



Analysis of ACCME 2009 Annual Report Data

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The ACCME 2009 Annual Report data released last week show that increased competition for continuing medical education (CME) resources has produced fewer stakeholders that are more effectively delivering physician education.

In short, the data point to the fact that a competitive CME world is making certified education more cost effective.

As projected by several analysts, commercial grant funding of CME decreased by 17.7% between 2008 and 2009. From a high of \$1.2 billion in industry grant funding for CME in 2007, the total amount of industry grant funding dropped 29 percent in the last two years to \$856 million in 2009.

The 2009 figure is the lowest amount of CME grant funding by industry since 2002. That’s the bad news. Now for the good. The cost of CME has decreased, while physician attendance and participation continues to grow.

Consider the following statistics, derived from ACCME Annual Report data.

Year	Total Cost Per Physician Attendee	Difference from Prior Year
2009	\$79.41	18.5% decrease
2008	\$97.37	30% decrease
2007	\$139.26	4% decrease
2006	\$145.29	Less than 1% decrease
2005	\$145.23	

Provider Type	Avg. # of Physicians Per Activity	Avg. \$ Per Activity	Avg. \$ Per Attendee
School of Medicine	85	\$10,805	\$127.27
Publishing/ Education Company	229	\$25,359	\$110.93
Physician Membership Organization	100	\$24,969	\$250.69
Hospital	84	\$9,934	\$119.26

A PDF of the complete ACCME 2009 Annual Report is attached. If you have any additional questions, please contact Global Education Group at 303-395-1782.