

MEMORANDUM



American College of
Healthcare Executives
for leaders who care®

Date: December 2006
To: ACHE Fellows
From: ACHE Division of Membership
Subject: ACHE Credentialing Change Approved by Board

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On November 6, 2006, the ACHE Board of Governors made an important decision designed to advance healthcare management excellence by approving the Credentialing Task Force recommendation to offer a single credential, the FACHE®. The Board's decision was the culmination of a two-year study by the Credentialing Task Force involving extensive research, evaluation and affiliate feedback. Based on the comments of affiliates, the original Task Force recommendations were significantly enhanced, resulting in an approach that is designed to be both rigorous and inclusive, encouraging more affiliates to earn Fellow status.

In addition to the credentialing system changes, feedback from affiliates also resulted in the Board of Governors deciding to develop a separate, independent recognition system which will focus on service, leadership and giving back to the profession. Initial recommendations for the recognition system will be presented at the March Board of Governors meeting in New Orleans.

The changes in the credentialing system are effective January 1, 2007. The major criteria for earning the FACHE credential will be:

- Postbaccalaureate degree (this requirement will be effective January 1, 2009)
- Three years tenure as an ACHE Member/Diplomate
- Board of Governors Examination
- Five years healthcare management experience
- 40 total CEU credits in the last five years; at least 12 Category I (ACHE education) credits
- Three references from Fellows, one of which must be a structured interview
- Professional and community/civic participation

As a current Fellow, Retired Fellow or Life Fellow, we would like to thank you for your continued support of ACHE. Your dedication to the field of healthcare management is what makes ACHE the premier association for healthcare executives.

By increasing commitment to leadership and professional development represented by the FACHE credential, we believe our field and the communities we serve will benefit significantly. Additional information about the credentialing change is available on ache.org. If you have any questions, please contact the division of Membership at credentialcomments@ache.org or (312) 424-9400. Thank you.