

Your CAMI Education Division Shines

HELLO, EVERYONE. I am certain you will recall that I changed the tone of my last editorial to write a vignette that illustrated some points about the use of FAA Forms 8500-8 and 8500-9 for purposes other than official FAA physical examinations.

I hope you will indulge me as I switch directions again in order to tell you about a remarkable achievement by the CAMI Aerospace Medical Education Division (AMED).

Every organization that delivers continuing medical education credits to physicians must be certified by the



Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME). The certification process involves an extremely rigorous initial examination by the ACCME that takes more than a year to complete. It includes:

- a discussion of the history and structure of the organization
- in-depth documentation of processes and procedures
- examples of actual seminar and training course content
- verification of professional needs and gap analyses of physician participants
- training on desirable physician attributes, and the illustration of FAA partnerships with governmental and industry organizations worldwide

The AMED was initially certified in the mid-1990s, and they have successfully been recertified every four years. In 2006, the ACCME established new certification criteria, and the Education Division completed the year-long reaccreditation process under the new criteria late last year. The FAA was represented by Dr. **Richard Jones**, Manager, Education Division, and Ms. **Jan Wright**, Instructional Systems Development Specialist. They had to

present in-depth documentation demonstrating competence with 22 separate criteria and then participate in an oral interview.

In December, the ACCME notified Dr. Jones that they had successfully completed the process and that they had been awarded "Accreditation with Commendation." This extraordinary accomplishment means that the Education Division's reaccreditation cycle goes to six years and that they are authorized to continue to offer you CME credits for attending one of their high-quality AME seminars.

Murray Kopelow, Chief Executive of ACCME, enclosed a personal note to express his congratulations. "Yours is the first organization to be awarded 'Accreditation with Commendation' from the ACCME under the 2006 updated criteria. Congratulations on this significant achievement."

Please take a couple of minutes to personally congratulate Richard, Jan, and all the rest of the Aerospace Medical Education staff the next time you attend a seminar.

Since I have a couple of extra lines, please look at Dr. Jones' "Quick Fix" article on page 1 of this issue. You will soon see a modification to the log-in page for AMCS regarding the safeguarding of sensitive, personally identifiable information. In these days of identity theft, it is critical that we continually remind ourselves to do everything possible to protect the privacy of our constituents.

Have a great spring, and thanks once again for all you do for us and our airmen!!!

—Fred

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