Examination Windows – 2016
The Examination is delivered by computer at over 170 Assessment Centers throughout the United States. See 2016 Handbook or website for details.

Examination Fee
The examination fee is $350. This includes a $100 nonrefundable processing fee. Certification is valid for a period of five (5) years.

Handbook & Application
Individuals may apply on-line or via the traditional paper method to take the Examination. The Examination Handbook (Handbook) includes the paper Application, instructions for applying on-line or using the traditional paper method, general information, the Examination content outline, sample questions, references, and policies related to the certification program. There is no charge for the Handbook. The 2016 Handbook will be available in late fall 2015.

To obtain the Handbook, send a request including your mailing address, via mail, telephone, facsimile or e-mail to NCBDE’s testing agency after November 1, 2015. It will be mailed to you upon publication. You may also download it from NCBDE’s web site upon publication.

Send your Handbook request to:
Attention: NCBDE Coordinator
Applied Measurement Professionals, Inc.
18000 W. 105th Street, Olathe, KS 66061
Telephone: 913-895-4600
Facsimile: 913-895-4651
E-mail: info@goamp.com
† May not apply for those applicants who qualify via the “Unique Qualifications” pathway. See the NCBDE web site for information on this pathway.

If you have any questions about certification, visit our web site or contact the NCBDE national office:
www.ncbde.org
National Certification Board for Diabetes Educators
330 East Algonquin Road, Suite 4
Arlington Heights, IL 60005
Phone: 877-239-3233 or 847-228-9795
Fax: 847-228-8469
info@ncbde.org
“CertifiedDiabetesEducators”
A Certified Diabetes Educator® (CDE®) is a health professional who possesses comprehensive knowledge of and experience in prediabetes, diabetes prevention, and management. The CDE® educates and supports people affected by diabetes to understand and manage the condition. The CDE® promotes self-management to achieve individualized behavioral and treatment goals that optimize health outcomes.

The Certification Examination for Diabetes Educators (Examination) is designed and intended for health professionals who have responsibilities that include the direct provision of diabetes self-management education (DSME), as defined by the National Certification Board for Diabetes Educators (NCBDE).

**Initial Certification Eligibility Requirements – 2016**

Refer to the 2016 Examination Handbook for a detailed explanation of current requirements for initial certification and the requirements for renewal of certification.

- **DISCIPLINE**: One must be 1) a clinical psychologist, registered nurse, occupational therapist, optometrist, pharmacist, physical therapist, physician (M.D. or D.O.), or podiatrist holding a current, active, unrestricted license from the United States or its territories; OR 2) a diettian or dietitian nutritionist holding active registration with the Commission on Dietetic Registration, physician assistant holding active registration with the National Commission on Certification of Physician Assistants, clinical exercise professional holding active certification with American College of Sports Medicine (ACSM) as a Certified Clinical Exercise Physiologist (ACSM CEP), previously known as ASCM Certified Clinical Exercise Specialist, clinical exercise professional holding active certification with the ACSM as a Registered Clinical Exercise Physiologist® (ACSM RCEP), health educator holding active certification as a Master Certified Health Education Specialist with the National Commission for Health Education Credentialing; OR 3) a health professional with a master’s degree or higher in social work from a United States college or university accredited by a nationally recognized regional accrediting body.

- **PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE**: After meeting discipline requirement AND before applying for the Examination, both of the following professional practice requirements must be met in United States or its territories:
  - Minimum of 2 years (to the day) of professional practice experience in the discipline under which the individual is applying for certification (examples: if an individual applies for certification as a registered nurse, 2 years experience working as a registered nurse is required; if an individual applies as a registered dietitian, 2 years experience working as a registered dietitian is required).
  - Minimum of 1000 hours of DSME experience with a minimum of 40% (400 hours) accrued in the most recent year preceding application. *Note: DSME practice hours accrued under the Diabetes Educator Mentorship program and other volunteer positions are accepted. As with any eligibility requirement, verification of volunteer DSME hours will be needed if an applicant is chosen for an audit.*

- **CONTINUING EDUCATION**: After meeting discipline requirement AND before applying for the Examination, the following continuing education requirement must be met:
  - Minimum of 15 clock hours of continuing education activities applicable to diabetes within the 2 years prior to applying for certification. *This requirement will follow the same overall guidelines as the renewal of certification by continuing education process. Visit the NCBDE web site for details.*

- **APPLICATION**: Complete and submit an Application for a 2016 Examination, along with required fee. Most individuals can apply on-line, but refer to the NCBDE web site or the 2016 Examination Handbook for additional information.

**Definition of DSME**

DSME is performed by health professionals who have appropriate credentials and experience consistent with the particular profession’s scope of practice. It involves the person with prediabetes or diabetes and/or the caregivers and the educator(s) and is defined as the ongoing process of facilitating the knowledge, skill, and ability necessary for self-care.

It is a component of a comprehensive plan of diabetes care. The process incorporates the needs, goals and life experiences of the person with prediabetes or diabetes and is guided by evidence-based standards. The overall objectives of DSME are to support informed decision-making, self-care behaviors, problem-solving and active collaboration with the health care team and to improve clinical outcomes, health status, and quality of life.

For purposes of certification eligibility, some or all of the following components of the DSME process may be performed and counted towards meeting the DSME practice experience requirement:

- An individual assessment and education plan developed collaboratively by the individual and educator(s) to direct the selection of appropriate educational interventions and self-management support strategies.
- Educational interventions directed toward helping the individual achieve self-management goals.
- Periodic evaluations to determine attainment of educational objectives or need for additional interventions and future reassessments.
- A personalized follow-up plan developed collaboratively by the individual and educator(s) for ongoing self-management support.
- Documentation in the education record of the assessment and education plan and the intervention and outcomes.

In addition, program development and administration provided in support of the diabetes patient education program are considered a part of the DSME process.

**Note**: Regardless of discipline, knowledge (and the ability to apply that knowledge) is necessary across all areas of the examination content outline.

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*Adapted from National Standards for Diabetes Self-Management Education and Support, American Diabetes Association Clinical Practice Recommendations, Diabetes Care, Vol. 37, Supplement 1, January, 2014.*