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## Continuing Medical Education Offices Receive Joint Accreditation Notice

By Brian Murphy

In collaboration, the Office of Continuing Medical Education in the School of Medicine and the School of Nursing Continuing Education office recently received notice of Joint Accreditation for Interprofessional Continuing Education.

The University of Virginia School of Medicine and School of Nursing are accredited by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME), the Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education (ACPE), and the American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC) to provide continuing education for the healthcare team through November 2024.

Joint Accreditation offers organizations the opportunity to be simultaneously



accredited to provide medical, nursing, pharmacy, physician assistants, social workers, dietitians, psychologists, dentists, and optometry continuing education through a single, unified application process, fee structure, and set of accreditation standards. They establish the standards for education providers to deliver interprofessional continuing education (IPCE) planned by the healthcare team for the healthcare team. IPCE is when members from two or more professions learn with, from, and about each other to enable effective collaboration and improve health outcomes

"This is a major accomplishment that fosters quality interprofessional continuing education and collaboration for healthcare teams," says **Jann Balmer, PhD, RN**, Director, Continuing Medical Education. "We are thrilled that we have become a Joint Accreditation provider — so that we can foster interprofessional collaboration and care."

The Office of Continuing Medical Education in the School of Medicine has a long history of

excellence through its accreditation through the ACCME. It has received Accreditation with Commendation since 1984. The School of Nursing CE program has been accredited through the ANCC for the past six years as part of its service to the nursing profession and community.

Balmer says, "Over the past six years, the School of Medicine and School of Nursing have actively collaborated to be able to elevate the quality of our continuing professional development efforts to meet the needs of the full healthcare team, ultimately benefitting patient care and outcomes."

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