

Hospital optometrists do not get funding for CET – can this be addressed?

We are unable to provide comment on this and would recommend speaking to your membership body or professional association for advice on this.

Are there any points available for course designers?

Yes. In the new CPD cycle if you are an educator, course designer or presenter you will be able to claim points as non-approved CPD. All learning that helps you to develop your professional skills will be eligible for CPD points.

In the current CET cycle, you can get an author point per piece of CET you design.

Will you provide guidance or templates on setting points for sessions?

We will produce some guidance on this, similar to the Principles and Requirements document for individual modalities, but we encourage providers to use their judgement on the value of the piece of CPD, which be dependent on length, complexity or interactivity of a session.

Half a point is available for sessions under 30 minutes, how does this apply to written articles?

As it stands, we require a written piece to be 2000 words to be considered for 1 point, a piece of written content at 1000 words could be worth half a point in the next cycle.

Will individual registrants be able to apply CPD points to a small group peer review or will this need to go through a CPD provider in the next cycle?

Individual registrants will be able to do this themselves and would not need to go through a CPD provider. Providers can, if they wish to do so, set up and facilitate a larger or more interactive peer review session. Peer review sessions set up and facilitated by accredited providers will be eligible for more points than registrant-arranged ones.

Is there an opportunity for providers to use API functionality as evidence of CPD completion to the GOC portal on behalf of registrants?

We are unable to provide an answer to this at this moment in time. This is something that we are looking into as part of the upgrades to the MyCET/MyCPD system.

For development on topics outside of the scope of the domains, can that be recognised within in a practitioner's CPD if it is relevant to their development needs?

Yes.

Is an approved provider able to deliver this [non-approved CPD outside the scope of the domains]?

It would be difficult for a provider to practically do this and remain within the Standards we have set out. We would ask providers to consider whether the CPD is relevant to development if it does not fit within the domains.

Are there any requirements to issue a certificate to delegates so they can keep this for their records?

Yes. We will require providers to issue certificates to delegates as well as maintaining appropriate records as stated in the guidance.

Are providers required to stipulate length of attendance on the certificate of attendance?

As a provider you will have to monitor attendance and interactivity at an event or session. If a registrant does not attend a full session, they may not qualify for a certificate of attendance – you should make a decision appropriately, as you would do during the current cycle.

Will the GOC be sharing guidance on reflection and reflective statements?

We will be for registrants; however, this is less relevant for providers and so we are not planning on including this in the Guidance for Providers of CPD.

Is mandatory reflection required for each piece of CPD?

No. You can reflect if you wish to, we would encourage you to do so, but it is not mandatory to do so.

Will providers be required to ask certain questions at the end of the CPD session?

We will not require any specific questions to be asked. As providers, it is for you to decide how you evaluate the CPD content and its delivery.

Will the legislative changes required to make CPD mandatory for the 2022 cycle likely to be in place?

Yes, as far as we are aware. The Department of Health are aware of our need to get this in place before the next cycle and they have not communicated to us that they will not be able to push this through.

Can providers take a pragmatic view with attendance for online sessions?

If a registrant joins a session late or leaves early, within a reasonable timeframe, we would view this as being permissible to gaining the CPD point. This must be within reason; registrants cannot miss considerable portions of a session and reasonably expect to gain the CPD point.

We would encourage providers to monitor when registrants log on to sessions so that attendance can be observed, and any patterns of behaviour is monitored.

Will providers be challenged on suitability of content for a mixed delegate cohort?

We will only challenge this if it is clearly inappropriate when picked up at audit.

Current authorisation process is sometimes inconsistent, whereby two identical pieces of CET are treated differently. Will this change under CPD?

Yes, as existing providers will no longer be seeking approval for individual pieces of CPD.

How will auditing be conducted in the next cycle?

We plan on randomly auditing 10% of our providers each calendar year as well as any provider that we deem 'at risk' – those with persistent negative feedback from attendees, or other serious concerns raised. More detail on the audit process will be presented at the webinar in May 2021.

Will you be going into more detail about the scope of each domain?

There will be four domains which broadly cover the Standards of Practice. There will be a fifth domain which covers specialities.

When can providers expect to receive the details of the final CPD arrangements so that changes can be planned for accordingly?

We are accepting feedback on the guidance document until 4 March 2021. Once we have received any comments for consideration, we intend to share this with providers as soon as possible.

Will the GOC provide new logos and assets ahead of the next cycle?

Yes. The Communications Team will be sharing these with providers in due course.