

# Policy on Independence

1. In order to maintain the independence of the CME provider, the following decisions regarding CME activities must be made free of control of any commercial interest (SCS 1.1):

- Identification of CME needs
- Determination of educational objectives
- Selection and presentation of content
- Selection of all persons and organizations that will be in a position to control the content of the CME
- Selection of education methods
- Evaluation of the activity

2. Independence of the CME provider must be stipulated in the Commercial Support Letter of Agreement. [Industry Best Practice]

3. All parties to the Commercial Support Letter of Agreement must agree to comply with the ACCME Standards for Commercial Support. [Industry Best Practice]

4. Accredited Provider must make all decisions regarding the disposition and disbursement of commercial support. SCS 3.1
5. Accredited Provider may not seek suggestions from the commercial interest regarding faculty members, content, and other aspects of the CME activity. SCS1.1 – Ask ACCME, #6, 10/2007
6. Accredited Provider may not seek review of CME content by the commercial interest. SCS1.1 – Ask ACCME, #7, 10/2007
7. The commercial interest cannot make the acceptance of advice or services concerning teachers, authors, or participants or other education matters, including content, a condition of support. SCS 3.2
8. A commercial interest cannot take the role of the non-accredited partner in a joint sponsorship relationship. SCS 1.2