



Policy on Use of Board Designation to Endorse or Promote Educational Programs and Materials

BACKGROUND

The Board adopted this policy for current and senior directors in September 1979. The policy captures the critical elements of the most likely type of potential conflict of interest situation. The policy was reviewed for clarification in January 2004 and no revisions were adopted. The policy was further reviewed for relevance to examiners and item writers in February 2006 and subsequently amended to include those volunteers. The policy was reviewed in February 2007 and subsequently amended to include ABEM-appointed subspecialty representatives. The policy was reviewed in 2015 and amended to include possible consequences for any volunteer who knowingly violates the terms of this policy, and to include former volunteers from specific activities included under this policy

POLICY

Current and senior directors, examiners, item writers, and ABEM-appointed subspecialty representatives may not use their status with the Board to endorse or promote educational programs and materials.

Current and former volunteers may not use their experience with ABEM to endorse or promote a board preparation course.

Board volunteers and former volunteers who knowingly violate any aspect of this policy will be subject to penalties up to and including permanent prohibition from involvement with ABEM. Penalties will be determined on a case-by-case basis.

PROCEDURES

The policy will be included in the new director orientation materials and examiner and item writer materials.

EXCEPTION

None

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