



CONTINUING MEDICAL EDUCATION POLICY AND PROCEDURE MANUAL

OFFICE OF CONTINUING MEDICAL EDUCATION	
NUMBER:	19
SUBJECT:	TEST ITEM WRITING
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PAGE: 1	OF 1

SUBJECT: Test Item Writing for AMA PRA Category 1 Credit

Standards for Designating Test Item Writing for AMA Category 1 Credit

The test item writing activity must meet the guidelines for AMA PRA category 1 credit as detailed in the *AMA Physician's Recognition Award: Requirements for Accredited Providers* booklet (version 3.2). Also:

1. Test item writing activities must be sponsored by an accredited provider (existing requirement).
2. The questions must be developed for examinations given by the National Board of Medical Examiners (NBME) or a member board of the American Board of Medical Specialties (ABMS). Or for peer reviewed published, self-assessment educational activities from a national medical specialty society.
3. The process for this activity must document guidance for the physician question writers on how to use evidence for writing quality questions.
4. The assignments must be at a depth and scope that require a review of the literature and a knowledge of the evidence base for the questions. Physician question writers should document their review of evidence based literature.
5. The physician question writers must personally participate in a group peer review of the questions. The questions writers should revise their questions, when necessary, based on feedback from the peer group.
6. Providers may designate each test item writing activity (as described above) for a maximum of 10 credits.

Reference: American Medical Association 2003, Division of CPPD