



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
BUREAU OF MEDICINE AND SURGERY
7700 ARLINGTON BOULEVARD
FALLS CHURCH VA 22042

BUMEDINST 1520.34C
BUMED-N7
30 Jun 2025

BUMED INSTRUCTION 1520.34C

From: Chief, Bureau of Medicine and Surgery

Subj: CONTINUING EDUCATION PROGRAMS FOR MEDICAL CORPS AND NURSE
CORPS OFFICERS

Ref: (a) American Dental Association Continuing Education Recognition Program
(b) Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education Accreditation
Criteria and Standards for Integrity and Independence in Accredited Continuing
Education
(c) American Medical Association Physician's Recognition Award and
Credit System (current edition)
(d) American Nurse Credentialing Center Nursing Continuing Professional
Development Accredited Approver Policy and Operations Manual
(e) BUMEDINST 5050.6B

1. Purpose. To implement and maintain Navy Medicine's nationally accredited continuing education (CE) programs for medical department personnel that meet CE requirements for re-licensure as established by State Boards of Medicine and Nursing. The CE programs also facilitate self-development and maintain professional development requirements established by a variety of medical and nursing specialty boards including requirements for initial certification, maintenance of certification, and recertification. This instruction is a complete revision and must be read in its entirety.

2. Cancellation. BUMEDINST 1520.34B.

3. Scope and Applicability. This instruction applies to all Navy Medical Corps and Nurse Corps officers. Medical Service Corps officers continuing education is specialty specific and governed by various discipline specific professional organizations. Navy Dental Corps officers continuing dental education is governed by the American Dental Association Continuing Education Recognition Program (ADA CERP) managed by the Naval Postgraduate Dental School with oversight from the Dental Officer Professional Education Council and the Chief, Dental Corps. Reference (a) describes the ADA CERP and is available at:
<https://ccepr.ada.org/ada-cerp-standards>.

4. Background

a. The quality of medical care provided to the Navy and Marine Corps communities depends largely on the proficiency of medical department personnel. The Naval Medical Leader

and Professional Development Command (NAVMEDLEADPRODEVCMDCMD) CE programs are established within the Education and Training, Bureau of Medicine and Surgery (BUMED-N7) organizational structure under the auspices of Naval Medical Forces Development Command.

b. The NAVMEDLEADPRODEVCMDCMD CE program is nationally accredited by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME) and the American Nurse Credentialing Center (ANCC). As such, the NAVMEDLEADPRODEVCMDCMD CE program acts as a strategic partner in Navy Medicine quality and safety initiatives through the advancement of evidenced-based learning for healthcare professionals that improves patient, system, and population outcomes. Per references (b) and (c), the CE program's mission is to facilitate the planning, implementation, and evaluation of CE educational activities intended to develop, improve, and maintain the knowledge, skills, professional performance, and relationships that Navy Medicine healthcare staff use to provide services to patients, the public, or the profession. The NAVMEDLEADPRODEVCMDCMD CE program awards American Medical Association (AMA) Physician's Recognition Award (PRA) Category 1 Credits™ to Physicians per reference (c) and Nursing Continuing Professional Development (NCPD) contact hours to Registered Nurses per reference (d). Reference (b) is available at: <https://accme.org/about-accreditation>. Reference (c) is available at: <https://www.ama-assn.org/education/ama-pra-credit-system>. Information on the ANCC NCPD accreditation program is available at: <https://www.nursingworld.org/organizational-programs/accreditation/ncpd/>. Reference (d) is available from NAVMEDLEADPRODEVCMDCMD on request.

c. Given the rapid growth of medical knowledge, advances in technology, emphasis on accountability, and continuing social change, the NAVMEDLEADPRODEVCMDCMD CE program facilitates opportunities for Navy Medicine personnel to participate in quality continuing educational activities which are recognized and accepted by the credentialing agencies, medical board specialty programs, professional societies/associations, and the state licensing authorities. Reference (e) and Navy Medicine conference information and guidance provide further information regarding CE conference travel and can be found on the Navy Medicine Web site at: <https://www.med.navy.mil/Naval-Medical-Leader-and-Professional-Development-Command/Professional-Development/Continuing-Medical-Nurse-Education/>.

5. Action

a. Commanding Officer, NAVMEDLEADPRODEVCMDCMD, will:

(1) Establish, maintain, and publish procedures and standards for submission, review, and approval of CE educational activities per references (b) through (d).

(2) Publish the most current accreditation criteria that are required for approval of CE educational activities and recognition for participation in these activities per references (b) through (d).

(3) Maintain unrestricted national accreditation with ACCME and ANCC and provide direct sponsorship for continuing education activities.

(4) Assist Navy Medicine commands with establishing ongoing professional development programs including planning, implementing, and evaluating quality educational activities designed to change competence, performance, and patient outcomes among their intended audience.

b. Commanders, Commanding Officers, and Officers in Charge will:

(1) Ensure appropriate personnel are assigned the responsibility of assessing the professional development needs among their medical department personnel.

(2) Establish a professional development plan to address the learning needs.

(3) Implement the professional development educational plan. Consultation and training may be obtained by contacting the NAVMEDLEADPRODEVCMDCMD CE program managers.

(4) Implement effective CE educational activities within their commands.

(5) Maintain quality assurance mechanisms to meet requirements established in references (b) through (e).


6. The point of contact (POC) for this instruction is the Navy CE Program Office at Naval Medical Leader and Professional Development Command, Continuing Education Offices (Code 1WMC21), 8955 Wood Road, Bethesda, Maryland 20889-5628. The POCs can be reach via e-mail at usn.bethesda.navmedleadprodevcmd.list.nmlpdc-ce@health.mil, and via the following telephone numbers: (301) 319-2640 and (301) 319-4742. The Navy CE online application portal is located at: <https://education.mods.army.mil/NavyCME/Default.aspx>.

7. Records Management

a. Records created as a result of this instruction, regardless of format and media, must be maintained and dispositioned per the records disposition schedules located on the Department of the Navy Assistant for Administration, Directives and Records Management Division portal page at <https://portal.secnav.navy.mil/orgs/DUSNM/DONAA/DRM/Records-and-InformationManagement/Approved%20Record5%Schedules/Forms/AllItems.aspx>.

b. For questions concerning the management of records related to this instruction or records disposition schedules, please contact the local records manager or the OPNAV Records Management Program (DNS-16).

8. Review and Effective Date. Per OPNAVINST 5215.17A, BUMED-N7 will review this instruction annually around the anniversary of its issuance date to ensure applicability, currency, and consistency with Federal, Department of Defense, Secretary of the Navy, and Navy policy and statutory authority using OPNAV 5215/40 Review of Instruction. This instruction will be in effect for 10 years, unless revised or cancelled in the interim, and will be reissued by the 10-year anniversary date if it is still required, unless it meets one of the exceptions in OPNAVINST 5215.17A, paragraph 9. Otherwise, if the instruction is no longer required, it will be processed for cancellation as soon as the need for cancellation is known following the guidance in OPNAV Manual 5215.1 of May 2016.



D. K. VIA

Releasability and distribution:

This instruction is cleared for public release and available electronically only via the Navy Medicine Web site, <https://www.med.nav.mil/Directives/>