



Board Update

To: ADCES Coordinating Bodies and Members
From: Chuck Macfarlane, CEO
Board Meeting Date: April 25, 2020

The Association of Diabetes Care and Education Specialists' Board of Directors met on April 25, 2020. In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, this meeting was held virtually. The Board discussed several items of interest to the members, which are briefly highlighted below.

COVID-19 Efforts

Staff provided an update on the association's work to support members and people with, at risk for, or affected by diabetes during the pandemic. The organization's staff made a nearly seamless move to a completely virtual work environment on March 12, when the State of Illinois initiated a shelter in place order.

Regulatory Changes Impacting Practice

Early in its response to the pandemic, CMS initiated several regulatory changes providing temporary flexibility for ongoing practice. ADCES has advocated for these changes and has worked independently, as well as in coalition with other groups, such as the Diabetes Advocacy Alliance and other diabetes related organizations to advance these issues. A complete update as of May 5 is available on our website: https://www.diabeteseducator.org/docs/default-source/practice/educator-tools/telehealth_qa.pdf?sfvrsn=2

While ADCES staff can advocate for your interests, your personal perspective and real-life examples have been essential in securing these important changes. Since March, ADCES has submitted or signed on to seven letters supporting regulatory changes. However, the nearly 700 individual letters sent from diabetes care and education specialists have been key in tipping the balance. We encourage you to subscribe to and participate in our Advocacy Forum on *ADCES Connect*: <https://www.adcesconnect.org/communities/community-home?CommunityKey=72d91ada-bd7b-4fc6-92fd-82024d9497af&ssoToken=e984dfdd-13cc-4098-a475-e95b9b9fe7a4&Site=AADE>

The Board received updates on ADCES's ongoing webinars, podcasts, and member blogs designed to keep members up to date during this dynamic and constantly changing situation. In addition, several tip sheets, telehealth tools, and fact sheets are available at:

Covid-19 Resources - <https://www.diabeteseducator.org/practice/practice-tools/app-resources/covid-19-telehealth>

Telehealth Resources - <https://www.diabeteseducator.org/practice/practice-tools/educator-guidance/telehealth>

Strategic Plan

Chuck Macfarlane, Chief Executive Officer, reported on progress across each of our strategic plan initiatives. This work spans across four key areas, including:

Implement the Vision for the Specialty – The Board reviewed and/or approved several practice papers including:

- Revised AADE7 Self Care Behaviors (due to the timing of publication, this paper retained the AADE branding)
- Revised Competencies for the Diabetes Care and Education Specialist
- *A Framework for Optimizing Technology-Enabled Diabetes and Cardiometabolic Care and Education*
- *Technology Integration: The Role of the Diabetes Care and Education Specialist in Practice*

In addition, the Board, in conjunction with the Certification Board for Diabetes Care and Education (CBDCE), is working to establish a Credentialing Work Group. At this meeting, the ADCES Board of Directors approved a draft charge.

Advance the Identify of the Diabetes Care and Education Specialist – The new title and brand for the specialty was launched on January 22, 2020 and has been carried throughout the organization, including our state coordinating bodies and local networking groups. The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services has approved the change of our organizational name, and new certificates have been sent to all ADCES accredited DSMES programs.

Define a Diabetes Cardiometabolic Framework – The Board briefly discussed the scope of a work group to advance this key strategy.

Exemplify Organizational Excellence – The pandemic has provided an opportunity for staff to *live* the brand pillars that are working to keep DCES at the “forefront of care” by supporting the excellent work you do in order to optimize outcomes for people with diabetes, even when faced with a pandemic. While we have seen the pressures and the challenges you face in completing your work, ADCES has worked to build a community of peers to advance your knowledge and to support you in your efforts. To that end, we launched our *ADCES Connect* platform in April, which offers a modern, updated online

community for ADCES members to network with peers at a state, local and national level with special interest resources.

The Board approved a plan to expand support and build consistency across coordinating bodies and local networking groups.

Finally, the Board discussed broad criteria for which DCESs can evaluate the healthcare plans and policies of presidential and other candidates for elective office in preparation for the November election cycle.

Other Business

The Board also discussed several more routine, although none the less important, issues and projects. This included reviewing and approving both the ADCES and the Foundation financial statements through March 2020 and the 2019 financial audit results. Our balanced scorecard of performance measures was reviewed, as was an annual analysis of our performance measured against other professional associations of similar size and scope. Finally, the Board discussed the addition of several new quality measures for the association. The Board discussed the development of a Membership Committee to advise on recruitment and retention issues, as well as a work group to review the process of application and appointment of technical advisory committee members. In addition, the Board approved a cadre of award recipients and reviewed the work of our technical advisory committees. Finally, several Board policies were reviewed and updated, and a new pricing model for virtual DSMES accreditation was approved.

As a reminder, each Coordinating Body has a Board member appointed to serve as its liaison to the Board. These individuals are happy to talk with you about any issues that are concerning to your state. Find out who your Board Liaison is [HERE](#).