

WAY 18

HIV Pharmacist™ Credentialing with the American Academy of HIV Medicine

The American Academy of HIV Medicine's HIV Pharmacist™ Credentialing program is now the only widely recognized, statistically sound and defensible measurement program available in HIV-focused pharmacy care. The Academy is also the known certifying agency for other frontline medical providers working in HIV care.

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Company Background

The American Academy of HIV Medicine is a professional organization, located in Washington, D.C., that supports the HIV practitioner and promotes accessible, quality care for all Americans living with HIV disease. Our membership of HIV practitioners and credentialed HIV care professionals provides direct care to more than three-fourths of the HIV patients in the US. Since the inception of the Academy's certification programs in 2002, thousands of HIV care providers have earned the **HIV Specialist™** (AAHIVS) or **HIV Expert™** (AAHIVE) designations. Starting in 2011, HIV-specialized pharmacists can also now earn the **HIV Pharmacist™** (AAHIVP) designation via a similar certification process.

Product Overview

The Academy's HIV-focused professional certifications are the first and only credentials offered domestically and internationally to physicians, nurse practitioners, physician assistants and pharmacists specializing in advanced level HIV care. The **HIV Specialist™** (AAHIVS) credential is available to practicing frontline clinical providers, while the **HIV Expert™** (AAHIVE) designation can be earned by non-practicing clinicians. The **HIV Pharmacist™** (AAHIVP) certification is available to eligible HIV-specialized pharmacists. The certifications are achieved by meeting experience and education requirements, as well as successfully completing a comprehensive exam on HIV-specialized care. This program is offered independent from AAHIVM membership. On average, about 2000 providers are actively maintaining an AAHIVM credential, a majority of which principally identify as an HIV provider. In 2011, most of the US HIV-positive population is now under the care of an Academy-certified provider. The pharmacist testing program began development in 2008 with a three-year pilot testing period, followed by a number of key Pharmacist test development processes. These included establishment and validation of a new "HIV Pharmacist Role Delineation" (also known as an RD or "job analysis"), which details the scope of practice in this profession. From the RD, a content classification system and an exam template were crafted, followed by authoring, classification and assembly of actual exam items.

Pharmacist Program Eligibility

- **LICENSURE:**
 Maintain a current, valid Pharmacist license in the state or region of practice; must have graduated from an accredited school of pharmacy. Qualified international providers are eligible.
- **EXPERIENCE:**
 Direct, ongoing involvement in the care of at least 20 HIV patients over the 24 months preceding the date of application. This requirement may be fulfilled in any of the following ways:
 - Direct clinical client services, consultation or case review in an inpatient or outpatient clinic or hospital
 - Direct client services, consultation or case review in a retail environment
 - Direct, ongoing consultative or research-related interaction with one or more practicing frontline providers who maintain direct patient contact
- **EDUCATION:**
 Complete a minimum of 30 credits or activity hours of HIV-related continuing education within the 24 months preceding the date of application. ACPE-accredited educational activity must comprise 50% or more of reported continuing education. Continuing education is reported as a summary on the Credentialing application; actual course completion documents are required only if the application is audited. **SUBSTITUTIONS ACCEPTABLE:** Certain training programs, recent HIV-specific residencies, HIV-related Category-1 CME, lecturing, and many other types of educational activities are acceptable but explanation is required on the Credentialing application. ACPE-accredited activity that is awarded as 0.1 units per contact hour is considered 1 credit for the purposes of the AAHIVM "30 credit" policy. Concise education activity summary records help facilitate the application process and may be submitted separately by mail or fax for convenience; details are provided within the online Credentialing application.

For more details about AAHIVM Credentialing please visit www.aahivm.org

Credentialing Date Cycle

- **May - June** Acceptance of applications (late applications are accepted through July with a \$25 fee).
- **July - Aug** Application approvals distributed by email on a rolling basis.
- **Mid-Aug - Sept** Testing Period (online or printed)
- **Late Oct** Results Distributed
- **Nov** Retesting Period
- **Dec** Award packages sent

Credential duration is 2 years.