



Circle of Excellence Program

Members participate in ASDS educational activities and pass a comprehensive self-assessment in order to earn a Circle of Excellence designation. Activities within the program will include the ASDS Annual Meeting sessions, Procedural Courses, as well as web and other distance learning modules focused on select key topics with the dermatologic surgery core-curriculum.

Benefits:

- 1) Educational Activity Participation
 - Offers CME Credit toward requirements for membership, state licensure, and the AMA Physicians Recognition Award
- 2) Self-assessment

Self-assessment is integral to continued learning, in that further development of skills relies on an analysis of current competencies and determination of knowledge gaps that require additional focus. It adds a layer of engagement to the passive learning of standard lectures, and provides valuable feedback to the learner regarding competence gained from lectures, reading, hands-on workshops and more. Self-assessment activities satisfy some or all of the following:

 - Provides CME Credit toward membership requirements, state licensure requirements, and/or the AMA Physicians Recognition Award
 - Offers MOC Self-assessment credit for ABD maintenance of certification
 - Satisfies specific learning credits based on state licensure requirements e.g. patient safety, risk management, and pain management
 - Allows members to gauge areas in need of further education and develop a plan to close gaps in knowledge
- 3) Added Qualification Designation
 - Satisfies a need for designation where there may be none available through fellowship or other certification of added qualification
 - Fosters additional recognition among peers and patients
 - Fosters additional legitimacy with and confidence from patients
 - Provides a designation beyond membership
 - Offers a valuable benefit available ONLY to ASDS members

Program Participation Steps

- Member participates in and claims credit for the selected activities along a particular core-curriculum area
- Member communicates intent and receives confirmation of eligibility to proceed to the self-assessment stage
- Member signs up for, participates in and passes (with 85% or better score) the self-assessment activity (the self-assessment activity will provide both the opportunity to earn the Circle of Excellence designation and satisfy objectives 1-5 above)
- Member receives Circle of Excellence Designation
- Member name is listed on ASDS Website and in Currents as recipient of Circle of Excellence designation

Program Background and Purpose

The American Society for Dermatologic Surgery offers myriad educational activities for dermatologic surgeons; currently regional procedural courses, 90 plus hours of education during the annual meeting, educational DVD's and a growing library of computer-based education.

The ASDS Strategic Plan contains the following Goal with related strategy and task:

Goal 1: Dermatologists will benefit from a body of knowledge about dermatologic surgery that ASDS is instrumental in developing, sustaining and transferring

Strategy 1.2.2.: Develop knowledge based assessments for core topics in dermatologic surgery and consider results for a learning-of-excellence designation for resident and member recognition (not certification)

Task 1.2.2.1.: Work with subject matter experts to develop pre-and post-tests for core dermatologic surgery topics

ASDS members continue to benefit from educational offerings including didactic lectures, hands-on workshops and other face-to-face activities. Members have also benefitted from self-directed learning activities including the Primer in Dermatologic Surgery the *Dermatologic Surgery Journal*. The first offering in the area of self-assessment is now a standard component within the ASDS Annual Meeting where participants receive ABD MOC-self assessment credits during interactive sessions. The ASDS Circle of Excellence Program now couples educational activity participation and self-assessment to enable members to achieve special designations.