Medicine" course and the United States Armed Service's, "Flight Surgeon Primary Course", are eligible for Category 1-A credit.

D. Federal Programs

AOA Category 1-A credit will be awarded for formal CME programs to participants who are on active duty or employed by a uniformed service. Category 1-B will be awarded to all other federal CME activities.

E. Grand Rounds

Grand rounds will be considered for AOA Category 1-A credit when submitted as, a series of at least three programs, as opposed to being submitted on a lecture-by-lecture basis. The Category 1 CME Sponsor must meet the Accreditation Requirements to award AOA Category 1-A credit.

F. Faculty Development Programs

Faculty development programs will be granted Category 1-A credit up to a maximum of 15 credits per CME cycle and Category 1-B credit for any excess credits if sponsored by an AOA-accredited Category 1 CME sponsor and meet the 1-A faculty/hours requirement.

G. Judging Osteopathic Clinical Case Presentations and Research Poster Presentations

Osteopathic physicians serving as formal judges for osteopathic clinical case presentations and research poster presentations at a formal CME function will be awarded AOA Category 1-A credits on an hour-for-hour basis up to a maximum of ten credits per AOA 3-year CME cycle.

II. Category 1-B Credit

Category 1-B credit will be awarded for the following:

A. Publications, Inspections, Examinations, and Committee Meetings

Development and publication of scientific papers and electronically communicated osteopathic educational programs; serving as an osteopathic healthcare facility, college accreditation, internship, residency or OPTI surveyor or consultant; conducting, and developing certifying board examinations; participating on an osteopathic state licensing professional review board; and for healthcare committee and departmental meetings which review and evaluate patient care whether the committee work is in an osteopathic or allopathic institution.

B. Osteopathic Preceptoring

Osteopathic physicians serving as preceptors in any AOA approved osteopathic medical education program may be granted Category 1-B credit. A maximum of sixty AOA Category 1-B credits for preceptoring may be applied to the 120-hour requirement.

No credit is available for preceptoring physician assistants, nurse practitioners, or allopathic medical students.

C. Certification Examination Credit

Fifteen Category 1-B credits will be awarded to AOA members who pass an AOA recertification examination or obtain a certification of added qualification.

D. Activities in Non-AOA Accredited Institutions

Category 1-B will be granted to osteopathic physicians who participate in non-AOA accredited institution/hospital activities such as: hospital staff activities, educational lectures, and lecturing when the institution/hospital is an AOA recognized associate institution/hospital that trains osteopathic students, interns and/or residents. Under this rule, a non-AOA accredited institution/hospital is defined as an institution/hospital that is directly associated with an OPTI for purposes of training osteopathic students, interns and/or residents. Accreditation of the hospital/institution by the Healthcare Facility Accreditation Program, HFAP, of the AOA is not required.

E. Non-Osteopathic CME Programs

The Council on Continuing Medical Education may recognize allopathic specialty or subspecialty programs for Category 1-B credit, when there is essentially no equivalent course content available within the osteopathic profession and that such recognition will apply to all physicians in that specialty or subspecialty. These courses must be provided by an ACCME accredited provider, be AAFP approved, or provided by an internationally known sponsor acceptable to the CCME.

To request consideration of a non-osteopathic course for Category 1-B credit, write to the Division of CME at AOA Headquarters in Chicago and provide a copy of the, Non-osteopathic programs - Category 1B, form, available at, www.do-online.org along with the printed program (or syllabus) and documentation of attendance.

The AOA performs-reviews of such courses as a member service. Whereas, non-members who request AOA Category 1-B credit for allopathic sponsored CME programs must submit an application fee of $25.00 and a $10.00 processing fee for each program submitted for review.

F. Journal Reading

Osteopathic physicians can earn two credit hours of AOA Category 1-B credit for reading the Journal of the American Osteopathic Association (JAOA) and other osteopathic journals approved by the CCME and passing the respective CME quiz with a minimum grade of 70%.

G. Test Construction, Committee Work

1. Formal

a. Test construction committee work will be awarded Category 1-B credit when performed as part of a seminar, meeting of an AOA official certifying board, or an AOA practice affiliate's postgraduate in-service examination committee, or at a meeting of the National Board of Osteopathic Medical Examiners with at least three attendees.

b. Ten Category 1-B credits will be awarded for administering the oral and practical examinations.

2. Informal

a. One Category 1-B credit will be awarded for each test item written, with a maximum of ten credits per cycle, when submitted to an AOA official certifying board and/or The National Board of Osteopathic Medical Examiners.

b. Two Category 1-B credits will be awarded, with a maximum of twenty credits per cycle, for clinical cases developed and submitted to the National Board of Osteopathic Medical Examiners.

Credit will not be awarded for meetings that are primarily administrative in nature.

III. Category 2-A Credit

A. Category 2-A includes formal educational programs that are ACCME accredited, AAFP approved, an internationally known sponsor acceptable to the CCME, or sponsored by AOA-accredited Category 1 CME Sponsors that do not meet the 1-A faculty/hours requirement for Category 1-A credit.

Category 2-B Credits

B. Category 2-B credit also shall be awarded for: the preparation and presentation of scientific exhibits at a county, regional, state, or national professional meeting (ten credits per scientific exhibit); home study; reading medical journals; viewing non-osteopathic medical video and audio tapes and cassettes; journal type CME on the Internet; faculty development; physician administrative training; quality assessment programs; observations at medical centers; courses in medical economics; CME programs on the Internet; risk management programs that are administrative in nature; programs dealing with experimental and investigative areas of medical practice, and ABMS recertification examination or a certificate of added certification (fifteen credits). Five credits may be granted for reading medical textbooks. A copy of the home study form may be found at www.do-online.org.

IV. CME on the Internet

Osteopathic physicians may earn up to 30% of their Category 1-A requirement from interactive Internet CME (i.e., up to nine Category 1-A CME credits for members with a requirement of thirty Category 1-A credits). Category 1-A interactive Internet CME credits earned in excess of nine will be applied to the Category 1-B and Category 2-A or category 2-B CME requirements.

A. Interactive CME

Category 1-A credit will be awarded for real-time, interactive simultaneous conferencing CME on the Internet, which includes both an online pre and post test and allows the participant to ask questions of the presenter in real-time during or immediately after the presentation. The CME event must meet AOA quality guidelines, the 1-A faculty/hours requirement, and must be sponsored by an AOA-accredited Category 1 CME sponsor. These courses would be considered live on the Internet.

To receive credit for interactive Internet CME, osteopathic physicians must complete a CME quiz with a passing grade of 70%, and the sponsor of the program must provide this information to the AOA, along with the category and number of CME credits requested.

B. Non-Interactive CME

1. Category 1-B credit will be awarded to audio and video programs on the Internet sponsored by AOA-accredited Category 1 CME sponsors. These courses are typically programs that are available on an on demand schedule and are not a real-time, interactive simultaneous conference.

To receive credit for interactive Internet CME, osteopathic physicians must complete a CME quiz with a passing grade of 70% and the sponsor of the program must provide this information to the AOA, along with the category and number of CME credits requested.

2. Category 2-A credit will be awarded to real-time, interactive CME programs on the Internet that are produced by CME providers accredited by ACCME or approved by the AAFP. These courses must be real-time, interactive simultaneous conferencing.

3. Category 2-B credit will also be awarded to journal-type CME on the Internet that is produced by an AOA-accredited sponsor, ACCME sponsor, or approved by the AAFP. These courses are essentially static, textbook type programs. They may have hypertext jumps to help the reader pursue specific information.

The AOA Council on CME reserves the right to evaluate each interactive CME Internet program and activity and to deny CME credit at its discretion.

V. Specific Course Credits and Limitations

Risk management and managed care programs will be awarded Category 1-A, 1-B, 2-A, or 2-B credit based on the standard CME classifications with the following exceptions:

A. Risk Management Programs

1. Risk management programs will be granted Category 1-A credit if they are clinical in nature, sponsored by an AOA-accredited Category 1 CME sponsor, and meet the 1-A faculty/hours requirement for AOA Category 1-A credit.

2. Risk management programs will be granted Category 2-A credit if they are clinical in nature sponsored by an AOA-accredited Category 1 CME sponsor but do not meet the 1-A faculty/hours requirement; are sponsored by an ACCME-accredited organization; or an AAFP-approved program.

3. Risk management programs will be granted Category 1-B credit if they are administrative in nature and sponsored by an AOA-accredited Category 1 CME sponsor.

4. Risk management programs will be granted Category 2-B credit if they are administrative in nature and are provided by an ACCME-sponsor or AAFP-approved.

5. A maximum of five CME credits may be earned for risk management courses per year.

B. Managed Care Programs

1. Managed care programs will be granted Category 1-A if they are sponsored by an AOA-accredited Category 1 CME sponsor and meet the 1-A faculty/hours requirement for AOA Category 1-A credit.

2. Managed care programs will be granted Category 1-B credit, if they are sponsored by an AOA-accredited Category 1 CME sponsor and the program does not meet the AOA Category 1-A faculty/hours requirement.

3. Managed care programs will be granted Category 2-A credit if they are sponsored by an ACCME-sponsor or AAFP-approved.

4. A maximum of five CME credits may be earned for managed care courses per year.

VI. CME Credit for Standardized Life Support Courses

The following standardized life support courses are eligible for Category 1-B credit. Credits for each course are awarded as indicated in the following table.

Course Name	Provider Course	Refresher Course	Instructor Course
Advanced Trauma Life Support	17	8	11
Advanced Cardiac Life Support	12	6	8
Basic Life Support (health care provider)	4	2	8
Pediatric Advanced Life Support (AHA)	14	8	9
Advanced Pediatric Life Support (AAP)	14	8	9
Neonatal Advanced Life Support	8	4	6
Advanced Life Support in Obstetrics	17	8	9

Credit will be awarded for successful completion of an eligible standardized life support course as per the above table.

VII. Bioterrorism Courses

AOA osteopathic sponsored "bioterrorism" courses are eligible for Category 1-B credit. A maximum of four credits of AOA Category 1-B, in any 3-year CME cycle, may be awarded for any bioterrorism courses that are ACCME or AAFP approved. Additional credits may be awarded in the appropriate category.

VIII. Nonqualified Activities

A Volunteer Work

The AOA applauds volunteer work, but such work does not qualify for CME credit.

B. Post Graduate Studies

Studies undertaken in the quest for advanced degrees, whether master of science, master of public health, master of business administration, or doctorate, does not qualify for CME credit.

C. Medical Facility Tours

Such tours do not qualify for CME credit.

IX. CME Requirement for Certified Physicians

Physicians who are board certified or board eligible are required to earn a minimum of fifty CME credits in their primary specialty in each three-year CME cycle. These credits may be earned in Category 1 or Category 2.

A. CME sponsored by osteopathic specialty affiliates in the individuals declared specialty, will be applied to this requirement on an unlimited hour-by-hour basis.

B. CME sponsored by AOA CME Sponsors other than the individual's declared specialty affiliate may be awarded by the certifying board with jurisdiction up to a maximum of 25 credits per cycle.

Please contact your certifying board for information regarding the use of preceptoring or other credits towards this requirement.

Note: Under current AOA policy, failure to meet the AOA specialty CME requirement is interpreted as a failure to meet the individual physician's CME requirement. This could result in the loss of AOA membership and in turn result in the possible loss of certification.

X. Exemptions/Reductions

A. General

AOA members exempted from the CME program requirements include: retired members who do not hold an active license to practice medicine; AOA members outside the geographic boundaries of the United States and Canada; student members; interns, and residents; fellows; members participating in AOA recognized postgraduate programs; military members assigned positions other than in their specialty or who are involved in significant military operations; and disabled members. AOA Life Members in active practice have a CME requirement.

B. Osteopathic Physicians in the Military Reductions

The council is aware of the difficulty that osteopathic physicians in the military, Veterans Administration, and U.S. Public Health Service may have in acquiring osteopathic continuing medical education. The Uniformed Services encourages osteopathic physicians to meet their full obligation to CME and the AOA also believes that it is essential that, as an osteopathic physician, a portion of this education should be osteopathic in nature. The AOA policy related to osteopathic physicians in the military is that five credits per year or up to fifteen of the thirty AOA Category 1A credit requirement per three-year cycle will be reduced.

This reduction is available only to those physicians on active duty who have accumulated a total of one hundred and twenty credits of CME and who request said reduction from the Council on CME. The total CME requirement will be proportionally adjusted for time spent out of the United States.

C. Extenuating Circumstances

If there are extenuating circumstances that have prevented you from obtaining sufficient credit, such as serious illness, financial, or family problems, we urge you to report this to the AOA Council on Continuing Medical Education and the Membership Department, as you may qualify for a reduction in your requirement. Changes in your practice status since the beginning of the CME cycle may reduce your AOA CME requirement. For additional information on extenuating circumstances, please contact the Director of CME at 800-621-1773, extension 8262.

AOA exemptions or reductions in the number of required credits, for membership or certification, do not pertain to individual state CME licensing requirements. The Council on CME will grant no reductions without due cause unless policy advises otherwise.

XI. Reporting CME Activities

To report ACCME or AAFP CME programs, a certificate of attendance must be provided to the AOA Division of CME indicating the total number of hours attended. Reporting of AOA CME credit is the responsibility of the approved AOA sponsor.

Other Questions

If you have any questions concerning the CME program or ways in which to receive, credit or questions regarding your status, please contact the AOA Division of CME at 800-621-1773 Ext. 8262.

The following CME Reporting forms are available at www.do-online.org.

1. Healthcare Facility Education Activities,
2. Individual Certification,
3. Home Study,
4. Non-Osteopathic Programs – Category 1-B, and
5. Exemption/Reduction Form, and
6. 1-A ACCME Specialty/Subspecialty.

"AOA Coming Events," a listing of upcoming CME programs, are available in the Continuing Medical Education section at www.do-online.org.

Members may view their CME Activity Report (CAR) by visiting www.do-online.org. Additionally, CME online courses are available at this site.

The Council on CME maintains the right to update this guide as needed. The Council reserves the right to evaluate all programs and activities on an individual basis and to deny or accept CME credits at its discretion. Osteopathic physicians are responsible for remaining abreast of the rules and regulations of CME.