**Doctors of Nursing Practice, Inc.**

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**COMMERCIAL SUPPORT AGREEMENT**

Date:

Parties Involved in Agreement:

Provider name and representative’s name: Doctors of Nursing Practice, Inc.

Entity providing commercial support’s name:

The CE activity entitled \_2014 Seventh National DNP Conference\_\_ will be presented by Doctors of Nursing Practice, Inc. on \_October 8, 9, 10 2014 \_ at \_The Nashville Airport Marriott\_.

(Commercial Support Entity’s name) will provide (list). The (Entity) will be recognized as providing commercial support in the advertising.

The commercial support and/or entity will in no way influence or bias the content of the CE presentation. According to commercial support standards as listed in Appendix B of the 2009 Application Manual – Accreditation Program, ANCC, the following must be met:

**STANDARD 3: APPROPRIATE USE OF COMMERCIAL SUPPORT**

3.1 The provider must make all decisions regarding the disposition and disbursement of commercial support.

ANCC defines “commercial support” as financial, or in-kind, contributions given by a commercial interest by a commercial interest, which is used to pay all or part of the costs of a continuing nursing education activity.

ANCC does not consider providers of clinical service directly to patients to be commercial interests. For the purposes of eligibility, ANCC considers the following types of organizations eligible for accreditation [approval] and free to control the content of continuing nursing education (Standard 1):

* Liability insurance providers
* Health insurance providers
* Group medical practices
* Acute care hospitals (for-profit and not-for-profit)
* For-profit rehabilitation centers
* For-profit nursing homes
* Universities with nursing development and continuing nursing education programs
* Specialty Nursing Organizations
* Constituent Member Associations
* Federal Nursing Services
* National nurses organizations based outside the United States
* A single-focused organization devoted[[1]](#footnote-1) to offering continuing nursing education

3.2 A provider cannot be required by an entity with a commercial interest to accept advice or services concerning teachers, authors, or other educational matters, including content, from the entity as conditions of contributing funds or services.

3.3 All commercial support associated with a continuing nursing education activity must be given with the full knowledge and approval of the provider.

**Written Agreement Documenting Terms of Support**

3.4 The terms, conditions, and purposes of the commercial support must be documented in a written agreement with the entity that includes the provider and its educational partner(s). The agreement must include the provider, even if the support is given directly to the provider’s educational partner or a co-provider.

3.5 The written agreement must specify the entity that is the source of commercial support.

3.6 Both the entity and the provider must sign the written agreement regarding the support to be provided/accepted.

**Expenditures for an individual providing continuing nursing education**

3.7 The provider must have written policies and procedures governing honoraria and reimbursement of out-of-pocket expenses for planners, teachers, and authors.

3.8 The provider, the co-provider, or designated educational partner must directly pay any teacher or author honoraria or reimbursement of out-of-pocket expenses in compliance with the provider’s written policies and procedures.

3.9 No other payment shall be given to the director of the activity, planning committee members, teachers, or authors, co-provider, or any others involved with the supported activity.

3.10 If teachers or authors are listed on the agenda as facilitating or conducting a presentation or session, but participate in the remainder of an educational event as a learner, their expenses can be reimbursed and honoraria can be paid for their teacher or author role only.

**Expenditures for Learners**

3.11 Social events or meals at continuing nursing education activities cannot compete with, or take precedence over, the educational events.

3.12 The provider may not use commercial support to pay for travel, lodging, honoraria, or personal expenses for non-teacher or non-author participants of a continuing nursing education activity. The provider may use commercial support to pay for travel, lodging, honoraria, or personal expenses for bona fide employees and volunteers of the provider, co-provider or educational partner. This element applies only to nurses whose official residence is in the United States.

**Accountability**

3.13 The provider must be able to produce accurate documentation detailing the receipt and expenditure of commercial support.

**STANDARD 4. APPROPRIATE MANAGEMENT OF ASSOCIATED COMMERCIAL PROMOTION**

Commercial exhibits and advertisements are promotional activities and not continuing nursing education. Therefore, monies paid by commercial interests to providers for these promotional activities are not considered “commercial support.” However, accredited [approved] providers are expected to fulfill the requirements of Standard 4, and to use sound fiscal and business practices with respect to promotional activities.

4.1 Arrangements for commercial exhibits or advertisements cannot influence planning or interfere with the presentation, nor can they be a condition of the provision of commercial support for continuing education activities.

4.2 Product-promotion material or product-specific advertisement of any type is prohibited in or during continuing nursing education activities. The juxtaposition of editorial and advertising material on the same products on subjects must be avoided. Live (staffed exhibits, presentations) or enduring (printed or electronic advertisements) promotional activities must be kept separate from continuing nursing education.

* **Print,** advertisements and promotional materials shall not be interleafed within the pages of the continuing nursing education content. Advertisements and promotional materials may face the first or last pages of printed CNE content as long as these materials are not related to the continuing nursing education content they face and are not paid for by the entities with commercial interests in the continuing nursing education activity.
* **Computer-based**, advertisements and promotional materials shall not be visible on the screen at the same time as the continuing nursing education content and shall not be interleafed between computer “windows” or screens of the continuing nursing education content.
* **Audio and video recording**, advertisements and promotional materials shall not be included within the continuing nursing education. There will be no “commercial breaks.”
* **Live face-to-face continuing nursing education**, advertisements and promotional materials shall not be displayed or distributed in the educational space immediately before, during, or after a continuing nursing education activity. Providers shall not allow representatives of an entity with commercial interests to engage in sales or promotional activities while in the space or place of the continuing nursing education activity.

4.3 Educational materials that are part of a continuing nursing education activity, such as slides, abstracts, and handouts, shall not contain any advertising, trade name, or a product-group message.

4.4 Print or electronic information distributed about the non-continuing nursing education elements of a continuing nursing education activity that are not directly related to the transfer of education to the learner, such as schedules and content descriptions, may include product promotion material or product-specific advertisement.

4.5 A provider shall not use an entity with a commercial interest as the agent providing a continuing nursing education activity to learners, e.g., distribution of self-study continuing nursing education activities or arranging for electronic access to continuing nursing education activities.

**STANDARD 5. CONTENT AND FORMAT WITHOUT COMMERCIAL BIAS**

5.1 The content or format of a continuing nursing education activity or its related materials must promote improvements or quality in health care and not a specific proprietary business interest of an entity with a commercial interest.

5.2 Presentations must give a balanced view of therapeutic options. Use of generic names will contribute to this impartiality. If the continuing nursing educational material or content includes trade names, when available, trade names from several companies should be used, not just trade names from a single company.

The signatures below by representatives from each organization listed above indicate agreement with the above statements.

Provider representative \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Co Provider (if applicable) representative \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Commercial Support Entity \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

1. 1 The single-focused organization exists for the single purpose of providing education. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)