



POSITION STATEMENT

THE ETHICS OF CONTINUING EDUCATION

Pursuant to issues regarding attendance and sponsorship of continuing education (CE) activities within the American College of Nurse-Midwives (ACNM), the following statement has as its intent to clarify aspects of continuing education.

ACNM evaluates continuing education content which promotes advanced competency beyond the core competencies. Core competencies reflect basic skills and knowledge inherent in midwifery education and are periodically updated by ACNM.

Continuing career development in midwifery includes continuing education activities. Continuing education in midwifery should reflect programs which a) provide educational value, b) promote lifelong career learning, and c) contribute to advanced midwifery practice. Such CE activities should encompass the following components:

- Quality programming (with an evaluative component)
- A peer review process (all materials reviewed by a panel of ACNM CE Committee members)
- Presentations by qualified faculty
- Clear criteria delineated for CE content

Attendees of all ACNM sponsored CE activities should claim credit only for the actual time spent in attendance at a CE event or in reading CE home study materials. Presenters, as well, must ensure that presentations are not influenced by industry or financial reward. All potential conflict of interest issues, financial or otherwise, must be disclosed to the audience or sponsor of the CE program. CE credit for midwives is acknowledged by the approval process of ACNM or by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME).

* Midwifery as used throughout this document refers to the education and practice of certified nurse-midwives (CNMs) and certified midwives (CMs) who have been certified by the American College of Nurse-Midwives (ACNM) or The American Midwifery Certification Board, Inc. (AMCB), formerly the American College of Nurse-Midwives Certification Council, Inc. (ACC).

7/99 with Revisions
7/99 approved ACNM, CE Committee