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Changes to Initial CDCES Certification Eligibility Requirements Due to Impact of the COVID-19 Pandemic

(Arlington Heights, IL – March 2021) – The Certification Board for Diabetes Care and Education (CBDCE) announces temporary changes to the practice experience in diabetes care and education (DCE) eligibility requirement for initial CDCES certification due to impact of the COVID-19 pandemic.

To address the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the ability of health professionals pursuing the CDCES credential to accrue practice experience in diabetes care and education, the CBDCE Board of Directors has approved temporary changes to the professional practice requirement relating to DCE for initial CDCES certification. These changes will take effect on April 1, 2021, and are reflected in the Exam Handbook and on CBDCE's website at <https://www.cbdce.org>.

Diabetes Care and Education (DCE) Professional Practice Experience Requirement Changes:

1) For applications submitted through 2022, minimum DCE experience needed in prior 12 months reduced from 400 hours to 200 hours; and 2) For applications submitted through 2023, minimum 1000 hours (or 2000 hours for unique qualifications pathway) of DCE experience needed can be accrued over a longer period of time. The time frame is increased from 4 years from application date to 5 years from application date.

“We are all acutely aware of the tremendous impact COVID-19 has had on the lives of so many, including the major shift in how much of diabetes care and education is delivered. In order to meet the needs of those living with diabetes and ensure access to high-quality care and education, CBDCE feels strongly that we need to implement temporary changes to our eligibility requirements. The organization will continue to monitor the broader impact on the healthcare and diabetes community and adapt as needed to serve our CDCESs and the people they support.” said CBDCE's 2021 Chair, Benjamin Klein.

About CBDCE: CBDCE, formed in 1986 and celebrating its 35th anniversary in 2021, is a national not-for-profit certifying body that administers the Certified Diabetes Care and Education Specialist (CDCES) program. The CDCES program is accredited by the National Commission for Certifying Agencies, and over 19,600 health professionals in the diabetes care and education community hold the CDCES credential. CBDCE's mission is to promote comprehensive and ongoing quality diabetes clinical management, education, prevention and support by defining, developing, maintaining, and protecting the certification and credentialing processes. Learn more at www.cbdce.org or connect with us on Facebook (CertifiedDiabetesEducators) and LinkedIn (Certification Board for Diabetes Care and Education)