



The CPD Standards Office is a unique organisation and was founded with the vision of understanding and enabling positive and successful CPD and learning experiences. As a highly specialised expert team, our university led research has equipped us with extensive expertise on all things CPD.

Between the work of the Professional Development Consortium and the CPD Standards Office dual CPD research and accreditation activities sharpen our knowledge and expertise. This enables us to work with individual coaches, training providers, employers, and 'membership organisation's as a collaborative CPD network & community.

This factsheet provides information on CPD in Italy and the differences compared to the UK.

CPD in Italy

Whilst CPD originally began as an educational practice in the UK, it is now undertaken in most countries and a standard expectation of any international professional body or regulator. The CPD Standards Office works with hundreds of organisations, and has accredited thousands of activities, many of which are delivered globally.

Within Italy slightly different language is used to describe the practice of CPD.

Continuing Medical Education (CME) is the same as continuing professional development (CPD). It is simply a different term that is focused on healthcare and medical professions and is often used by professional bodies and regulators in Europe.

Instead of a "CPD Policy" it is called a "CME Policy" where medical professionals are still required to do a number of hours to maintain their professional license to practice. Despite different terminologies, it is important to remember that **CPD and CME are the same thing** - simply a formal approach to lifelong learning, whereby individuals record training and learning undertaken within the work place that keeps their professional qualifications up to date.



It is important to note that these terms are interchangeable and therefore so are the certificates of attendance. For example, if a doctor from the UK attends a conference in Italy and receives a CME certificate, they can still use it within their British CPD record. Similarly, if an Italian Doctor attends an accredited CPD conference, abroad - perhaps in the UK or USA, they can use this in their CPD record.



In addition, should an Italian Doctor attend a CPD accredited training activity being delivered by a UK training provider in Rome they can receive the CPD certificate of attendance and use it in their CME record for their Italian professional body or regulator. This is also the case for Italian providers who have been accredited for CPD provision - they can issue CPD certificates that will be delivered for CME purposes.

Overall, it's simple - think of a CPD certificate as a receipt that you would collect to use in your tax record, it is proof that you have attended. It doesn't

matter where you "buy" your training from, or if it uses a different language. For example, in America you would get a "bill" rather than a "receipt" but they are the same thing. All that matters is that you collect up your certificates (or bills, or receipts) and show them to your professional body, or regulator, as proof of you doing your CPD.

The CPD Standards Office accreditation services support all CPD, CE (continuing education) and CME policies associated to professional bodies, regulators and societies. The benefits of CPD Standards accreditation are:

- ✓ Third party verification from an established accreditation organisation working across the globe with CPD, CME and CE providers
- ✓ Displaying the Accredited CPD logo demonstrates an outward commitment to CPD and CME, professionalism, and ongoing education.
- ✓ Ongoing advice and updates from our cutting edge CPD research including guidance on communications, and marketing, for CPD schemes and provision.
- ✓ To be a part of a global network of accredited CPD providers spanning over 20 countries reaching across the globe, sharing knowledge, expertise and best practice, ensuring the highest level of standards within training are continuously developed.

Current Wikipedia Entry for CE for Professionals - https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Continuing_education

Within the domain of Continuing Education, professional continuing education is a specific learning activity generally characterised by the issuance of a certificate or continuing education units (CEU) for the purpose of documenting attendance at a designated seminar or course of instruction.

Licensing bodies in a number of fields (such as teaching) impose continuing education requirements on members who hold licenses to practice within a particular profession. These requirements are intended to encourage professionals to expand their foundations of knowledge and stay up-to-date on new developments.

Depending on the field, these requirements may be satisfied through college or university coursework, extension courses or conferences and seminars attendance. Although individual professions may have different standards, the most widely accepted standard, developed by the International Association for Continuing Education & Training, is that ten contact hours equals one Continuing Education Unit. Not all professionals use the CEU convention.

For example, the American Psychological Association accredits sponsors of continuing education such as PsychContinuingEd.com and uses simply a CE approach. In contrast to the CEU, the CE credit is typically one CE credit for each hour of contact.

Current Wikipedia Entry for CEU - https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Continuing_education_unit

International Association for Continuing Education and Training (IACET) - <http://www.iacet.org>

Team to contact: <http://www.iacet.org/about/who-we-are>

We hope you have found this factsheet helpful.

Please see www.cpdstandards.com for more information on our accreditation services or call **0203 745 6463** for further advice.