

Educational Objectives

1. To describe the purpose and extent of the RDCE program.
2. To describe the operational details of the RDCE program.

The AAPM Education Committee has developed a remotely directed continuing education program to provide AAPM members access to continuing education and an opportunity to earn continuing education credits, comparable with Category I credits for physicians, over the internet. The program is based on the participant reading an article or report, answering at least 8 out of 10 questions correctly, providing some evaluation of the questions. The questions are designed to cover almost all categories of Medical Physics. The 14 categories in the RDCE program are: Bioeffects, Computers, Computed Tomography, Diagnostic Medical Physics, General Medical Physics, Laws and Regulations, Mammography, Magnetic Resonance, Nuclear Medicine, Radiation Protection, Radiation Oncology Physics, Brachytherapy, Linear Accelerators, and Ultrasound.

The sources of the questions are articles in Medical Physics, or other journals readily accessible to AAPM members, AAPM Task Group or government reports. Each The Category has an article question assignor who assigned individuals to write questions based on a particular article, These article question writers and the article question assignor certify that the intellectual effort in reading the article and answering the questions is at least equivalent to attending a one hour lecture at a national meeting. In order to participate in the RDCE program AAPM members must have signed up for, and paid the \$20 RDCE program fee. After logging onto the AAPM web site the RDCE program is selected. The various categories and the number of quizzes are indicated. After selecting a quiz the questions are presented. As part of the continuing education program the participant must provide and evaluation of the questions in order before the answers can be submitted. Participants receive immediate feedback on whether they have correctly answered 8 of the 10 questions. If they have not they must wait until the next day to retake the test. Presumably this time will be spent in rereading the article for a better understanding of its content. At the end of the year each participant receives a certificate from the Commission on Accreditation of Medical Physics Educational Programs (CAMPEP) listing the continuing education credits earned.